

# Mississippi College Policy on Hazing

The purpose of Clubs and Tribes is to create and maintain a positive social environment at Mississippi College. Accordingly, all Mississippi College organizations should fully support the Hazing Policy of the University. In keeping with its commitment to maintaining a positive social environment at MC, and in accordance with Mississippi State Law, Clubs and Tribes should unconditionally oppose any hazing.

The Mississippi College Tomahawk defines hazing as an act which threatens the mental or physical health or safety of a student, causes embarrassment or humiliation, or which destroys or removes public or private property, for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization, a student's willingness to participate in such activity not withstanding (See Student Conduct Code).

Mississippi College further defines hazing as any willful act done by one or more individuals belonging to a Tribe or Club, whether physical, mental, emotional or psychological, which subjects another person, voluntarily or involuntarily, to anything that may abuse, mistreat, degrade, humiliate, harass, ridicule, intimidate, or endanger him or her, or which may in any fashion compromise his or her inherent dignity as a person.

The following are some general examples of activities which are generally considered hazing (This list is meant to serve only as a resource and **DOES NOT** list every activity considered hazing):

The application of food items or any other substances to an individual's body or property  
Coerced\* or forced carrying or wearing of any items that causes embarrassment or humiliation  
Coerced or forced wearing of costumes or particular clothing that causes embarrassment or humiliation  
Any kind of physical exercise  
Coerced or forced consumption of food, drink, alcohol, tobacco, and/or illegal drugs  
Coerced or forced transporting of individuals  
Activities that include humiliation, ridicule, indecent exposure or threaten social exclusion  
Coercing or forcing illegal acts  
Coercing or forcing acts that are immoral and/or unethical\*(see section W)  
Activities that negatively impact an individual's academic, social, physical, or personal success  
Personal servitude  
Mental harassment and/or sexual harassment  
Deception that causes embarrassment, humiliation or that threatens an individual's physical and/or mental wellbeing  
Any activity that involves the use of alcohol or any controlled substance in accordance with Mississippi University's Alcohol and Drug Policy  
Any activity that is not in accordance with Mississippi University's established policies

Note that it is the responsibility of **ALL** members of an organization to ensure that hazing is not taking place. Anyone who is aware of hazing should alert Student Life staff immediately. Should hazing occur in connection with any group or individual activity, disciplinary action will be taken.

\*Section W-Conduct which adversely affects the student's suitability as a member of the University community or reflects negatively on the institution and the principles ascribed

\*Definition of Coerce (according to Merriam-Webster's Dictionary)

1. To restrain or dominate by force
2. To compel to an act or choice
3. To achieve by force or threat

I have received, read, and agree to abide by the above hazing policies.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_