

Sexual and Gender-Based Harassment in Online Learning and Virtual Environments

GVSU Community Members,

Now that classes and other academic programs are being provided online by the university, the [Office for Title IX and Institutional Equity](#) wanted to take this opportunity to remind members of our community that maintaining a learning environment free from sexual and gender-based discrimination remains a high priority for the university.

We would like to highlight the following four important points:

1. The [Office for Title IX and Institutional Equity](#) remains open and our team continues to work seamlessly from remote locations. Anyone impacted by sexual and gender-based discrimination is encouraged to contact us directly by calling (616) 331-9530 or report online at www.gvsu.edu/titleix/report. We will conduct our work and provide remedies remotely, to assure that any sexual harassment, sexual violence, intimate partner violence, stalking, retaliation, or other sexually discriminatory behavior is addressed promptly.
2. The university's [sexual misconduct policy](#), [sexual or gender-based harassment policy](#), and [anti-harassment policy](#) are available online and apply to behaviors that occur in person between members of the university community, but also apply to online and virtual misconduct. Any behavior that is prohibited by policies is also likely prohibited in cyber-forms, including cyber-harassment that is sex-based, and cyber-stalking.
3. As a reminder, the university designates all faculty and staff members (except licensed counselors in the University Counseling Center) as [Responsible Employees](#). Responsible Employees are expected to report alleged sexual misconduct when they become aware of incidents or allegations involving members of the campus community, regardless of how they learn of the potential misconduct, whether in person, in writing, or online.
4. Additional resources and support for individuals impacted by violence, are encouraged to contact **GVSU Victim Advocate, Krystal Diel**. Krystal is available by phone (616-331-2742) or e-mail (dielkrys@gvsu.edu) to provide support during this time. The university recognizes victim/survivors of sexual or intimate partner violence (dating/domestic violence) may feel isolated, alone, or unsafe. You can also contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline by phone (1-800-799-7233), at their website www.thehotline.org or by texting LOVEIS to 22522.

If you have questions or if we can assist, we encourage you to contact our office and look forward to hearing from you.

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Office for Title IX & Institutional Equity

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Report Sexual Misconduct