

## **DRESS CODE POLICY**

UCA students are expected to dress tastefully and appropriately at all times. While it is true that “the Lord looks at the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7), a person’s dress and grooming habits are strong indicators of character. Modesty in dress is a Biblical principle that contributes to natural attractiveness and good taste. This characteristic excludes gaudiness or display that will attract undue attention.

### **Class and General Campus Wear (School Dress)**

- All clothing must be clean, neat, and modest with no holes or tears for classroom, cafeteria, and general campus wear.
- Shorts and pants with a full elastic waistband (athletic wear) are not allowed in classroom buildings.
- School-approved shorts must be modest and the hem must reach the bottom of the fingertips when arms are down at the side.
- Jewelry is not permitted on campus or during school events. The school will not be responsible for any jewelry that is confiscated.
- Body art is not acceptable (including markers or henna).
- Grubbiness in appearance, such as wearing cutoffs or torn, frayed, or ill-kept clothing, is not permitted.
- Baggy pants (pants that ride low on the hips) and chains are not appropriate campus wear.
- Extremely tight, form-fitting clothing is not permitted. Tights and leggings must be worn with school-approved clothing over the top.
- Alternate dress and extreme styles are not allowed.
- Pajamas are not acceptable attire outside of the residence hall.
- The midriff should not show at any time, including when arms are raised or when bending.
- All tops must have sleeves and modest necklines (not more than 4-finger widths below the suprasternal notch). Undergarments and cleavage must not show.
- Articles of clothing with pictures or writing not in harmony with school principles are unacceptable.
- Sweatpants are not allowed in classes or the cafeteria for lunch.
- Fingernail polish may be any color except black or what looks like black. A design that does not undermine Christian principles is permitted.
- Skirts must comfortably touch the knees. If worn with leggings or opaque tights, skirts may be three-finger widths above the knee. Slits may be only two inches above the knee.

### **Church Dress**

#### **Women**

- Dresses, skirts, or dress pants must be worn for church. Sleeveless dresses or tops may be worn with a cover.
- Dress shoes, boots, and sandals may be worn for vespers dress. No athletic or casual shoes.

#### **Men**

- Dress pants, buttoned shirt, tie, and dress socks must be worn for church.
- Dress shoes and boots may be worn for church dress. No athletic, casual shoes, or sandals.

#### All Students

- No sweatshirts, hoodies, or casual flip-flops for Church or Vespers dress.
- On Sabbath, church dress must be worn in the cafeteria for Sabbath lunch. School or rec dress is acceptable for other Sabbath meals.

#### **Vespers Dress**

##### Women

- Dresses, skirts, dress pants, khakis, corduroy, and non-blue denim may be worn for vespers dress.
- Dressy blouses, button-ups, or sweaters may be worn for vespers dress.
- Dress shoes, boots, and sandals may be worn for vespers dress. No athletic or casual shoes.

##### Men

- Slacks, khakis, corduroy, and non-blue denim pants may be worn for vespers dress.
- Button-ups or sweaters may be worn for vespers.
- Dress shoes and boots may be worn for vespers dress. No athletic, casual shoes, or sandals.

#### **Banquet Dress**

Deans will approve all banquet dress and costumes for both day and residence hall students (with consideration given to modesty principles) prior to banquets.

#### **Clothes for Recreation**

- School-approved shorts must cover athletic leggings, spandex shorts or tights.
- Shoes are required outside the residence halls. Safety is the number one reason for this rule.
- Women are required to wear modest one-piece swimming suits or overlapping tankinis while swimming.

#### **Hair**

- All students are to keep their hair neat, clean, and modest in appearance and out of their eyes.
- Anything that is styled to stand on end is to be no longer than two inches in length.
- Hair is to be a natural color (brown, black, auburn, and blonde). Hairstyle is to avoid extremes in style and color (i.e. brightly colored hair, Mohawks, etc.).
- Highlighting of the hair should be subtle.
- Since neatness and acceptability are highly subjective qualities, the deans and administration will give guidance.

**In the spirit of unity and fairness, day students are held to this same dress code.**