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PRINCIPLES FOR A SAFER AND MORE RESPONSIBLE SPACE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ

Rector's decision, 3 June 2026

The purpose of the principles for a safer and more responsible space at the University of Jyväskylä is to enable equal and safe participation and interaction for all members of the university community.

The principles for a safer and more responsible space further specify how the university community's good practices are applied.

1. **Shared responsibility:** Creating and maintaining a safer and more responsible space is a shared responsibility of all students and staff at the University. We support one another in building a safer and more responsible space. Each member of the university community contributes to the University's shared practices. We take the principles for a safer and more responsible space into account in everything we do.
2. **Psychological, social, and physical safety:** In creating a safer space, we take psychological, social and physical safety into account. We do not discriminate, place anyone into threatening or offensive situations, or exclude or isolate anyone against their will.
3. **Respectful encounters and interaction:** We treat one another courteously and respectfully while seeking to understand each other's perspectives. We promote open and critical interaction and express our thoughts clearly, constructively and considerately. We ask questions and seek clarification when we do not know or understand something. We express our views with respect for everyone's dignity and rights. We build and maintain a community in which we do not tolerate behaviour that is offensive to others.
4. **Right to participate as oneself:** We recognise the diversity of our university community and value individuality. We understand that the university community consists of individuals with diverse backgrounds and experiences. Together, we develop accessible ways of working and enable participation regardless of background or personal circumstances. Through our actions, we foster a sense of community and inclusion. We create shared understanding and an atmosphere in which it is possible to discuss and agree on common ways of working.

5. **Correcting mistakes and learning from them:** A safer and more responsible space enables the giving and receiving of feedback, apologising and accepting apologies, as well as changing behaviour without stigma. We understand that everyone can make mistakes and therefore take responsibility for our actions and learn from them. We give ourselves and others the opportunity to change our behaviour and learn.
6. **A culture of strong self-reflection:** We strengthen our ability to act by recognising and acknowledging our preconceptions, privileges, and ways of working. We ensure that our skills and knowledge are kept up to date and ask for help when needed.
7. **Addressing issues:** In accordance with the University's guidelines, we address conduct that is contrary to the principles for a safer and more responsible space, as well as harassment, discrimination, unacceptable conduct and inappropriate treatment. Current guidelines will be linked to the University's website in connection with the principles for a safer and more responsible space.

These principles for a safer and more responsible space were prepared in spring 2026 in collaboration with the university community at the University of Jyväskylä.

These principles for a safer and more responsible space at the University of Jyväskylä were approved by decision of the Rector on 3 June 2026.