

Academic Freedom

A faculty member's ability to make professional judgments related to teaching unaffected by pressures from a political or social climate lies at the heart of academic freedom. The importance of this freedom is highlighted where all members of the academic community are committed to recognizing and celebrating the uniqueness of each of its members.

Academic freedom at Sacramento City College is essential for the fulfillment of the educational mission of the college and for the ability of faculty members to perform their professional duties. In addition, academic freedom ensures faculty members' rights and obligations of professional protection, autonomy, and responsibility.

Faculty members shall be protected from censorship, restraint, or dismissal in their ability to study, investigate, present, interpret, or discuss the relevant facts and ideas within the assigned curriculum and outline. They shall also be protected from extraneous considerations such as a faculty member's gender, gender identity, ethnicity, race, religion, political beliefs or affiliation, sexual orientation, or disability being considered in evaluations of professional performance.

Faculty members have the principal right and responsibility to determine the methods of instruction, the planning and presentation of course materials, and the fair and equitable methods of assessment in their assignment in accordance with the approved curriculum and course outline, the educational mission of the college and with state laws and regulations.

All faculty members shall provide a classroom environment that is conducive to student learning, growth, and development in which students are free from discrimination, prejudice, and harassment and in which students are free to express relevant ideas and opinions. They shall also clearly differentiate for students the expression of that faculty member's personal opinions or convictions from the objective presentation of theory, fact or ideas.