

North Orange County Community College District  
**BOARD POLICY**  
SECTION 3000  
ACADEMIC PERSONNEL

POLICY #3003

DATE ADOPTED: '81

Code of Ethics for Faculty  
(UNDER REVIEW BY THE ACADEMIC SENATES)

- 1.0 Faculty members, guided by a deep conviction of the worth and dignity of the individual and commitment to the advancement of knowledge, recognize and accept the special responsibilities which are placed upon them. Their responsibility to their subject matter is to seek the truth and to teach the truth as they see it. To this end, they devote their energies to developing and improving their competence. They accept the obligation to exercise critical self-discipline and judgment in using, extending, and transmitting knowledge. Although they may follow subsidiary interests, those interests must never seriously hamper or compromise their freedom of inquiry.
- 2.0 As faculty members, they encourage the free pursuit of learning in their students. They hold before them the best scholarly standards of their discipline. They demonstrate respect for the student as an individual and adhere to their proper role as intellectual guides and counselors. They make every reasonable effort to foster honest academic conduct and to assure that their evaluation of students reflects the true merits of the students. They respect the confidential nature of the relationship between instructor and student. They avoid any exploitation of students for their private advantage and acknowledge significant assistance from them. They protect their academic freedom.
- 3.0 As colleagues, faculty members have obligations that derive from common membership in the community of scholars. They respect and defend the free inquiry of their associates. In the exchange of criticism and ideas, they show due respect for the opinions of others. They acknowledge their academic debts and strive to be objective in their professional judgment of colleagues. They accept their share of faculty responsibilities for the governance of their institution.
- 4.0 As members of their institutions, the faculty members seek above all to be effective teachers. Although they observe the stated regulations of the institution, they maintain their right to criticize constructively and seek revision. They determine the amount and character of the work they do outside their institutions with due regard to their paramount responsibilities within it. When considering the interruption or termination of their service, they recognize the effect of their decision upon the program of the institution and give due notice of their intentions.
- 5.0 As members of their community, the faculty members have the rights and obligations of any citizen. They measure the urgency of these obligations in the light of their responsibilities to their subject, to their students, to their profession, and to their institution. When they speak or act as a private citizen, they avoid creating the impression that they act for the District. As citizens engaged in a profession that depends upon freedom for its health and integrity, the instructors have a particular obligation to promote conditions of free inquiry and to further public understanding of academic freedom.