



MOREHOUSE COLLEGE

Office of Student Conduct

Etiquette and General Behavioral Expectations

Philosophy on Student Responsibility

Welcome to the Morehouse College community! We are delighted that you made the decision to attend Morehouse and we look forward to watching you grow and develop over these next four years. Morehouse College is committed to student development and personal growth. We expect students to take responsibility for their behavior, in addition to holding their peers accountable for being good citizens. As a member of the Morehouse College community, you have voluntarily entered into a community of scholarly learners who are expected to exhibit thoughtful academic study and discourse, and ethical and socially responsible behavior on and off-campus.

Morehouse College has developed the Policy on Etiquette and General Behavior Expectations, and other policies and procedures to support its academic mission, objectives, processes, functions, and general operations. These standards represent the core values of integrity, fairness, respect, community, and responsibility. We encourage students to be reflective of the College values and behavioral expectations as they practice self and group advocacy and personal responsibility.

Standards of Excellence

Morehouse men are expected to exhibit modest, neatness, timeliness, and appropriateness of behaviors on and off-campus. In addition, we expect that all Morehouse men will exhibit the following standards of excellence:

1. **Integrity** – all members of our community are expected to exemplify honesty, respect for truth, and congruence with college standards and behavior expectations in all exchanges and interactions.
2. **Responsibility** – Members of our community are expected to take ownership of individual choices and any subsequent consequences.
3. **Respect** – All community members are expected to honor and stem the rights and freedoms of each unique individual, and to understand the value and worth of college property and the property of others, and demonstrate care for individuals and property.
4. **Fairness** – Members of the community are expected to follow all published policies and guidelines in good faith as the College is committed to developing consistent, honest and just systems.
5. **Community** – Learning to live as a member of a community is an important part of the personal development of our students. Each individual must learn to respect others' needs and expectations, voice their own expectations and concerns about community life, and resolve differences and conflicts peacefully.



Appropriate Attire Policy

Morehouse College is dedicated to the total development of young men. As such, we strive to instill in the hearts and minds of every young man, the foundational principles of appropriate conduct and attire. This commitment is designed to achieve an important objective of the Morehouse mission, “to develop men with the values, knowledge, and skills essential to impact the world as leaders.”

It is our expectation that students who select Morehouse do so because of the College’s outstanding legacy of producing leaders and its reputation for developing and enhancing students holistically. On the campus and at College-sponsored events and activities, students at Morehouse College will be expected to dress neatly and appropriately at all times. The following are examples of appropriate attire for various occasions:

1. Classroom, Cafeteria, and College offices - neat, modest, casual or business casual attire.
2. Formal programs in Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel, Opening Convocation, Founder’s Day and other college functions - business or business casual attire.
3. Interviews - business attire.
4. Social/recreational activities, residence hall lounges (during visitation hours) - modest, casual or business casual attire.
5. Balls, Galas, - formal and semi-formal attire.

Students who choose not to abide by this policy **will be denied** admission into class and various functions and services of the College if their manner of attire is inappropriate.

If students have questions regarding attire for different functions or desire further clarification on what is considered neat, modest, casual, business, semi-formal or formal attire, please consult staff in the Office of Student Services in Suite 200 of the Kilgore Center.

Examples of inappropriate attire and/or appearance include but are not limited to:

1. Caps, do-rags and/or hoods in classrooms, the cafeteria, or other indoor venues. Do-rags should not be worn outside of the residence halls. This policy item does not apply to headgear considered as a part of religious or cultural dress.
2. Sun glasses or “shades” are not to be worn in class or at formal programs, unless medical documentation is provided to support use.
3. Decorative orthodontic appliances (e.g. “grillz”), be they permanent or removable, shall not be worn on the campus or at College-sponsored events.
4. Jeans at major programs such as, Opening Convocation, Commencement, and Founder’s Day or other programs dictating professional, business casual attire, semi-formal or formal attire.
5. Clothing with derogatory, offensive and/or lewd messages either in words or pictures.
6. Top and bottom coverings should be worn at all times. No bare feet in public venues.
7. No sagging – the wearing of one’s pants or shorts low enough to reveal undergarments or secondary layers of clothing.
8. Pajamas, shall not be worn while in public or in common areas of the College.
9. Additional dress regulations may be imposed upon students participating in certain extracurricular activities that are considered Morehouse College auxiliaries (e.g. athletic teams, the Band, Glee Club, Forensics, etc).



10. The College reserves the right to modify this policy as deemed appropriate.

All administrative, faculty, students and support staff members are asked to assist in enforcing this policy and may report disregard or violations to the Office of Student Conduct.

Failure to comply with this policy is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Students may be given a verbal warning to correct their attire by a faculty or staff member. Should the student choose not to abide by the directives of a faculty or staff member, this is a violation of our Code of Student Conduct for “failure to comply,” then they will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be subject to our Code of Student Conduct and sanctions up to and including expulsion from the College.

If for religious, medical or cultural reasons a student is unable to comply with this policy, the student must:

- (1) make a request to the Vice President for Student Development in writing;
- (2) provide required documentation;
- (3) secure written approval from the Vice President for Student Development.

****This policy became effective October 12, 2009 and applies to the Morehouse College campus and College-sponsored events that are held off-campus. This policy also applies to all students taking courses on the Morehouse campus, regardless of institution affiliation, and guests on the campus.***

Behavioral Expectations

The purpose of New Student Orientation is to introduce and welcome new students and their families to the Morehouse College community. Our goal is to ease personal, social and emotional transitions and adjustments, to help students begin to define their educational purpose, and to provide a balanced introduction to opportunities and expectations at Morehouse College. The following are some general expectations for all Morehouse College first-year and transfer students:

1. Attendance at all orientation sessions is mandatory. Students are expected to be on time for all programs and events.
2. **King Chapel:** To demonstrate respect for King Chapel, which is also our sacred place of community worship, classroom or dressy attire (depending on the occasion) is requested. Please avoid wearing shorts as this is not appropriate.
3. **Parents Parting Ceremony:** All students are required to wear white dress shirts during the ceremony.
4. We take safety and security of our students very seriously. Therefore, all students are asked to remain on campus during New Student Orientation. In cases of emergency, students must contact the Dean of Freshmen. If you need to leave campus, please contact the ***Dean of Freshmen, Alvin Darden, at (404) 633-7805 or visit Sale Hall Annex 101*** to discuss the appropriate process for taking a leave from campus. If you are missing, we will immediately initiate missing student procedures with the Dean of Freshmen and Campus Police.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the dress attire or behavioral expectations, please contact ***Assistant Dean of Student Conduct Michael Southern, in Student Services at (404) 215-2681, visit Kilgore Center Room 200, or via e-mail msouther@morehouse.edu.***

