

Complete Policy Title:
First Year Student Guiding Principles

Policy Number (if applicable):
n/a

Approved by:
Senate

Date of Most Recent Approval:
September 13, 1995

Date of Original Approval(s):
September 13, 1995

Supersedes/Amends Policy dated:

Responsible Executive:
Associate Vice-President (Student Affairs) and Dean of Students

Enquiries:
[University Secretariat](#)

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As the University community welcomes its newest members, it is PROUD to be guided by the following principles:

1. EQUALITY

First year students join the University community with all the rights of those already here. They should be given the support and assistance which new members of the community require, but should never be treated as subordinates. They should be made to feel proud to be here--not to feel that first year students are inferior.

2. FREEDOM OF CHOICE

First year students can and should be encouraged to participate in the events of Welcome Week. However, they should always be free to choose when and how to join in, and to decline participation if they wish.

3. TOLERANCE FOR DIVERSITY

First year students come from varied backgrounds and cultures, and they have highly varied interests and values. Differences in gender, race, ethnic origin, sexual orientation and religion should be recognized and treated with respect and sensitivity. The special needs of students with disabilities should also be respected.

4. RESPECT FOR INDIVIDUALITY

All first year students are different. They should feel free to be different and should expect to be treated with respect.

5. PRIVACY

Even where students live together, as in residence, they are entitled to their private space and time. They should not be disturbed when they have gone to their own room, and other students should enter only if invited.