

This draft consolidates the full text from the following:

- Academic Freedom, <https://policies.uoregon.edu/academic-freedom> (former OAR 580.022.0005, seems to be derived from AAUP 1940 statement, <https://www.aaup.org/report/1940-statement-principles-academic-freedom-and-tenure>)
- Academic freedom, <https://policies.uoregon.edu/content/academic-freedom-0>.
- Freedom of Inquiry and Free Speech, <https://policies.uoregon.edu/policy/by/1/01-administration-and-governance/freedom-inquiry-and-free-speech> (UO policy statement 01.00.16, also referenced in UA CBA)

Reason for Policy:-

This policy outlines the University's position regarding academic freedom and freedom of speech.

Entities Affected by this Policy:-

All members of the UO community, including students, faculty, staff, and others affiliated with the University.

Responsible Office:-

For questions about this policy, please contact the Office of the Provost at 541-346-3486.

Enactment & Revision History:-

02 September 2015 – Technical revisions enacted by the university secretary

01 July 2014 – Became a University of Oregon Policy by operation of law

Former Oregon Administrative Rule Chapter 580 Division 22, Section 0005

Policy:-

I. Freedom of Speech

~~The University of Oregon values and supports free and open inquiry.~~ The commitment to free speech and freedom of inquiry described in this policy extends to all members of the UO community: ~~f~~Faculty, staff, and students. It also extends to all others who visit or participate in activities held on the UO campus.

Free speech is central to the academic mission and is the central tenet of a free and democratic society. The ~~u~~University encourages and supports open, vigorous, and challenging debate ~~across the full spectrum of human issues as they present themselves to this community~~ on all issues of interest to the ~~community~~. Further, as a public institution, the ~~u~~University will sustain a higher and more open standard for freedom of inquiry and free speech than may be expected or preferred in private settings.

Free inquiry and free speech are the cornerstones of an academic institution committed to the creation and transfer of knowledge. Expression of diverse points of view is ~~of the highest importance~~ crucial for ~~learning and understanding~~ understanding, not solely for those who present and defend ~~some a~~ view but

for those who ~~would~~ hear, disagree, and pass judgment on those views. The belief that an opinion is ~~pernicious, false, pernicious, and in any other way~~ despicable, detestable, or offensive ~~or "just plain wrong"~~ cannot be grounds for its suppression.

The University supports free speech with vigor, including the right of presenters to offer opinion, the right of the audience to hear what is presented, and the right of protesters to ~~engage with speakers in order to~~ challenge ideas, so long as ~~the~~ protest does not disrupt or stifle the free exchange of ideas. It is the responsibility of speakers, listeners, and all members of our community to respect others and to promote a culture of mutual inquiry throughout the university community.

II. Academic Freedom

~~The University of Oregon encourages and supports open, vigorous, and challenging debate across the full spectrum of human issues as they present themselves to the university community. The University of Oregon protects free speech through Policy No. 01.00.16. The university also affirms its commitment to This policy on Academic Freedom including builds on these existing commitments by recognizing in~~ the special contexts of scholarship, creative production, teaching, governance, and public service.

SECTION 1

- a. SCHOLARSHIP. The ~~University's-university's~~ research mission requires that members of the UO community have autonomous freedom to conduct research and produce creative work, and to publish and disseminate that work, limited only by the standards and methods of accountability established by their individual professions and ~~their individual~~ disciplines.
- b. TEACHING. The University's responsibility to help students ~~to~~ think critically and independently requires that members of the university community have the right to investigate and discuss matters, including those that are controversial, inside and outside of class, without fear of institutional restraint. Matters brought up in class should be related to the subjects of courses or otherwise be educationally relevant, as determined primarily by the faculty member in charge of the class.
- c. POLICY AND SHARED GOVERNANCE. Members of the university community have freedom to address, question, or criticize any matter of institutional policy or practice, whether acting as individuals or within an as members of an agency of institutional governance.
- d. PUBLIC ~~SERVICE~~ENGAGEMENT. Public engagementservice requires that members of the university community have freedom to participate in public debate, both within and beyond their areas of expertise, and to address both the university community and the larger society with regard to on any matter of social, political, economic, cultural, or other interest. In their exercise of this freedom, university community members have the right to identify their association or ~~title, but~~title but should not claim to be acting or speaking on behalf of the University-university unless authorized to do so.

SECTION 2

These freedoms derive immediately from the university's basic commitment to advancing knowledge and understanding. The academic freedoms enumerated in this policy describe above shall be exercised without fear of institutional reprisal. Only serious abuses of this policy – ones that rise to the level of professional misbehavior or professional incompetence – should lead to adverse consequences. Any

such determinations shall be made in accordance with established, formal procedures involving judgment by relevant peers.

~~(1) All teachers in the University of Oregon (University) are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing subjects, but they should be careful not to introduce into their teaching controversial matter that has no relation to the subject.~~

~~(2) As a matter of policy, the uUniversity ~~neither does not~~ attempts to control, sway, ~~nor~~ limit the personal opinion or expression of that opinion of any ~~person on the faculty or otherwise on the University's payroll~~ employee or student. In the exercise of this freedom of expression, ~~faculty member~~ employees and students should manifest appropriate restraint, should show respect for the opinions of others, and should make every effort to indicate that they do not speak on behalf of the uUniversity.~~

RELATED RESOURCES

Access to UO facilities and space is governed by a complementary policy, <https://policies.uoregon.edu/vol-4-finance-administration-infrastructure/ch-7-property-facilities-planning-sustainability-0>

Community Standards Affirmation, <https://policies.uoregon.edu/vol-5-human-resources/ch-4-workplace/community-standards-affirmation>.