



STOP

THINK

ACT

# Safety tips for Students



UNIVERSITY OF  
ZULULAND

RESTRUCTURED FOR RLEVANCE

# SAFETY TIPS FOR STUDENTS

## VISION AND MISSION

The new vision of the University of Zululand (UNIZULU) to be a leading, rural-based, comprehensive university providing quality education enunciates the institution's commitment to both academic excellence and quality. The vision also sums up the character of the new comprehensive institution succinctly. The University operationalises this vision in the diverse academic and training opportunities it provides for both staff and students.

The new mission refers to the generation of knowledge (research) in partnership with local and international communities (globalisation). Research collaboration is one of the pillars on which various international partnerships are anchored. The University's growing engagement with the international community is gradually transforming UNIZULU into a global player. UNIZULU's comprehensive status opens up opportunities for local private and public partnerships. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) works collaboratively with university departments responsible for establishing regional and national partnerships.

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## PERSONAL SAFETY

- \* Always walk on well-traveled and well-lit areas
- \* Always walk with friends- especially at night and in dark areas.
- \* Be aware of and alert to your surroundings.
- \* Never leave valuables unattended.
- \* Be aware of the location of the on-campus emergency office.
- \* Keep abreast of crime trends and patterns.
- \* Consider carrying pepper spray, a whistle or learn basic self-defense techniques.



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## VEHICLE SAFETY

- \* Always lock your vehicle.
- \* Do not leave valuables in your vehicle.
- \* Park in well-lit areas.



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## RESIDENCE HALL SAFETY

- \* Never leave your door or windows propped open.
- \* Identify visitors before opening for them.
- \* Do not share dormitory keys, pin codes, cellphone numbers or room numbers with strangers.
- \* Declare personal property such as electronics, home appliances, etc. at the Protective Services Department.
- \* Report any unusual telephone calls or loitering strangers to the Protective Services Department (PSD).



- \* Demand uninvited/unwelcome guests to leave your room. Should they refuse, quickly leave the room and notify the Residence Co-ordinator or PSD.
- \* Report emergencies such as crime, fire, ill-health, injuries or bomb threats to PSD, the Campus Clinic and Occupational Health & Safety.

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## SOCIAL SITUATIONS

- \* Before going on a date, ensure you know your date's name, address, car registration and friends.
- \* If you suddenly feel uncomfortable while on a date, immediately leave.
- \* Communicate your wishes clearly. Do not let anyone assume your intentions.
- \* Be assertive. Insist on being treated with respect.
- \* Do not rely on someone you just met for a ride home.
- \* Always carry extra cash or have a number for a metre taxi, friend with a car and/or Uber.
- \* If you have been assaulted, find the nearest safe place and call a friend. Thereafter, call SAPS and PSD.




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## SEXUAL AND RELATIONSHIP ASSAULT

- \* Do not let alcohol or other drugs fog your judgment.
- \* Be assertive- NO means NO! Do not let anyone violate your space.
- \* Avoid walking or jogging alone, especially around parks/bushes and/or at night.
- \* If you are a victim of relationship, dating or domestic violence; harassment or stalking, we urge you to talk to someone about the incident. Part of the abuser's power comes from secrecy.



## GOING OUT TO A BAR OR CLUB?

- \* Go out with friends you can trust.
- \* Go to a place near to your home, residence or campus, for ease of reach should you require any help.
- \* Notify at least one person that you are going out, where you intend to go and when you expect to return. Call that person if you are going to be late so that they will not worry about you.
- \* Keep the SAPS and PSD numbers handy, in case of emergency
- \* Keep valuables such as money, ID and keys with you at all times, preferably in a small purse or the front pocket of your pants.
- \* **DO NOT ACCEPT ANY DRINKS FROM STRANGERS** as this may lead to the buyer expecting something in return from you.
- \* Beware of drink spiking. Rohypnol, a strong sedative that causes memory loss, and other substances can be added to your drink, without being detected, in order to incapacitate you.
- \* Do not leave your drink unattended. If you have, do not drink it. **ORDER A FRESH ONE!!**
- \* Consuming alcoholic beverages increases your chances of becoming a victim of crime because your communication and decision-making skills are impaired.
- \* If someone is harassing you even after you have expressed no interest in them, report the issue to a bouncer, security or friend.
- \* If you suspect that you are being followed when you have left the bar or club, call SAPS or whichever one of the following police stations is nearest to you:
  - ☛ Empangeni - 035 901 5821
  - ☛ Richards Bay - 035 901 2475
  - ☛ Mtunzini - 035 340 9807
  - ☛ Eskhawini - 072 124 0277



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## FIRES

- \* Keep flammable material stored safely and in small quantities only.
- \* The misuse of firefighting equipment is prohibited.
- \* Report any misuse of firefighting equipment and fire emergency to PSD.



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## INTERNET SAFETY

- \* DO NOT be naïve. People tend to misrepresent themselves online.
- \* DO NOT give out personal information such as your home telephone number, cell number, address, ID number, account/credit card numbers to strangers online.
- \* DO NOT rush to meet someone you met online. Allow yourself time to know them a little better.
- \* Tell your parents or friends about any planned meeting. If your date insists on keeping the meeting a secret, be suspicious.
- \* Always meet a first date in a public place and, until you know the other party well enough, avoid going to the person's home.
- \* Consider bringing a friend along to a first date.



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## GENERAL SAFETY

- \* When taking the stairs, walk slowly and make use of handrails.
- \* Avoid running within the premises of the University.
- \* Drink water regularly to eliminate dehydration.
- \* Eat enough food to minimise incidents such as fainting.
- \* Do not use your hand or any other part of your body to prevent lift doors from closing.
- \* Wear non-slippery shoes to campus to avoid incidents such as slipping or falling, which may result in severe injuries.
- \* When working in the University labs, always wear protective

clothes as per the rules of lab assistants.

- \* Carry your student card all the time for identification and access control purposes.

**HINT:** You are advised to follow and maintain a safe queuing system during the registration period. Please co-operate with security when they provide safety instructions during registrations.



## IMPORTANT CONTACT DETAILS

- \* PSD - 035 902 6599/6479.
- \* SAPS - 10111/035 340 1633 (for off-campus locations) and 6599/6479 on a University landline
- \* HIV/AIDS Student Counseling Services - 035 902 6861
- \* Student Guidance and Counselling - 035 902 6734
- \* Student Health Centre (Campus Clinic) - 035 902 6162
- \* Occupational Health & Safety - 035 902 6594
- \* Paramedic - 071 883 9289 (Speed dial 59289 on a University landline).
- \* Domestic Violence Hotline - 0800 150 150

## DRUG AWARENESS

Please beware of deadly drugs such as Flakka, Wunga and many others!





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