

Helping Your V-Hawk Take Flight

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What We'll Be Covering

- Making Connections
- Parental and Family Support
- Transportation: Parking and Buses
- Keeping your V-Hawk Safe
- Federal Guidelines: Clery, FERPA, and Title IX
- Viterbo Values and Engagement
- Open Q&A



Making Connections: Take Five

Five Minutes for Five Questions

1. Your name
2. Where you're from
3. Why you and your student chose Viterbo
4. One thing you're excited about
5. One thing you're nervous about

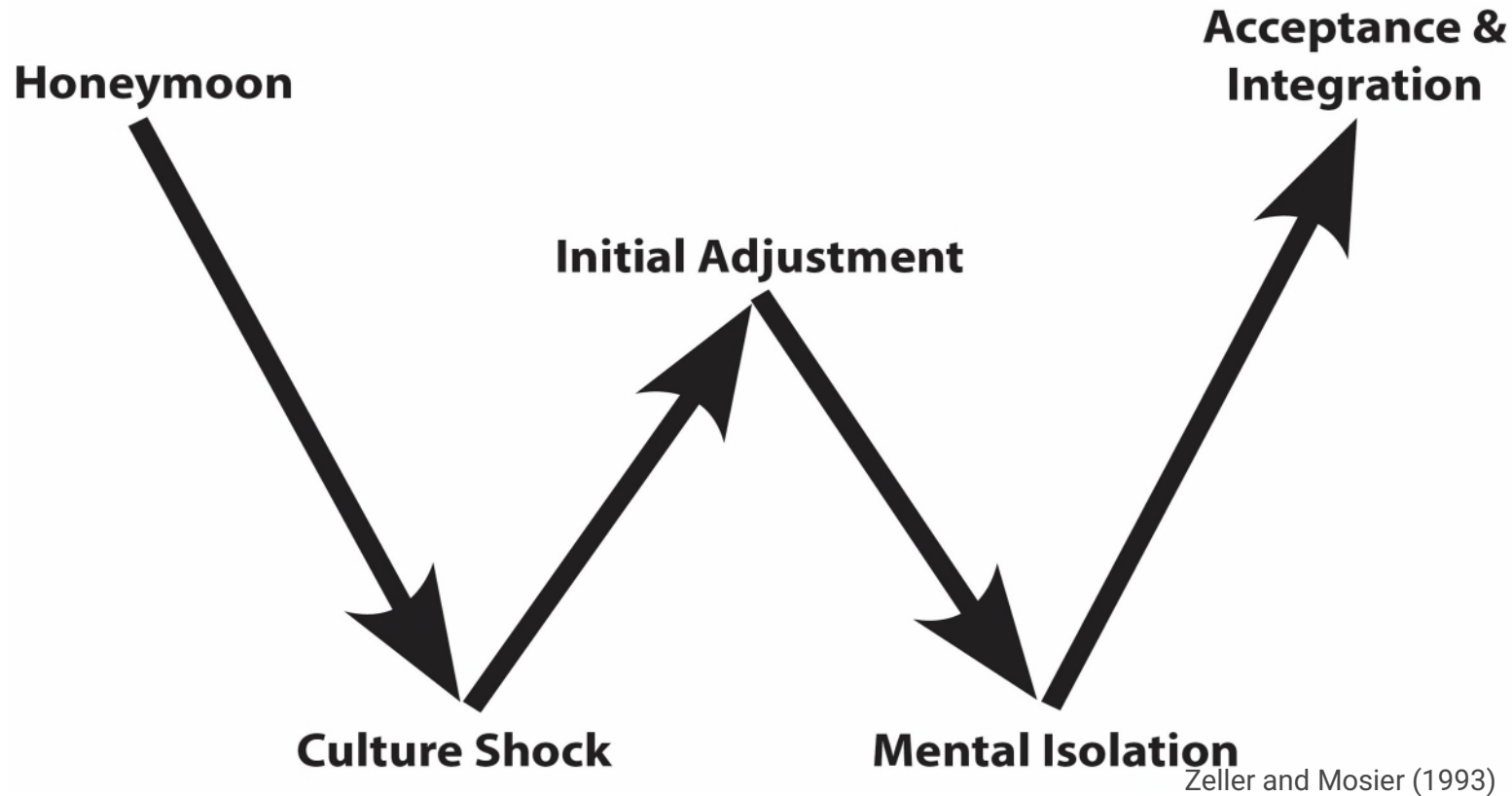


Parental and Family Support

- Parent-Family E-Newsletters
 - Series of e-newsletters specific to parents/family of incoming students between STAR and start of classes.
 - Monthly e-newsletters throughout remaining time at VU.
- Viterbo Parent-Family Information
 - [Viterbo University site](#)
 - [Orientation website](#) for parents and families of new students.
 - Official Viterbo University Parents Facebook Group
 - Vhawkfamilies@viterbo.edu
- Family Day – Save the Date: October 4, 2025



Setting Your Students Up for Success



First Weeks Letter to Your Student

Transportation: Parking

- Parking is limited in on-campus lots.
 - First-year students and first-year transfer student residents are ineligible for parking permits.
 - Sophomore, junior, and senior student residents can participate in a parking permit lottery to obtain one of the 163 guaranteed parking permits as part of the spring housing lottery.
- Why not having a car on campus that first year might be a good thing...



