



# Eastern Kentucky University

## Policy and Regulation Library

University Policy: 4.1.1POL

Responsible Office(s): Office of the Provost

Effective: June 18, 2019

Next Review Date: Fall 2024

## University Policy: 4.1.1POL

### Academic Freedom

#### 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.

## References

AAUP 1940 Statement on Academic Freedom

## Policy Adoption Review and Approval

### Revised Policy

#### DATE

October 17, 2024  
June 18, 2019  
April 8, 2019  
March 20, 2019  
February 4, 2019

#### ENTITY

University Counsel  
Board of Regents  
President  
Provost Council  
Faculty Senate

#### ACTION

Editorial Revision  
Adopted  
Approved  
Approved  
Approved

### Policy Issued

#### DATE

August 1, 1963  
July 29, 1963

#### ENTITY

Board of Regents  
EKU Faculty

#### ACTION

Adopted  
Approved