

Definitions

Sexual Assault: any sexual act directed against another person forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent. (e.g., ingestion of alcohol or drugs or if the person is unconscious or otherwise unable to communicate consent). A lack of physical resistance or other negative response is not consent. Sexual assault includes rape, molestation, incest, exposure and unwanted touch.

Sexual Harassment: any unwelcome sexual advance or requests for sexual favors or any conduct of a sexual nature when made as a term or condition of employment, used as a basis for employment decisions, or has the purpose of interfering with an individual's work or academic performance, or creates a hostile, intimidating or offensive working environment.

Stalking: repeatedly contacting another person when the contacting person knows or should know that the contact is unwanted by the other person, including cyber stalking or any use of electronic media.

Intimate Partner Violence (also known as dating violence, domestic violence, or interpersonal violence) any abusive behavior, including acts of violence or threats of violence, by an individual against a person. It may involve a single act or an ongoing pattern of behavior. This can include: intimidation, manipulation, threats, violence, assault, property damage, and physical, emotional, economic, technological, or sexual abuse.

Campus Resource Team (CaRT)

Title IX Coordinator, Daryle Dennis
Phone: (203) 837-8277
www.wcsu.edu/diversity/titleix.asp

CHOICES Substance Abuse Program
Sharon Guck
Phone: (203) 837-8898

Director of Counseling Center, Dr. Ree Gunter *CONFIDENTIAL*
Phone: (203) 837-8690

The Women's Center at Western
Rayna Havelock, Melissa O'Connor & Jill Daddona *CONFIDENTIAL*
Phone: (203) 837-3939

University Police
Phone: (203) 837-9300 or 911

Director of University Health Service, Dr. Sue Cizek *CONFIDENTIAL*
Phone: (203) 837-8594

Director of Judicial Affairs, Charles Alexander
Phone: (203) 837-8770

Dean of Students, Dr. Walter Cramer
Phone: (203) 837-9700

Director of Residential Programs & Staff
Housing and Residence Life, Maribeth Griffin
Phone: (203) 837-8532

Center for Student Involvement
Bianca Paolello
Phone: (203) 837-3950

Danbury Police (203) 797-4611

Faculty Representative

Student Representative

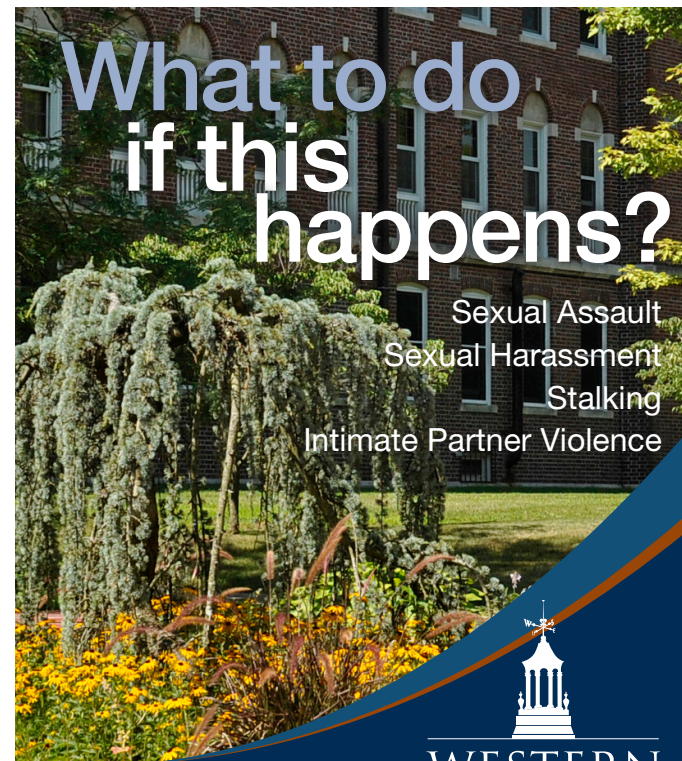
Campus & Community Resource Directory

Police Departments	
University Police	(203) 837-9300
Danbury Police	(203) 797-4611
Emergency & Ambulance	911

