

Houghton College Survivors' Bill of Rights

Houghton College is committed to providing options, support and assistance to victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking to ensure that they can continue to participate in campus programs, activities, and employment. All victims/survivors of these crimes and violations have the following rights, regardless of whether the crime or violation occurs on campus, off campus, or while studying abroad:

All students have the right to:

1. Make a report to local law enforcement and/or state police;
2. Have disclosures of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault treated seriously;
3. Make a decision about whether or not to disclose a crime or violation and participate in the judicial or conduct process and/or criminal justice process free from pressure from the institution;
4. Participate in a process that is fair, impartial, and provides adequate notice and an opportunity to be heard;
5. Be treated with dignity and to receive from the institution courteous, fair, and respectful health care and counseling services;
 - a. Be free from any suggestion that the reporting individual is at fault when these crimes and violations are committed, or should have acted in a different manner to avoid such crimes or violations;
 - b. Describe the incident to as few institutional representatives as practicable and not to be required to unnecessarily repeat a description of the incident.
 - c. Be free from retaliation by the institution, the accused and/or the respondent, and/or their friends, family and acquaintances within the jurisdiction of the College;
 - i. Access to at least one level of appeal of a determination;
 - ii. Be accompanied by an advisor of choice who may assist and advise a reporting individual, accused, or respondent throughout the judicial or conduct process including during all meetings and hearings related to such process;
 - iii. Request amnesty and interim accommodations

Options in Brief:

Victims/survivors have many options that can be pursued simultaneously, including one or more of the following:

- Receive confidential support from professionals in the HC offices of Counseling Services, Student Health and/or Dean of the Chapel;
- Receive confidential support off-campus through a local hospital, or through the Cattaraugus Community Action's Office of Victims Services hotline at 1-888-945-3970
- Make a report to:
 - A HC employee with the authority to address complaints, including the Title IX Coordinator (Nancy Murphy), the VP for Student Life, or the Dir. of Human Resources
 - The Houghton College Office of Safety and Security at 1-585-567-9333
 - The New York State Police at 1-844-845-7269
 - Family Court at 1-585-268-5843 and/or Civil Court

For more information, refer to the Title IX Omnibus Policy at <http://www.houghton.edu/students/title-ix/>