

**Department of Gender, Women's,
+ Sexuality Studies**

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To: Gunes Koru (President, Faculty Senate)

From: Carole McCann (Chair, Gender, Women's, + Sexuality Studies);
Mejdulene Shomali (Faculty Senator, Gender, Women's, + Sexuality Studies);
Marcela Sarmiento Mellinger (Associate Professor, Social Work);
Rebecca Adelman (Associate Professor, Media and Communications Studies);
Michelle Bobovych (Specialist, DoIT);
Maria Sanchez (Director of Education and Outreach, CoEIT);
Conor Aylsworth (Administrative Assistant, Social Work)

Date: April 19, 2019

Re: Title IX Syllabus Language Friendly Amendment

On behalf of the Faculty of Gender, Women's, + Sexuality Studies (GWST) and the above members of the Retriever Courage Faculty Staff Advisory Committee's Internal Subcommittee (FSAC:ISC), we would like to revise the language introduced at the Faculty Senate at the April meeting. After GWST submitted our proposal in March, we learned that the FSAC:ISC was working on a similar proposal. We therefore combined our efforts and developed the revised language below.

The language we propose comprises two drafts -- one for courses in which students are invited to share their personal experiences as part of the course content and another with language for those courses where students are not routinely sharing life experiences as part of the course.

In both cases, the language is student-centered and informs students of both the instructor's role as a Responsible Employee and directs them to available campus resources. Our goal in proposing two sets of language is to provide options to faculty so that they can select the language that is most fitting for their course structure, content, and individual teaching philosophy and practice.

Classes where experiences are shared

Any student who has experienced sexual harassment or assault, relationship violence, and/or stalking is encouraged to seek support and resources. There are a number of resources available to you, which are listed below.

With that said, as an instructor, I am considered a *Responsible Employee*, per UMBC's Interim Policy on Prohibited Sexual Misconduct, Interpersonal Violence, and Other Related Misconduct. This means that while I am here to listen and support you, and I want you to be able to share information related to your life experiences through discussion and written work, I am required to report disclosures of sexual assault, domestic violence, relationship violence, stalking, and/or gender-based harassment to the University's Title IX Coordinator. The purpose of these requirements is for the University to inform you of options, supports, and resources.

You can utilize support and resources even if you do not want to take any further action. You will not be forced to file a police report, but please be aware, depending on the nature of the offense, the University may take action.

If you need to speak with someone in confidence about an incident, UMBC has the following Confidential Resources available to support you:

The Counseling Center: 410-455-2742 (M-F 8:30-5)

University Health Services: 410-455-2542 (M-F 8:30-5)

For after-hours emergency consultation, call the police at 410-455-5555

Other on-campus supports and resources:

The Women's Center (available to students of all genders): 410-455-2714 (M-Th 9:30-6, F 9:30-4)

Title IX Coordinator: 410-455-1606 (9-5)

Child Abuse and Neglect

Please note that Maryland law requires that I report all disclosures or suspicions of child abuse or neglect to the Department of Social Service and/or the police.

Classes where student experiences are not shared

Any student who has experienced sexual harassment or assault, relationship violence, and/or stalking is encouraged to seek support and resources. There are a number of resources available to you.

With that said, as an instructor, I am considered a *Responsible Employee*, per UMBC's Interim Policy on Prohibited Sexual Misconduct, Interpersonal Violence, and Other Related Misconduct. This means that while I am here to listen and support you, I am required to report disclosures of sexual assault, domestic violence, relationship violence, stalking, and/or gender-based harassment to the University's Title IX Coordinator. The purpose of these requirements is for the University to inform you of options, supports, and resources.

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