Cheyney University Policy AA-2010-1056

Policy on Electronic Devices in the Classroom

Approved by: President’s Cabinet/ Academic Affairs Council

History: Revised -2-17-2009

Additional History -- n/a

Related Policies: n/a

Additional References: n/a

Electronic devices that are not intended to enhance the learning environment of all students are to be turned off or silenced of all auditory alerts. Please note that the vibration feature of a cell phone or similar device is considered an auditory alert. Electronic devices include cell phones, personal digital assistant devices (PDAs), computers, as well as calculators, unless explicated permitted by the instructor. Students are not to actively use electronic devices that degrade the overall quality of the learning environment when attending an enrolled class. When attending a class, a student is only permitted to use an electronic device upon removing themselves from the immediate vicinity of the host classroom. This must be done in a respectful and discrete manner to prevent being considered a classroom distraction (see below).

Any behaviors determined as inappropriate use or distractions resulting from the use of electronic devices may result in the following penalties:

- Forfeiture of any earned grade on any assessment scheduled for that class period.
- Forfeiture of any rights or privileges, with respect to attendance and/or participation, gained from attending that class period.
- Chronic or repetitive misuse of electronic devices while attending class can impact up to 25% of the student’s overall course grade.

Faculty members that endorse these penalties (1) must ensure that campus-wide emergency alerts are accessible during times of classroom instruction, (2) must actively and in a timely fashion notify students of their misuse of electronic devices while attending class, and (3) must include this policy, or a summary of, in their course syllabus.