

Madison College



Policy #3101

Academic Freedom

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POLICY PURPOSE

The spirit and policy of this institution, developed and sponsored under progressive administrative and faculty member leadership, encourages the teaching, investigating, and publishing of findings in an atmosphere of freedom and confidence. This spirit and philosophy are based on the belief that when students can learn and acquire knowledge from a variety of sources and opinions in an atmosphere of honest and open inquiry, they will develop greater knowledge and maturity of judgment.

SCOPE

DEFINITIONS

POLICY STATEMENT

The freedom of each educator to present within the classroom the truth as they understand it in relation to his/her area of professional competence, is essential to the purposes of our college and society and shall continue to be upheld by the Board and the administration.

When the educator speaks or writes as a citizen, they shall be free from administrative and institutional censorship and discipline. However, the educator has the responsibility to clarify the fact that they speak as an individual and not on behalf of the institution.

VISITING LECTURERS AND SPEAKERS

1. Faculty may arrange for classroom lecturers or speakers to appear before regularly scheduled classes or groups of classes.
2. The faculty member shall be responsible for the relevance of the lecture or speaker's subject matter to the course.

Members of the college have freedom to address, question, or criticize, any matter, institutional policy, or practice, whether acting as individuals, or as members of an agency of institutional governance.

Classrooms and classroom time should not be used as a platform for advocacy of a political candidate or point of view. Instructional materials and discussions should provide a balanced review of many perspectives on an issue.

LINKS TO STATE/FEDERAL REGULATIONS

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

RELATED POLICIES

REVISIONS

1/21/2026..... Formatted to ensure highest level of accessibility