

Faculty Senate Resolution 11-02
“Reissue of PS-29 as Control in the Course and Classroom”
Sponsored by Ken McMillin

Whereas the faculty of the University have been designated to be in charge of educational policy, subject to the authority of the Board of Supervisors; and

Whereas all courses and the course contents are approved by the Faculty Senate Courses and Curriculum Committee; and

Whereas it is important to maintain environments and instruction that are conducive to study and learning in all classes and teaching facilities; and

Whereas the Board of Supervisors Bylaws acknowledge the right of a teacher to explore fully within the field of assignment and to give in the classroom and elsewhere such exposition of the subject as the teacher believes to represent the truth; and

Whereas there are no university or system policies that specify how these teacher rights may be expressed, and

Whereas more than 100 approved courses at LSU may directly use animals or food in lectures, laboratories, seminars, and other classes; and

Whereas PS-29 Environmental Control in the Classroom was deleted after consolidation with PS-19 Environmental Health and Safety, which outlines the major roles and authority of the Office of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) at Louisiana State University (LSU); provides a framework that facilitates the protection of life, property, and the environment; and sets forth safety and environmental responsibilities, provides support for safety rules and procedures, and establishes activities/programs which are necessary for the successful implementation of the University's Environmental Health and Safety Program, but does not address faculty rights and responsibilities for course and class behavior other than safety and environment concerns;

Therefore be it resolved that PS-29 be reissued to define instructor control of courses and classes with the following wording:

Control in Courses and Classes

PS-29

Purpose

To define policy with respect to care rights and responsibilities of instructors in teaching at the University.

Definitions

Instructors are faculty members as defined in the Board of Supervisor Regulations and Bylaws or guest lecturers invited into classes to provide specialized instruction and teaching to students.

Teaching facilities are classrooms, studios, laboratories, seminar rooms, practice rooms, library study areas and carrels, museums, and other areas of the university campus that are appropriately determined by the course instructor to give the proper learning environment for the planned class teaching lesson, lecture, or activity.

General Policy

It is the University's intent to provide in all teaching facilities an environment conducive to study and learning. The instructor of record is responsible and has the right to determine the instructional activities for each course and to provide fair and appropriate teaching environments. Any situation or deportment which disrupts the learning process, as determined by the instructor, is prohibited. Smoking is not allowed in any teaching facility or area at any time. Eating and drinking in teaching facilities or areas are allowed only in areas designated for those activities in individual buildings and in classes where the course syllabus provides for use of these in course activities. All animals, except those for service assistance or course instruction, are prohibited in teaching facilities.

The course syllabus will specify information to the student about the course, including course objectives, grading policies, topics, textbooks and reference materials, and any other policies necessary for maintaining the instructional environment. Only registered students and individuals approved or invited by the course instructor are allowed to participate in class instructional activities.

Faculty members are responsible for the enforcement of this policy in their classrooms and should report to the Building Coordinator or Department or School chair, head, or director any deviations needed in this policy and any observed violations in this policy. In the latter case, the instructor or class will not be held responsible for infractions caused by others. A list of Building Coordinators is available from the Office of the Vice-Chancellor for Finance and Administrative Services.