Hospitals	
Danbury Hospital	(203) 739-7100

Crisis Intervention & Counseling	
Western Counseling Center	(203) 837-8690
Women's Center at Western	(203) 837-3939
Women's Center in Danbury	(203) 731-5200
Sexual Assault Hotline	(203) 731-5204
Domestic Violence Hotline	(203) 731-5206
National Domestic Violence Hotline	(800) 799-7233

Other Western Resources	
Dean of Students	(203) 837-9700
Housing & Residence Life	(203) 837-8531
Title IX Coordinator	(203) 837-8277
Campus Police Escort	(203) 837-9300
Substance Abuse Office	(203) 837-8899



To All WCSU Students:

Sexual assault and Interpersonal Violence (IPV) among students on college campuses nationwide is a serious problem. At Western we have a zero-tolerance policy for these types of behaviors. Sexual assault and interpersonal violence are violations of Federal and State laws and our Student Code of Conduct. Individuals who violate the law are subject to harsh penalties through a court of law and/ or the campus judicial system. Western is committed to preventing the occurrence of sexual assault and interpersonal violence and is prepared to respond to any report of such acts brought to our attention. It is important to report such acts so the University can respond with support for the victim/survivor and with the appropriate legal action.

We strongly believe that all students have a right to a healthy and safe learning environment free of any violence and fear. In order to achieve this goal, the University collaborates with community resources to educate students, prevent such violence, and to provide the needed support to victims of such crimes.

We conduct many educational programs and campus events. In addition, an online educational program is available. These educational initiatives provide students with an opportunity to learn about interpersonal violence, how to protect themselves and others, and how to take an active role in preventing sexual assault and interpersonal violence on our campus. We seek to empower you so you can contribute to creating a safe environment for everyone.

Inside these pages you will find university and community resources for victims, survivors and their friends and families. Western, in cooperation with local advocates and law enforcement, has a Campus Resource Team (CaRT) which is charged with educating, training, and responding to sexual assault and interpersonal violence on campus. Please read through the Victim's Bill of Rights located at wcsu.edu/stuaffairs/CaRT_VictimsBOR to further understand all that is available on campus and required by law. We have also listed members of the CaRT team who work together to ensure an effective response that prioritizes support and the needs of the victim. Our goal is to inform and engage our students, strengthen the delivery of services to victims, and ensure that perpetrators are held accountable for their actions.

Keith Betts, Ed.D.
Vice President for Student Affairs

What Can You Do if an Incident Happens...

After any incident, you may feel confused, fearful, guilty, ashamed, or isolated. It's important to talk with someone about these feelings. WCSU has a Campus Response Team (CaRT) who are prepared to help. The University will be particularly sensitive to meeting the needs of each individual. (see *CaRT contacts*)

Find a safe place and call someone you trust

The police will help you whether or not you choose to prosecute the assailant. For an incident on campus, call the WCSU Police Department at (203) 837-9300. For an off-campus incident, you may call WCSU Police at (203) 837-9300 or the local police department at (203) 797-4611 or 911.

Call the Women's Center 24-Hour Hotlines:

- Sexual Assault: (203) 731-5204
- Domestic Violence: (203) 731-5206

Call a friend, family member, someone whom you trust, or contact a member of CaRT to help you through this process.

Get medical attention if needed

It is important that you seek medical attention immediately to assess and treat physical injuries you may have sustained, and other health related risks.

Try to preserve all physical evidence of the assault

If a sexual assault has occurred, some forensic evidence should be collected within 24 to 72 hours following the assault.

Do not drink, bathe, douche, brush your teeth, change your clothes, or comb your hair. It's only natural to want to do these things, but you may be destroying evidence that could be helpful in an investigation. In the course of your medical examination, this evidence will be collected by a specially trained nurse. If changing clothes is necessary, clothing worn during the assault should be placed in a paper bag.

