



Policy

Title: Weapons and Chemical Deterrent Spray

Effective Date: 07/22/2016

Applies to: University Wide

Statement: WesternU promotes an environment in which the safety and welfare of all faculty, staff, students and visitors are provided for through the coordination of safety programs campus wide.

Purpose: To define what is considered a weapon.

Related Information: WesternU is subject to State of California Penal Code (CPC), which contains specific provisions that prohibit weapons on the campus of an educational institution. The Penal Code establishes a distinct difference between the possession of a weapon in the larger community and the possession of a weapon on campus. It is extremely important for employees, students and visitors to the campus to understand this difference and the consequences of possessing a weapon on university property without lawful permission.

The California Code of Regulations Title V, Section 41301, CPC Sections 626.9, and 626.10, indicate that weapons are not permitted on campus. For the purpose of this policy, weapons are defined as any firearm, fixed bladed knives in excess of 2.5 inches, club-type weapons, explosive device or any other weapon as defined by the CPC and Section 41301.

Some weapons are illegal to possess under all circumstances as described in CPC Section 16590 and are not permitted on campus under any circumstances. Examples of these weapons include, but are not limited to metal knuckles, ballistic knives, sawed-off shotguns and cane swords.

Exceptions: The prohibitions against bringing certain otherwise lethal weapons to the University do not apply in the following circumstances:

1. For a lawful purpose within the scope of a person's employment at the University.
2. For lawful use in or around a residence or residential facility located upon those grounds or for lawful use in food preparation or consumption.
3. Pepper spray is allowed if it is for self-defense, not larger than 2.5 ounces and contains a "warning" label.

Definitions:

Prohibited weapons/dangerous objects: include but are not limited to firearms, martial arts weapons, Nunchakus, airsoft, pellet or bb guns, belt buckle knives, dirk, dagger, cane swords, pen knives, lipstick knives, switchblade knives, butterfly knives, machetes, slingshots, black jacks, sand clubs, billy clubs, and/or metal knuckles. Prohibited knives include those with blades longer than 2.5 inches, or of any size that open automatically, or have a blade with more than one sharp edge.

Weapons: any firearm, fixed bladed knives in excess of 2.5 inches, club-type weapons, explosive device or any other weapon. Examples of these weapons include, but are not limited to metal knuckles, ballistic knives, sawed-off shotguns and cane swords.

Regulatory Information: California Code of Regulations Title V section 41301, California Penal Code, sections 626.9, 626.10, 16590, 21510

Responsible Department: Campus Security

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