



Title: Student Use of Cell Phones, Smartphones, and Other Mobile Communication Devices
Effective Date: August 1, 2024
Issuing Authority: Provost
Policy Contact: Vice Provost
provost@mercer.edu, 478-301-2110

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to the University community regarding the student use and possession of cell phones, smartphones, and other mobile communication devices.

Scope

This policy applies to all students at Mercer University.

Exclusions

Students with documented accommodations by the Office of Access and Accommodation may use mobile communication devices to monitor a health condition(s) during instructional time. The student must inform the instructor about the documented accommodation(s). Other exclusions to this policy may be granted at the discretion of the instructor.

Definitions

As used in this policy, the following term has the meaning specified below:

Mobile Communication Device: any portable wireless telecommunications equipment that can transmit and/or receive audio, video, or computer data.

Policy Statement

Out of courtesy for all those participating in the learning experience, all cell phones, smartphones, and other mobile communication devices must be turned off or silenced before entering any classroom, lab, or formal academic or performance event.

No student shall be prevented from using a mobile communication device in case of an emergency, except where that use inhibits the ability of instructors or other University personnel to effectively communicate instructions for the safety of students.

No student shall use a mobile communication device with camera, video, or voice recording

functions in a way or under circumstances which infringe upon the privacy rights of other students.

Mercer University is not liable for theft, loss, or damage to cell phones, smartphones, or other mobile communication devices brought onto its property.

Additional Resources

Office of Access and Accommodation: <https://access.mercer.edu/>

History

Approved by Provost Scott Davis, August 1, 2024