

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Upon entering Notre Dame Seminary, it is the responsibility of each student to be formed as a disciple of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the Church and for the people to whom they will minister. Adhering to this responsibility does not diminish the human and civil rights guaranteed each person by God and by the local authorities of the State of Louisiana.

Accordingly, Notre Dame Seminary further recognizes the following rights for each student:

- ◇ The right to a quality education in line with the orthodox teaching of the Roman Catholic Church. This includes the right to free inquiry within the classroom, and the right to be graded fairly and objectively according to the quality of academic performance.
- ◇ The right to recommend changes in policies so that Notre Dame Seminary might better fulfill the rights stated above. These suggestions are to be made through the various committees which are formed to further student interests and welfare (e.g., Academic Affairs Committee, Faith Life Committee, Library Committee, Social Life Committee, etc.).
- ◇ The right to a fair hearing and the right to appeal the decision when a disciplinary action is applied to the student as an individual or as a group member (see Grievance Policy).

And for students who are seminarians:

- ◇ The right to develop as a virtuous man in accord with the four pillars of formation of the Program of Priestly Formation [PPF]. This includes the right to a morally conducive environment which is necessary for virtuous development.

In addition, Notre Dame Seminary further stipulates these responsibilities to be accepted by each student so that they might fulfill the demands of formation:

- ◇ The student is to be fully acquainted with all the regulations and policies published in the Notre Dame Seminary Academic Catalog.
- ◇ The student is to recognize that all conduct reflects not just the individual person, but Notre Dame Seminary as an institution and the larger Catholic community, and is to behave with due respect for this larger community.
- ◇ The student is to recognize and obey the local civil laws at all times and fulfill the demands of common decency.

And for students who are seminarians:

- ◇ The student is to dedicate himself fully to the formation program as articulated in the four pillars of the PPF and as found in the Rule of Life for seminarians.
- ◇ The student is to support the healthy morale of other students and the effectiveness of Notre Dame Seminary by communicating all concerns about their own formational progress, or the formational progress of other students, when appropriate, to the Rector or other appropriate administrators.