

DEVELOPING PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT
CONNECTIONS TO THE ATA CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Selected Statements from the ATA Code of Professional Conduct	Preservice Teachers in a Professional Program
<p>The teacher teaches in a manner that respects the dignity and rights of all persons without prejudice as to race, religious beliefs, color, sex, sexual orientation, physical characteristics, age, ancestry or place of origin.</p>	<p>Preservice teachers should conduct themselves in a manner that respects the dignity and rights of all persons, including the instructor, without prejudice as to race, religious beliefs, color, sex, sexual orientation, physical characteristics, age, ancestry or place of origin.</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • respecting other students' ideas and ways of representing their ideas. • using inclusive language. • willing to do group work with a variety of other students. • developing a sense of respect for diverse children and their families.
<p>The teacher treats pupils with dignity and respect and is considerate of their circumstances.</p>	<p>Preservice teachers should treat other students with dignity and respect and be considerate of their learning circumstances.</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • respecting other students' rights to an optimal learning environment (planning to arrive on time, remaining for the entire class, and being attentive).
<p>The teacher does not undermine the confidence of pupils in other teachers.</p>	<p>Preservice teachers do not undermine the confidence of their classmates in other instructors.</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • making or repeating unprofessional comments about instructors.
<p>The teacher criticizes the professional competence or professional reputation of another teacher only in confidence to proper officials and after the other teacher has been informed of the criticism</p>	<p>Preservice teachers, if criticizing the professional competence or professional reputation of an instructor, should follow proper procedures.</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meeting with the instructor to discuss the difficulty in private – making the best effort to resolve any difficulty at this first stage. • asking yourself "What was my responsibility in regard to this difficulty?" and "How can my difficulty be resolved so I can get the most out of my education program?" • meeting with the Associate Chair of the department if you cannot resolve the issue with the instructor.

<p>The teacher, when making a report on the professional performance of another teacher, does so in good faith and, prior to submitting the report, provides the teacher with a copy of the report.</p>	<p>Preservice teachers, when reporting on the professional performance of other students or an instructor should do so in good faith.</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meeting with the students or instructor to discuss the professional performance issue. • providing constructive feedback. • providing adequate time for change to occur. • sending a signed copy of any letter to the students or instructor in question.
<p>The teacher acts in a manner which maintains the honor and dignity of the profession.</p>	<p>Preservice teachers should act in a manner which maintains the honor and dignity of the profession.</p> <p>A. Develop a commitment to self-improvement.</p> <p>i. Improving yourself academically.</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • being willing to know and consider new ideas. • being willing to engage your mind in thinking about your courses. • developing the discipline needed for self-directed learning. • meeting the standards for scholarship in all courses. <p>ii. Improving your social skills.</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • being willing to work with diverse people. • being accountable during group assignments. <p>iii. Improving your sense of responsibility.</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • always being willing to credit other people for their work (plagiarism issues). • accepting responsibility for completing assignments on time. • being responsible for the choices you make when no one is watching – e.g., written comments on course evaluations. <p>B. Respect the teaching profession.</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seeing yourself as a practicing professional in the field of education and acting accordingly. • developing a sense of pride and respect for the teaching profession. • promoting the teaching profession within the university community and to society.