

Recognizing Threatening Behavior

What is Threatening Behavior?

-Some examples of threatening behavior may include:

- A student violates your personal space
- A student raises his/her voice and seems irrational
- A student implies or makes a direct threat to harm themselves or others
- A student displays a firearm or weapon
- A student physically confronts/attacks another student
- A student stalks or harasses a faculty or staff member
- A student sends threatening emails and letters to a faculty or staff member
- An ex-boyfriend or girlfriend stalks a colleague

Predicting Violent Behavior

Below are some warning signs that MAY precede or be indicative of violent behavior.

- Threatening statements about killing/harming self or others, direct or veiled.
- References to or preoccupation with other incidents of workplace violence.
- Intimidating, belligerent, insubordinate, defiant or challenging behavior.
- Confrontational, angry, easily provoked unpredictable, restless or agitated behavior.
- History of violent, reckless or antisocial behavior.
- Alleged fondness or fascination with firearms.
- Feelings of persecution.
- Blaming others for anything that goes wrong, while disavowing any responsibility.
- Intolerance of differences.
- Marked decline in school or job performance.
- Changes in personality, mood or behavior.
- Excessive crying.
- Decline in personal grooming.
- Crossing interpersonal boundaries, such as, excessive phone calls, personal emails and/or visits.
- Substance abuse.
- Significant personal stress, academic, financial, family or relationship problems.

When behaviors become intimidating or threatening, you may feel anxious, afraid, or concerned for your personal safety. It is important not to manage such a situation alone. Immediately advise your department chair of your concerns, and if necessary, contact Campus Safety (603.921.1089).