Later Medical Evaluation: While immediate medical attention is preferred, delayed medical evaluation is strongly recommended.

Seek emotional care

After any such incident, it may be beneficial to seek professional counseling in order to explore and address the impact of such an occurrence on your life.

Crisis Intervention & Counseling Services

WCSU Counseling Center

The Counseling Center at Western provides free and confidential services to students. The center is staffed with professionals trained to provide support and counseling to those who have experienced sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking and intimate partner violence. The Counseling Center can also provide referrals to other local agencies.

Women's Center at WCSU

The Women's Center operates a 24-hour confidential hot-line (see previous column) for individuals who have experienced sexual assault and intimate partner violence. The Women's Center has an office on the WCSU campus in Higgins Hall Annex 105-C for counseling (203) 837-3939. Crisis intervention and advocacy is available; this would include accompanying a victim to police, hospital, and judicial proceedings. All services are free and confidential.

Options for Reporting the Incident

Western's Campus Resource Team (CaRT) is available to assist and support any student who has experienced sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking and intimate partner violence on or off campus. (see *list of CaRT members*). Students' confidentiality will be strictly protected in accordance with the law. For a detailed description of these options visit wcsu.edu/stuaffairs/CaRT.asp

1. Formal Reporting: Contacting University Police

Reporting any of the above incidents to police does not commit you to further legal action. The earlier you report any such incident, the easier it will be for police to investigate the crime and to prosecute the case successfully if that is your choice.

Protective and/or Restraining Orders

- A protective or restraining order may be requested from the courts related to any of the above incidents.
- A court issued protective or restraining order prohibits someone from communicating with an alleged victim, from entering the victim's residence, workplace, school, or property and any place the victim may frequent.
- When informed that a protective or restraining order has been issued, WCSU will take immediate steps to enforce the order as it relates to activities on the campus. It is important that students alert WCSU Police that such an order has been issued (providing the Police with a copy of the order is strongly encouraged). *For more information about protective and restraining orders students may contact University Police at (203) 837-9300.*

2. Criminal Complaint

Students may make criminal complaints with the WCSU University Police Department. The Police will inform the students of their rights and options. University Police will conduct a confidential investigation and will keep the student apprised about any decision to prosecute. The police will review all cases with the State's Attorney's Office. The State's Attorney will make the final decision to prosecute under state law.

If you wish to have the assailant prosecuted, the police and district attorney's office will handle the legal proceedings without expense to you. You do not need to hire an attorney. If you wish, the police will contact the Women's Center and an advocate will meet you at the police station.

3. University Action:

Students may wish to contact the University Office of Judicial Affairs after a sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking and intimate partner violence to pursue university disciplinary action. A complete and detailed description of the judicial process may be found in the Student Code of Conduct wcsu.edu/stuaffairs/PDFDOCS/Student_Code_of_Conduct.pdf

- If the alleged perpetrator is a student at Western, you have the option to file a complaint through the University's disciplinary system (see the Student Handbook). A University representative will be available to assist you through the process.
- If the alleged perpetrator is a non-student member of the Western community, you have the option to file a complaint with the University's Title IX coordinator (see CaRT Contacts list).

4. Anonymous Reporting:

Any individual has the right to complete an Anonymous Interpersonal Violence Report Form which can be found on wcsu.edu/stuaffairs/CaRT.asp. This form does not include any personal identifying information (e.g., name, age, address). The purpose of this form is for statistical data collection, as well as to determine possible patterns that may exist. Even with anonymous reporting, the University may investigate an incident to determine if the community is in potential danger.

Note: University employees are required to complete an Anonymous Interpersonal Violence Report Form when made aware of an incident related to sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking and intimate partner violence.

Assistance in Changing Living Arrangements, Class Schedules or On-campus Work Schedules

The university recognizes that it may be necessary for students to change their on-campus living arrangements, class schedules and on-campus work arrangements. Students requesting these changes should contact Director of Housing (203) 837-8736 and/ or the Dean of Students (203) 837-9700. *Students should not hesitate to make these requests, which will be addressed in a timely manner.*