



VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY OF LYNCHBURG ONLINE SAFETY NOTICE

Virginia University of Lynchburg has taken notice of increased student usage of networking sites, specifically Facebook and Instagram & Twitter. For this reason, Virginia University of Lynchburg distributes the following cautionary statement regarding student usage of these and other applicable public sites that serve a similar purpose. Students should understand that any information posted on a public website is available to any interested party.

- Virginia University of Lynchburg strongly discourages students from posting personal information on publicly available web sites. Students should protect, at all times, phone numbers, home addresses, date of birth, and social security number. There exist criminal predators who seek to harvest personal information for either financial gain (identity theft) or to carry out more targeted physical acts.
- Virginia University of Lynchburg encourages all students to become familiar with inherent security controls that vendors make available to their subscribers. Employing these controls may help to keep personal information confidential. Maintaining confidentiality will help prevent identity theft or physical crimes.
- Increasingly, employers, law enforcement agencies, and other organizations are utilizing public networking sites (during investigations) to harvest information regarding individuals. Because of this, the university recommends that students exercise sound judgment regarding content published both about one's self and others.
- Notwithstanding the fact that some students do not utilize university resources to access these sites and insofar as each of the following apply, all student Codes of Conduct, Virginia University of Lynchburg policies, and local, state, and federal laws apply to student usage of these sites.

Questions about student use of Facebook and Instagram & Twitter, other similar sites, or general inquiries about online safety may be referred to the Virginia University of Lynchburg Student Services Department at 434-528-5276 or email at stusrv@vul.edu