

Education Program Series (4000)

POL #4310

Academic Freedom

- A. The purpose of this statement is to promote public understanding and support of academic freedom and professional responsibility to the students, to the community, and to Chemeketa Community College. This institution is being operated for the common good and not to further the interest of either the individual instructor or the institution as a whole. The common good depends upon the free search for truth and its free expression.
- B. Academic freedom is essential to these purposes and is applied to teaching and other college-related activities. Academic freedom in its teaching aspect is fundamental for the protection of the rights of the faculty member in teaching and of the student to freedom in learning. It carries with it duties correlative with rights.
1. Faculty members are entitled to freedom in the classroom or on campus while acting in a professional capacity, but they should limit the amount of class time spent on matters that are unrelated to the course objectives.
 2. Each faculty member is entitled to and responsible for moderating the free exchange of ideas in the classroom.
 3. Faculty members are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication and presentation of the results, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties and in concert with existing college policies and publications and printing.
 4. Faculty members are members of a learned profession, and members of the educational institution. When they speak or write as an individual, they should be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but their special position in the community imposes special obligations. As faculty members, they should remember that the public may judge their profession and their institution by their word and actions.
 5. As a member of the institution, the faculty member seeks above all to be an effective teacher. Although they observe the stated regulations of the institution, they maintain their rights to criticize and seek revision.
 6. As a member of their community, the faculty member has the rights and obligations of any community member. They determine the amount and character of the civic and community involvement outside the institution with due regard to their responsibilities within it. As an individual engaged in a profession that depends upon freedom for its health and integrity, the faculty member has a particular obligation to promote conditions of free inquiry and to further public understanding of academic freedom.

References:

NWCCU Standards 2.B.1, 2.B.2

No Oregon statutory requirement

American Association of University Professors 1940 Statement of Principles
Article 27 (Collective Bargaining Agreement)

American Association of University Professors 1970 Interpretive Comment

February 18, 2015

Adopted College Board of Education

May 15, 2019; June 15, 2022; October 15, 2025

Revised College Board of Education