

2.D - Core Component 2.D

The institution is committed to freedom of expression and the pursuit of truth in teaching and learning.

Argument

Academic freedom is a cornerstone of higher education. As such, there are policies that address the issues of academic freedom and the pursuit of truth within Board policy, faculty policy, and student policy.

[Board policy](#) on academic freedom highlights that ... “*university teachers shall be entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing the teachers’ subject.*”

The [Faculty Handbook chapter 7.1.1](#). includes the following statements concerning academic freedom and the pursuit of truth:

“Academic freedom is the foundation of the university because it encourages and guarantees the right to inquiry, discourse, and learning that characterize a community of scholars. Iowa State University supports full freedom, within the law, of expressions in teaching, investigation in research, and dissemination of results through presentation, performance, and publication.”

“Iowa State University is committed to an uninhibited, robust, and unfettered pursuit of ideas. All members of the university community, faculty, staff, students, and administrators, are members of an ethical team whose goal is to create an environment in which no one hesitates to speak his or her mind for fear of reprisal. Iowa State University will take all appropriate actions to defend academic freedom, and to defend faculty who are accused or charged during the appropriate exercise of their duties.”

The [Student Disciplinary Regulations policy \(Code of Conduct\)](#) states that “*Iowa State University is an institution that encourages the intellectual and personal growth of its students as scholars and citizens. As an educational institution, the university recognizes that the transmission of knowledge, the pursuit of truth, and the development of individuals require the free exchange of ideas, self-expression, and the challenging of beliefs and customs.*”

While the exchange of ideas is encouraged, the exchange should be conducted in a manner that does not disrupt the educational environment for others. To address this concern, ISU has a policy that responds to [classroom disruptions](#).

Sources

- 15-16 Catalog - Academic Conduct
- Academic Freedom - Board of Regents Policy Manual
- Faculty Handbook - Chapter 7 - Faculty Conduct Policy
- Student Disciplinary Regulations