



IDENTIFYING STUDENTS AT RISK

Helpful Tips on How to Address Abnormal Behaviors

The Office of Student Affairs is a resource for faculty as well as students in non-academic matters. We cover a broad range of student services including attention to non-academic student issues.

In light of the well publicized reports of individual students who have committed violent acts or whose behavior has erupted in highly disruptive episodes on campuses, it is prudent that we, as educators, are proactive in our approach in identifying and intervening with students who may fit the behavior pattern of such individuals. We need to emphasize that there has never been nor do we anticipate a problem in this regard. However, we do want to be proactive and continue to provide a secure learning environment for the University community.

Often students can show both subtle and overt clues that something is wrong. You may observe students who present a pattern of behavior that is odd, strange or seems not quite right to you. Students may appear angry or by their physical behavior or verbal innuendo make you “uncomfortable.” They may mumble or talk oddly to themselves or seem excessively withdrawn or socially isolated. Their social interactions can be odd. Sometimes the students who exhibit these kinds of behaviors are known to the Office of Student Affairs and we are aware of their individual situation. We make it a policy to contact you about these students when appropriate. Students who are not known to us may exhibit these behaviors and these students need to be identified to ensure the safety of the University Community.

If you observe these behaviors there are several steps you can take. First, if the student’s behavior is seriously disruptive or you feel the student is an imminent threat to you or others immediately contact campus security.

If there is no imminent threat and the student exhibits some or all of the behaviors noted above or other behaviors that concern you, talk with the student about the behaviors if you feel comfortable. If you feel “uncomfortable” talking to the student or if the pattern of behavior is not resolved when you do talk, contact the Office of Student Concerns.

If there is a continuous pattern of odd, unusual strange, withdrawn or isolating behaviors and/or you feel you have to “walk on egg shells” around this student, contact the Office of Student Affairs. We may have insights and knowledge that we can share that will give you a better understanding of how to deal with the particular student. We may also be able to find appropriate resources for them if needed.

HOW TO REPORT POTENTIAL STUDENTS AT RISK

For Non-Emergency Issues Contact:

Office of Student Concerns

Phone: 302-356-6925

Email: studentconcerns@wilmu.edu

Wilmington University students, faculty, staff and others are encouraged to report students who are struggling with personal issues or who may be exhibiting worrisome or other concerning behaviors.

Call 911 immediately to report life threatening situations, immediate danger, or extreme threats. For non-emergency assistance, please submit the online form to report a student issue to Student Concerns:

[Online Reporting Form](#)