



Eastern Kentucky University Policy and Regulation Library

4.1.1

Volume 4, Academic Affairs

Chapter 1, Academic Practices

Section 1, Academic Freedom

Approval Authority: Board of Regents

Responsible Executive: Provost

Responsible Office(s): Provost, Deans, Departments

Effective: June 18, 2019

Last Revised: June 18, 2019

Issued: August 1, 1963

Next Review Date: Fall 2024

Academic Freedom

Policy Statement

Eastern Kentucky University endorses the American Association of University Professors' statement concerning academic freedom, which states, in part,

1. Teachers are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of the results, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties; but research for pecuniary return should be based upon an understanding with the authorities of the institution.
2. Teachers are entitled to freedom in the classroom discussing their subject, but they should be careful not to introduce into their teaching controversial matter which has no relation to their subject. Limitations of academic freedom because of religious or other aims of the institution should be clearly stated in writing at the time of appointment.
3. College and university teachers are citizens, members of a learned profession, and officers of an educational institution. When they speak or write as citizens, they should be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but their special position in the community imposes special obligations. As scholars and educational officers, they should remember that the public may judge their profession and their institution by their utterances. Hence they should at all times be accurate, should exercise appropriate restraint, should show respect for the opinion of others and should make every effort to indicate that they are not speaking for the institution. ("1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure")

Entities Affected

- Colleges
- Departments
- Faculty

Procedures

An allegation that standards of academic freedom have been breached shall be processed through Policy 4.7.4, Faculty Grievances.

Definitions

- **Teacher:** Per the AAUP, “The word ‘teacher’ as used in this document is understood to include the investigator who is attached to an academic institution without teaching duties.” Further, Eastern Kentucky University recognizes that in the context of Academic Freedom, “teacher” is defined broadly to include any person appointed for instructional purposes at ECU and any person affiliated with the University who is engaged in scholarly or creative activities.

Interpreting Authority

Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

References

AAUP 1940 Statement on Academic Freedom

Policy Adoption Review and Approval

Revised Policy

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ENTITY</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
June 18, 2019	Board of Regents	Adopted
April 8, 2019	President	Approved
March 20, 2019	Provost Council	Approved
February 4, 2019	Faculty Senate	Approved

Policy Issued

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ENTITY</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
August 1, 1963	Board of Regents	Adopted
July 29, 1963	ECU Faculty	Approved