



## Policy Title: Academic Freedom

Impact: Faculty and Students

Responsibility: Office of Instruction

Effective Date: 6/30/1999

Revised Date: 1/22/2025

Reviewed Date: 1/22/2025

Relates to Procedure: 3.02.23, 3.02.30 and 5.16

Legal Citation(s):

---



faculty and fellow students. Students are entitled to fair and even treatment in all aspects of student-faculty relationships.

- B. Students may not be directed, evaluated on, or otherwise compelled to personally affirm, adopt or adhere to any particular political, religious, philosophical, or ideological tenets.
- ii. Research, Publication, and Creative Activity
  - A. Students may pursue research topics of their choosing, pursuant to institutional research and course standards.
  - B. Students have the right to publish and present their research as well as engage in the production and exhibition of creative works.
  - C. Students are entitled to attribution for discoveries and original research conducted.
- iii. Participation in Institutional Governance
  - A. Students have the right to participate in institutional governance through appropriate institutional processes.
  - B. Students have the right to express opinions and provide feedback concerning institutional governance and administration without fear of censorship or retaliation.
  - C. In matters of disciplinary action, students have the right to due process and to be held accountable using academic standards and institutional procedures (see Student Code of Conduct policy)
- iv. Community and Campus Involvement
  - A. Students have the right of free expression on and off campus (see Time, Place, and Manner for Exercising Freedom of Speech policy).
  - B. Students have the right to organize student associations and to request official recognition or status from the institution for such associations.
  - C. Students have the right to be free from requirements to make personal or political choices against their beliefs or values.

#### B. Academic Responsibility of Students

Academic freedom carries certain responsibilities which broadly include contributions to the academic community, acknowledgement of the validity of a diverse range of perspectives, commitment to learning relevant information, and good stewardship of the academic community. Students assume, at minimum, the following responsibilities in relation to academic freedom:

- i. By enrolling in a public postsecondary institution, students agree to adhere to the institutions' student codes of conduct and to respect the rights of others, including the right to express differing opinions. Students also agree to acknowledge that faculty may expose students to a broad range of diverse perspectives, and to foster and defend intellectual honesty, freedom of inquiry and instruction, and free expression on and off campus. Expression of dissent and efforts to produce change shall not be



## B. Academic Responsibility of Faculty

Academic freedom carries with it certain responsibilities which broadly include maintaining competence in scholarship, exposing students to a diverse range of perspectives, ensuring that students are taught relevant information, and being good stewards of the academic community. Faculty assume the following responsibilities in relation to academic freedom:

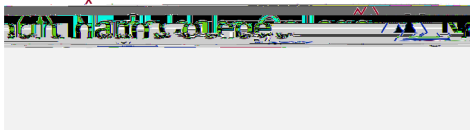
- i. Each faculty member of the institution is a citizen, a member of a learned profession, and a representative of the institution. Membership in the academic community imposes on faculty an obligation to respect the rights of others, including the right to express differing opinions, and to foster and defend intellectual honesty, freedom of inquiry and instruction, and free expression on and off campus. Expression of dissent and attempts to produce change shall not be carried out in ways which injure individuals, damage institutional facilities, disrupt classes, or interfere with institutional activities. Faculty who seek to call attention to grievances must do so in accordance with institutional policies and procedures (see Grievances policy). Furthermore, faculty members must refrain from using institutional resources to further interests or activities that are not a part of the assigned responsibilities to the institution.
- ii. Faculty members are expected to maintain professional competence in their field(s) of specialization, congruent with their teaching, service, and scholarly expectations.
- iii. Faculty are responsible for presenting the content in their courses in a way that is consistent with the mission of the institution, department, program, and discipline. When presenting content, faculty may expose students to an intellectual diversity of scholarly and creative views related to the faculty member's discipline and/or specific field of study.
- iv. Faculty shall respect the rights and maintain the safety of students, other faculty, and administrators, while exercising academic freedom.
- v. Faculty may not refuse to teach a student because of the student's beliefs, interpretations, or applications of knowledge. Faculty have the responsibility to facilitate pluralistic learning and work environments, but shall not require others to adopt personal or political choices against their beliefs or values.

### Institutional Support of Academic Freedom

North Idaho college is an institution providing postsecondary academic instruction, including career technical and workforce training programs.

### Academic Responsibility of the Institution

#### I.



Policy# 3.05