

NOTICE OF AMENDED REGULATION

May 11, 2009

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Division of Universities
University of North Florida

REGULATION TITLE:

Religious Observances

REGULATION NO.:

SUMMARY:

The regulation is being amended to ensure the language is more in accordance with the Board of Governors recently amended regulation on religious observances.

FULL TEXT:

The full text of the regulation being proposed is attached.

AUTHORITY:

Resolution of the Florida Board of Governors dated January 7, 2003, Board of Governors Regulation Development Procedure dated March 23, 2006 and Board of Governors Regulation 6.0115.

UNIVERSITY OFFICIAL INITIATING THE PROPOSED REVISED REGULATION:

Thomas Serwatka, Vice President and Chief of Staff

INDIVIDUAL TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE PROPOSED REVISED REGULATION:

Stephanie Howell, Paralegal, Office of the General Counsel, showell@unf.edu, phone (904)620-2828; fax (904)620-1044; Building 1, Room 2100, 1 UNF Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32224.

Any comments regarding the amendment of the regulation must be sent in writing to the contact person on or before May 25, 2009, to receive full consideration.



Regulation Number	Subject	Effective Date	Revised Date
	Religious Observances		
Responsible Unit/Division: Division of Student Affairs, Academic Affairs.			
<input type="checkbox"/> New Regulation Proposal	<input type="checkbox"/> Major Revision of Existing Regulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor Revision of Existing Regulation	<input type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of Existing Regulation

I. OBJECTIVE & PURPOSE

The University of North Florida advocates ~~the concept of~~ religious freedom and in recognition of the plurality of religious beliefs of its individual students sets forth in this ~~rule regulation the framework within which it accommodates the religious observance, practice and belief of those students a procedure in which students may seek reasonable accommodations of their religious beliefs~~ in regard to admissions, class attendance, ~~and~~ the scheduling of examinations, major class events, major University activities, and work assignments.

II. STATEMENT OF REGULATION

A. Observing Religious Practices and Beliefs

~~The University observes a student’s right to observe and practice their religious beliefs and where necessary, will reasonably accommodate a student’s religious beliefs or practices as they pertain to the following:~~

(1) **Admissions** – The University ~~of North Florida shall will~~ not deny admission to any student because of the religious practice or belief of the student.

(2) **Class Attendance** – Any student ~~shall~~, upon notifying his ~~or her~~ instructor, ~~will~~ be excused from class to observe a religious holy day of his ~~or her personal~~ faith. Such notification shall be made no later than one week prior to the holy day, or as prescribed by the instructor at the beginning of the term.

(3) **Work Assignments** – ~~Each s~~Students ~~who are~~ excused from class ~~or a specific work assignment~~ for the purpose of observing a religious holy day will be responsible for the material covered in his absence, but shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up any missed work. Missed work shall be made up ~~in accordance with a timetable set prior to the end of the term or as prescribed~~ by the instructor at the beginning of the term.

(4) **Examinations, Major Class Events, Major University Activities** – No major ~~test examination~~, major class event, or major University activity ~~shall should~~ be scheduled on a ~~major recognized~~ religious holy day. A

~~major-recognized~~ religious holy day ~~shall be is~~ a significant day of religious observance as recognized by the highest governing body of that particular religious faith. Evidence of such recognition shall be provided by the student unless the holy day has been previously ~~designated-recognized~~ by ~~the Office of Academic Affairs, UNF~~ on its University Calendar as a day of observance in which the University is closed in observance of the holiday.

~~(5) Professors and University administrators shall in no way penalize students absent from academic or social activities because of religious observances.~~

B. Seeking Redress through Appeals Unrelated to Academic Misconduct

~~(6) Any student who believes that he or she has been unreasonably denied an educational benefit pursuant to this regulation due to his or her religious belief due to his religious belief or practices may seek redress by implementing the University of North Florida Student Appeals Procedure as described in the Academic Appeals Process, paragraphs 6C9-3.001(1)(b) through (f), F.A.C. of the decision through the University's procedure for Appeals Unrelated to Academic Misconduct. Copies of this procedure may be obtained through One Stop Student Services.~~

Specific Authority 120.53(1)(b), 240.134, 240.227(1) FS. Law Implemented 240.134, 240.227(1) FS. History—New 5-7-89. Amended _____.