

**DRAFT**

**Great Basin College**  
**Suggested Civility Statement for**  
**Syllabuses for Classroom and Distance Education**

*The currently used civility statement at Great Basin College is:*

**GBC Cares - a guide to engaged learning:**

- **Civility** — have respect for other students, instructors, and staff. *Be respectful, polite, and considerate.*
- **Active** — embrace the active process of learning. *Be diligent, engaged, and committed.*
- **Responsibilities** — you are accountable for your actions, work, words, and behavior. *Be honorable, conscientious, truthful, and dependable.*
- **Excellence** — strive to achieve your highest potential. *Be exceptional, ambitious, and determined.*
- **Success** — successful college students embrace all of the educational experience. *Welcome the ideas, the people, and the challenges.*

*The Safety Committee would like to suggest that the following statements of explanation about civility be included with the GBC Cares bullet points to help enhance and explain the college's expectations regarding civility in an academic environment.*

Civility in any classroom live or digital and “respect for the opinions of others is very important in an academic environment”. Students are expected to assist in maintaining a course environment that is conducive to learning. This includes appropriate verbiage and tone in the discussion environment. “It is likely you may not agree with everything which is said or discussed in the classroom. Courteous behavior and responses are expected. Classroom discussion should be civilized and respectful to everyone and relevant to the topic we are discussing. Classroom discussion is meant to allow us to hear a variety of viewpoints. This can only happen if we respect each other and our differences.”

“To create and preserve a classroom atmosphere that optimizes teaching and learning, all participants share a responsibility in creating a civil and non-disruptive forum.” Students are required, “to conduct themselves at all times in this classroom in a manner that does not disrupt teaching or learning.” Any discussion from class that continues on any listserv, WebCampus or class discussion site should adhere to these same rules and expectations. “When speaking, use courteous, respectful language and keep comments and questions relevant to the topic at hand.”

(Quoted sections from Florida State University, Academic & Professional Program Services)