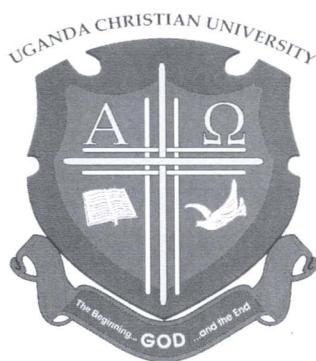


UGANDA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

STATUTE ON DRESS STANDARDS FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF



A Centre of Excellence in the Heart of Africa

Policy schedule

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DRESS STANDARDS FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF

The following "Dress Standards for Students and Staff" at Uganda Christian University shall be a policy under the Code of Conduct, which is a Statute of the University.

1. Introduction

Christians believe the human body was made beautiful by God and is to be adorned publicly by clothing (Genesis 2:25; 3:7,21). Decent clothing brings out natural beauty and strength, which must be matched with inward "purity of heart" (Song of Songs 4:1-7; 1 Peter 3:3). Africans are known for dressing smartly and for observing communal standards. The reputation of a university depends in part on the first impression which its students and staff make. Hence the community has a legitimate interest in students' and staff's appearance.

While University life entails considerable personal freedom and accountability, it is right that the community should set certain standards of decency and behaviour. In the case of Uganda Christian University, the following basic principles are spelled out in University documents and are agreed to by all matriculated students and appointed staff.

- **Instruments of Identity, Rule of Life:** *Men and women will dress decently and will treat each other with decency and purity.*
- **Code of Conduct 1 (i). Cleanliness:** *Every student shall dress in a neat and decent manner, as specified by University standards.*

2. General Guidelines

The following General Guidelines shall apply to students and staff of this University at all times.

- Students and staff should wear clean clothes, properly pressed.
- Students and staff should seek to wear clothes that do not cause offence to others either in style or in message, e.g., a shirt advertising an immoral activity or institution.
- Sexually provocative attire is inappropriate. This includes clothes worn without proper undergarments, sheer or skin-tight clothes or clothes that expose undergarments or unseemly flesh, e.g., extremely low-cut blouses, kundi-shows, low-riding trousers, and mini-skirts or dresses with long slits.
- Sloppy attire is inappropriate, e.g., baggy or ill-fitting clothes or clothes with holes and tears.
- Students and staff should practice wholesome body care and grooming, avoiding excessive body-piercing, tattoos or hairstyles which call improper attention to the individual.

3. Dress for Fitting Occasions

Proper dress often depends on the occasion for which it is worn. The following occasions require appropriate dress standards.

3.1. Academic Dress

Students and staff shall be expected to dress in a manner becoming the academic enterprise, especially when present in classrooms, the library, university assemblies and other academic functions. The following is the baseline standard for all faculties in the universities.

Men

African or western suits, or shirts with formal trousers (no jeans).

Shirts should have a collar (or African *kitenge*) and should be tucked in when so styled.

Formal trousers should be belted at the waist and extending to the ankles.

Women

African or western dresses, or blouses with skirt or formal trousers (no jeans).

Blouses should cover the shoulders; skirts should be knee-length or below.

Formal trousers should be belted at the waist and extending to the ankles.

Certain faculties or departments may set supplemental standards for their students and staff.

3.2. Formal Dress

Formal attire, which includes African or western suits for men and women or busutis and other cultural dress, is appropriate for Sunday worship and for other formal occasions in the University calendar, e.g., graduation, induction, special assemblies with dignitaries. Student leaders should dress formally when representing the student body at official meetings or events. Formal attire may be worn in class or in the library at any time.

3.3. Casual Dress

Students and staff may wear informal attire – e.g., T-shirts, sleeveless blouses, jeans, capris and sports caps – either in residence and dining halls or outside so long as this attire conforms to the General Guidelines. They will be permitted to wear casual attire in the library, classrooms and halls during all evenings and on Saturdays.

3.4. Special Dress

Special attire may be worn for the purpose of manual work or for sports but should not be worn on other occasions. Sports attire should be approved by the Dean of Students' Office.

4. Staff Dress Standards

Academic, administrative and support staff should follow a similar code to that of students, and should set a good example for them. Faculties and departments may require staff to dress more formally than the baseline student standard. Group workers, e.g., security and estates, will normally be expected to wear University uniforms.

5. Education and Enforcement

The University shall encourage decent dressing in its publications and assemblies.

Student Guild and Dean of Students officers shall take responsibility for the education of students and for the exercise of constructive "peer pressure." Similarly, Deans and Department Heads shall take responsibility for promoting proper staff attire.

Lecturers and library staff are expected to warn and turn away students who enter class or the library improperly dressed. Similarly, Deans and Department Heads should warn staff who are inappropriately dressed.

In the case of repeated or outrageous violations of Dress Standards, a student or staff member shall be brought before the relevant Dean or Department Head, and if there is no noticeable improvement, he or she shall be referred to the relevant disciplinary body.

Approved by the Student Affairs Board, and noted by University Council 29 November 2007