

# STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

HOME / DEPARTMENTS / DEAN OF STUDENTS' OFFICE

Select Language

Powered by [Google Translate](#)

The Dean of Students' Office provides premier student and family support services and programs with a focus on student success, access, engagement, and retention. Through restorative practices, our department provides holistic student support, as well as opportunities for leadership, development, and community engagement. To provide a safe community experience each student is responsible for compliance with the Student Code of Conduct.

Incident Report Form

## INTRODUCTION

### MISSION/VISION/VALUES

#### Our Mission

Sam Houston State University is a student-centered, community engaged institution whose mission is to offer an accessible, quality higher education. The university offers a variety of innovative and flexible degree programs at the undergraduate, graduate, and professional levels focused

on career readiness, personal and professional development, and service. SHSU provides integrated academic and student success services designed to support traditional and non-traditional students from diverse backgrounds.

#### Our Vision

Sam Houston State University will provide a transformative environment that enables students from diverse backgrounds to become leaders who serve their families, communities, and professions. We aspire to make SHSU both the best value in higher education and the top

regional public university in the state of Texas. We will accomplish this through providing high quality, innovative, and flexible academic programs; a commitment to student success, scholarship and creative works; and engagement that solves the most critical challenges facing the world.

#### Our Values

Sam Houston State University is a student-focused, collaborative community that values personal growth and life-long engagement through the promotion of integrity and academic excellence.

- Student Success and Support
- Academic Excellence
- Service and Community Support
- Inclusive Excellence
- Collaborative Environment
- Honor
- Creativity and Innovation

### Strategic Priorities

**Priority #1**  
Prioritize student success and student access.

**Priority #2**  
Embody a culture of excellence.

**Priority #3**  
Elevate the reputation and visibility of SHSU.

**Priority #4**  
Expand and elevate our service to the State and beyond.

[shsu.edu/strategic-plan/](https://shsu.edu/strategic-plan/)

### BEARKAT

Sam Houston State University's athletic teams have been nicknamed "The Bearkats" since 1923 when the University's name was changed by the Texas State Legislature from Sam Houston Normal Institute to Sam Houston State Teachers College. Prior to 1923, the varsity sports teams were nicknamed "The Normals." It is doubtful those who coined the "Bearkat" nickname had a particular animal in mind, however. More likely, the name came from a popular local saying of the time, "tough as a Bear-kat!" The late Ross Lindsey, who was a student athlete in the 1920s and later retired as University

Registrar, once said that "it was a good fighting name of the time." Since the animal in the saying was thought more mythical than real, the spelling settled upon was "Bearkat." In the late 1940s, then SHSU president Harmon Lowman attempted to change the SHSU mascot from Bearkats to "Ravens" (after General Sam Houston's Cherokee nickname). Mrs. Vernon Schuder reported that the alumni were polled; she voted for the raven but that "all these old Bearkats beat us out!" The current Sammy Bearkat mascot character began appearing at SHSU sports events in 1959.

### UNIVERSITY SEAL

The Official University Seal (depiction of Sam Houston with his cane) is used in the most formal applications and expressions of the University's identity and is reserved as a formal insignia for documents of institutional and legal importance.



## Dean of Students' Office

Home

## Student Access & Community Standards

Student Code of Conduct

Incident Report Form

University Policies

Behavioral Intervention Form

Hazing Notice &amp; Training

Student Grievances

Absence Notification

Student Legal &amp; Mediation Services

## Student Engagement

Freshmen Leadership Program

Orange Keys

Student Government Association

Fraternity &amp; Sorority Life

Keys of Excellence

Raven's Call

Leadership Initiatives

Expressive Activity