

# Process for Investigating and Resolving Student Sexual Misconduct Complaints

This chart overlays the process by which the University investigates & adjudicates a report that an individual has engaged in conduct that could violate the sexual misconduct portion of the [Policy Prohibiting Discriminatory Harassment & Sexual Misconduct](#).

Detailed information can be found in the [Student Handbook](#), beginning on page 25.

## Intake

Discuss circumstances of the conduct and available resources.  
Explain the policy and investigation / adjudication process.

## Investigate

Fact-finding to include separate interviews with the reporting party, the responding party, and any witnesses believed will provide necessary and relevant information.

The investigation may include the review of documentation or other items relevant to the reported conduct.

## Create Investigative Report

Inform both parties of their opportunity to review the Investigative Report and submit written comments and/or questions about the content.

## Adjudicate

Deliberation Panel members provided with the Investigative Report and meet to determine responsibility.

*Each party may have a single advisor of their choice present during any disciplinary proceeding, including any related meeting and/or interview related to the investigation and adjudication of the Sexual Misconduct Policy...*

Remember, this is a university judicial process; there are processes available for accessing the [court/criminal system](#).

**This is why our campus language matters...**

The following are examples of important language distinctions *within the judicial process*...

“Reporting Party”	<b>NOT</b>	victim or survivor
“Responding Party”	<b>NOT</b>	defendant, accused or perpetrator
“Information”	<b>NOT</b>	evidence
“Violation of the policy”	<b>NOT</b>	a crime
“Policies, and regulations”	<b>NOT</b>	the law
“Sanction”	<b>NOT</b>	punishment
“Responsible”	<b>NOT</b>	guilty (policy violation)
“Meeting, or interview”	<b>NOT</b>	hearing or trial