Transportation: Bus

- All Viterbo students are able to ride the city bus system for FREE with their VU ID.
 - The La Crosse Municipal Transit Utility (MTU):
<https://www.cityoflacrosse.org/mtu>
 - Easy access to Wal-Mart, Downtown La Crosse; one-transfer access to Target, Kohls, Best Buy, and Valley View Mall.
 - Learn-to-Ride-the-Bus sessions offered via Orientation.



Keeping Your V-Hawk Safe



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Campus Safety & Security

Key Staff: Aly Graef, Director of Campus Safety

Programs/Services

- V-Hawk SAFE App
- Partnerships with local law enforcement
- Emergency planning and preparedness
- Blue Light Phones
- Support is available 24/7/365
- Campus Safety Officer On Duty: 608-796-3911



Fire Safety

- Fires are the #1 cause of death on college campuses. No candles, please!
- Maintain strict compliance with Wisconsin Fire Safety Laws
- Conduct regular fire drills (mandatory compliance) and Residence Life health and safety checks
- Reiterate with students: no tampering with smoke alarms, carbon monoxide detectors/alarms and fire extinguishers (illegal, costly, and dangerous)



How Do We Report Concerns?



Viterbo Speaks Up is a reporting mechanism for:

- Students
- Employees
- Parents, Family, Guardians

www.viterbo.edu/viterbo-speaks-up

Important Federal Laws and Guidelines



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Understanding Student Privacy

- FERPA: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
 - Connect with your student re: the [FERPA](#) waiver!
 - <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>
 - <https://www.viterbo.edu/registrar/ferpa>



Student Medical Records and Power of Attorney

- Advance Healthcare Directives
 - Declaration to Physicians (Wisconsin Living Will)
 - Power of Attorney for Health Care
 - Power of Attorney for Finance and Property
 - Authorization for Final Disposition
 - Website: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forms/advdirectives/index.htm>
 - Forms: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forms/advdirectives/advforms/advforms_poa.htm



Clery Act

- The Clery Act requires all colleges and universities that participate in federal financial aid programs to keep and disclose information about crime on and near their respective campuses.
- Publish an Annual Security Report (ASR) and filing of crime statistics
- Both the ASR and Viterbo's crime statistics can be viewed on Viterbo's Safety and Security website:
<http://www.viterbo.edu/campus-safety-and-security>



What is Title IX?

Title IX

“ No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

Our policy prohibits sexual harassment (which includes sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking) under Title IX in all programs, activities, and operations of the University. Individuals who engage in such acts are in violation of this policy and are subject to disciplinary action. This policy also prohibits retaliation against individuals who report sexual harassment, who assist others in reporting, or who participate in University proceedings related to such a report.



Core Elements of Title IX

Compliance

Education &
Training

Supportive
Measures &
Resources

Incident
Reporting &
Investigation

Campus &
Community
Partnerships



Key Elements of Title IX Process

When we receive a report of gender-based harassment, the institution has an obligation to:

1. Investigate – required, even if just preliminary fact finding
2. End Harassment – immediate steps to intervene and end the behavior
3. Remedy the effects of the harassment
4. Prevent its future recurrence

Training & Support

- Trainings
 - Through Vector Solutions / Safe Colleges for alcohol, drugs, & sexual violence
 - Orientation Weekend
 - Ongoing opportunities: online & in-person
- Sexual Violence Supports
 - On Campus: Counseling Services, Chaplain, & Violence Prevention coordinator
 - Community Partners: New Horizons & LCPD

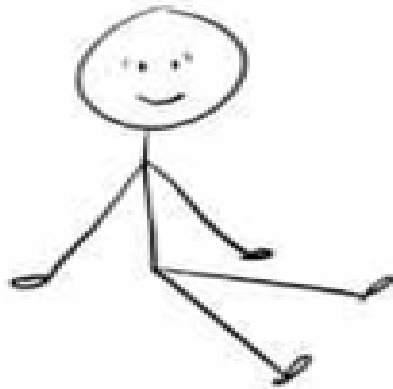


Role of Alcohol & Drugs in Sex-Based Harassment

- [Alcohol](#) is the #1 Date Rape Drug
- “At least 50% of student sexual assaults involve alcohol.” [Alcohol.org](#), May 2020
- Heavy drinking is one of the most significant predictors of sexual assault in college
- Incapacitation
- Required Alcohol, Drug, and Sexual Violence Online Trainings and Orientation Sessions



Cup of Tea video



Helping Your Student Engage Fully & Mindfully



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Viterbo Values: Conduct and Inclusion

- Code of Student Conduct: Know it, reference it, and abide by it
- Guided by institutional mission and values, it is our individual and collective responsibility to create and support the wellbeing of all members of our community.
- Resources:
 - Student Handbook (Planner and Online)
 - 2025-2026 First-Year Common Read: This Changes Everything by Tyler Merritt



Campus Engagement Opportunities

- Not just surviving but thriving!
- Making connections on campus (get involved!)
- Participate in Viterbo-sponsored events & programs
- Utilize support services



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Contact Us!

- Kirsten Gabriel, Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students
 - kkgabriel@viterbo.edu
 - 608-796-3841
 - Murphy Center 230
- Marci Iverson, Compliance and Title IX Coordinator
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 - 608-796-3120
 - Murphy Center 230

Parents and Families Email Address:
vhawkfamilies@viterbo.edu



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