

Social Media Policy

I. Introduction

In an environment where new and existing information technologies, and related platforms, mediums, systems, devices and uses are continually being developed and evolved, LMU acknowledges the use of social media as an exponentially growing and prominent form of commerce and social interaction. As responsible members of the LMU community, Students are expected to use all forms of social media lawfully and to interact with others through and with them respectfully. In other words, LMU will apply the same laws, codes and regulations irrespective of the communication platform (e.g. face-to-face or via a social media).

II. Policy

Generally speaking, with respect to social media, LMU will not regularly monitor the language and/or actions on such media. The University will defer to the user policies of the individual social medium. However, LMU will hold Students accountable for Student Conduct Code violations reported or learned from Student uses of social media.

III. Policies Applicable to Social Networking Use:

A. **ITS Acceptable Use Policy:** Students are required to follow the Individual Responsibilities that are listed in the Acceptable Use of Information Technology Resources guidelines.

B. **Federal, State and Local Laws:** Students are required to adhere to all federal, state, and local laws.

C. **Student Conduct Code:** Section IV of the Student Conduct Code outlines prohibited conduct. Such prohibited conduct includes behavior that occurs within the framework of social media.

IV. Guidelines

The following guidelines are consistent with the educational role of the University. Potential misuses of social media include, but are not limited to:

A. Medium: Email

Potential Misuses

1. Sending messages with harassing, threatening or inappropriate comments, images, or videos
2. Disseminating confidential emails without consent
3. Sending unwanted messages repeatedly

B. Medium: Mobile Phone

Potential Misuses

1. Making harassing, threatening or inappropriate calls
2. Sending harassing, threatening or inappropriate text messages
3. Taking or sending inappropriate and/or unsolicited photos or videos

C. Medium: Instant Messaging

Potential Misuses

1. Sending inappropriate and/or unsolicited photos or videos
2. Sending harassing, threatening or inappropriate messages
3. Hacking into another person's account or using their screen name to harass others

D. Medium: Chat Rooms and Message Boards

Potential Misuses

1. Sending harassing, threatening or inappropriate messages, photos or videos
2. Misleading people into sharing private information that leads to exploitation

E. Medium: Video-Hosting Sites

Potential Misuses

1. Posting inappropriate or humiliating videos of others
2. Posting unwanted or unsolicited videos of others

F. Medium: Webcam

Potential Misuses

1. Producing and/or sharing inappropriate or humiliating material
2. Convincing someone to behave inappropriately on a webcam
3. Using a webcam to take photos or videos of someone without their consent

G. Medium: Social Networking Sites

Potential Misuses

1. Posting harassing, threatening, humiliating or inappropriate material
2. Hacking into another person's account and altering the content in an effort to humiliate or embarrass the person
3. Hacking into another person's account to send inappropriate content to others
4. Creating a fake profile using another person's name in an effort to humiliate or threaten

H. Medium: Virtual Learning Environments

Potential Misuses

1. Posting harassing, threatening or inappropriate messages, images or video
2. Hacking into another person's account and posting inappropriate material or deleting their work