

# What's the deal with...

## WEAPONS VIOLATIONS?

According to the "Code of Student Conduct," a weapons violation is the "use, possession, or storage of any **firearms, ammunition, knives** or other weapons, or **objects that could be construed as weapons**. Items that pose a **potential hazard** to the safety or health of others are also **prohibited**." Additional information is also found in the University's *Firearms and Weapons Policy*.

### But what does that mean?

The University's rules and policies regarding weapons are in place for a reason, not the least of which is compliance with federal law. The Academic Mission of the University is "to provide students and faculty with the optimal environment for the creation, acquisition, and dissemination of knowledge and the pursuit of creative endeavors to meet the needs and enrich the global society." In order to accomplish our mission it is imperative that students, faculty and staff feel safe and secure in their surroundings.

### How does that affect life at GW?

Students are prohibited from possessing, storing or using any weapon or object that could be construed as a weapon. Objects that can be construed as weapons are defined as: any object used to physically threaten another individual and/or any object used in the act of committing physical abuse towards another individual, even if the object's original purpose is not that of a weapon. Some examples from actual cases include but are not limited to: plungers, remote controls, books, etc. **GW takes weapons violations very seriously**. Whether you plan to use the weapon or not, simply having a weapon or object that can be construed as a weapon is a violation of University policy.

### Did you know...

#### **BB or Pellet guns...**

Toy guns...

#### **Air Soft guns...**

Machetes...

#### **Hunting knives...**

Paintball guns...

#### **Air rifles (CO<sub>2</sub> powered)...**

Switchblades...

#### **Nunchucks...**

Samurai Swords...

#### **Ninja Stars...**

Firearms...

#### **Ammunition...**

### ...are weapons or could be construed as weapons?

*\*\*This is not an exhaustive list but are simply examples of objects that are considered weapons\*\**

### What if I am found with a weapon?

Be prepared to accept the **consequences** of your decision to keep a weapon on campus. Familiarize yourself with those items prohibited by the University and leave or send prohibited items home. If you are found with a weapon, you may be arrested and face disciplinary action taken by the University. The "Code of Student Conduct" states the recommended **minimum sanction** for students found in violation of the Weapons Policy is **Disciplinary Probation** or **Loss of Housing**. However, depending upon the severity of the violation, you may also face sanctions to include **Suspension** or **Expulsion**.

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