

SCU Community Covenant

Since its inception in 1946, Southwestern Christian University has been an educational institution founded in the holiness and Pentecostal traditions committed to the transformation of students. The university is dedicated to providing a Christ-centered education that will promote the growth of the whole person.

The university is Christian and it maintains a clear reliance upon a strong "campus community". Clear expectations help the members of the community live in unity. Therefore, **students are required to profess a commitment to Jesus Christ**, making the choice to attend SCU means having a sympathetic appreciation for our guiding principles and choosing to abide by our community standards.

Guiding Principles for our Community

The university has developed four guiding principles that represent our core values which each member of the community agrees to abide by.

1. We affirm and honor Scripture

- All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. II Timothy 3:16.
- By God's grace we: Desire to place the truth of Gods word at the center of our lives and live according to its divinely inspired instruction.
- Community commitment: We agree that scripture is SCU's authority for faith and life. Therefore, we commit ourselves to academic excellence and agree to take responsibility for the quality of our education.

2. We strive to live in obedience to Christ in word and deed

- And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:17.
- By God's grace we: Value the gender, culture, and racial diversity of our community, honoring each person as a creation of Christ; Show compassion to each other by speaking the truth in love; Nurture a community of transparency, authenticity, and perfect love.
- Community commitment: We agree to preserve human dignity, and that harassment of any kind (verbal, sexual, racial, etc.) will not be tolerated.

3. We will actively participate in community

- But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23.
- By God's grace we: Endeavor to love God with our entire being and our neighbors as ourselves; Put the good of the community above our individual desires, encouraging each other to live lives of holiness.
- Community commitment: We agree that the Christian journey is one of service and submission. Therefore we agree to avoid practices that will harm ourselves, one another, or the community.

4. We strive to live with integrity

- Righteousness guards the man of integrity, but wickedness overthrows the sinner. Proverbs 13:6.
- By God's grace we: Strive to live honestly, seeking to share our struggles and victories while attempting to submit ourselves to God's truth; Engage in our academic work with honesty and integrity; Seek out mutual accountability through supportive relationships.
- Community commitment: We agree to obey the laws of the nation, state, local community and the student handbook (Romans 13:1). Such practices to be avoided include, but are not limited to, discrimination, tobacco use, profanity, and the consumption of alcohol. Ephesians 4: 25-32; 5:1-21 outlines additional practices to be avoided, such as sex outside of marriage, greed, and dishonesty (including copy-righted material).

(please sign back)

All SCU community members are encouraged to use wisdom and Scriptural guidance when making choices. SCU recognizes that while Scripture does not always provide specific prescriptions regarding all social practices, SCU has adopted prudent rules in order to guide and contribute to the Christian journey of each individual and academic goals of the university. As a student and member of the Southwestern Christian University community, I have read the covenant above and agree to live by its direction. I also agree to read and to be amenable to the policies in the student handbook. Failure on my part to consistently live the community covenant may jeopardize my current and future enrollment at SCU.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. We affirm and honor Scripture
 - All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. II Timothy 3:16
 - By God's grace we desire to place the truth of God's word at the center of our lives and the foundation of our community.
 - Community commitment: We agree to respect the SCU's authority for faith and life. Therefore, we commit ourselves to academic excellence and agree to take responsibility for the quality of our education.
2. We strive to live in obedience to Christ in word and deed
 - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:17
 - By God's grace we value the gender, culture, and racial diversity of our community, honoring each person as a creation of Christ. Show compassion to each other by speaking the truth in love; nurture a community of transparency, accountability, and pastoral love.
 - Community commitment: We agree to preserve human dignity, and that treatment of any kind (verbal, sexual, racial, etc.) will not be tolerated.
3. We will actively participate in community
 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23.
 - By God's grace we endeavor to love God with our entire being and our neighbors as ourselves. For the love of the community above all individual desires, encouraging each other to live lives of holiness.
 - Community commitment: We agree that the Christian journey is one of service and submission. Therefore, we agree to avoid practices that will harm ourselves, one another, or the community.
4. We strive to live with integrity
 - Righteousness guards the man of integrity, but wickedness overthrows the sinner. Proverbs 10:9
 - By God's grace we strive to live honestly, seeking to share our thoughts and actions with transparency in pursuit of excellence in our academic work with honesty and integrity; seek out wisdom, accountability, and support through supportive relationships.
 - Community commitment: We agree to obey the laws of the nation, state, local community and the broader Christian world. (Romans 13:1) Such practices to be avoided include, but are not limited to, discrimination, tobacco use, plagiarism, and the consumption of alcohol. (Ephesians 4:28-32; 5:1-5) Outline additional practices to be avoided, such as use of electronic devices, and plagiarism, including copy-righted materials.

(please sign back)