## 2.D - Core Component 2.D

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

### Argument

[Purdue University Policy Statement 1.A.4](https://www.pfw.edu/offices/accreditation/2020-comprehensive-evauluation/2020-self-study/Core-Component-2D/I.A.4%20Purdue%20University%20Academic%20Freedom%20Policy-9-21-2020.pdf?language_id=1) established a policy at the System Level that clearly defines and states the organization's commitment to academic freedom and freedom of expression. The policy commits Purdue University to "...fostering a community where scholarship, research, and creative expression thrive" (1.A.4, pg. 4) and describes academic freedom as fundamental to the pursuit of knowledge encouraging open discourse, inquiry and debate among faculty and students.  The policy also recognizes and upholds the rights and protections guaranteed under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution as a freedom distinct from academic freedom as stated in its [Commitment to Freedom of Expression](https://www.pfw.edu/offices/accreditation/2020-comprehensive-evauluation/2020-self-study/Core-Component-2D/Purdue%20Univesity%20Commitment%20to%20Freedom%20of%20Expression-9-21-2020.pdf?language_id=1):

Because Purdue University (the “University”) is committed to free and open inquiry in all
matters, it guarantees all members of the University community the broadest possible
latitude to speak, write, listen, challenge, and learn. Except insofar as limitations on that
freedom are necessary to the functioning of the University, the University fully respects
and supports the freedom of all members of the University community “to discuss,” in the
words of former University of Chicago President Robert M. Hutchins, “any problem that
presents itself."

The policy further states that Purdue may in certain instances:

...restrict expression, for example, that violates the law, that falsely defames a specific individual, that constitutes a genuine threat or harassment, that unjustifiably invades substantial privacy or confidentiality interests, or that is otherwise directly incompatible
with the functioning of the University. In addition, the University may reasonably regulate
the time, place, and manner of expression to ensure that it does not disrupt the ordinary
activities of the University. But these are narrow exceptions to the general principle of
freedom of expression, and it is vitally important that these exceptions never be used in a
manner that is inconsistent with the University’s commitment to a completely free and
open discussion of ideas.

Purdue Fort Wayne communicates its commitment to the Purdue Policy on Academic Freedom through a formal statement of academic freedom and freedom of speech in the [University Principles](https://www.pfw.edu/offices/accreditation/2020-comprehensive-evauluation/2020-self-study/Core-Component-2D/UNIVERSITY%20PRINCIPLES%20Main-9-21-2020.pdf?language_id=1):

Freedom of thought and expression are the lifeblood of our academic community and require an atmosphere of mutual respect among diverse persons, groups and ideas. The maintenance of mutually respectful behavior is a precondition for the vigorous exchange of ideas, and it is the policy of the University to promote such behavior in all forms of expression and conduct. The University reaffirms its commitment to freedom of speech as guaranteed by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Accordingly, any form of speech or conduct that is protected by the First Amendment is not subject to this policy. The University reaffirms its commitment to academic freedom, which is essential to its educational mission and is critical to diversity and intellectual life.

### Sources

* I.A.4 Purdue University Academic Freedom Policy
* Purdue University Commitment to Freedom of Expression
* UNIVERSITY PRINCIPLES Main

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| Purdue University Fort Wayne - IN - Assurance Argument - 3/7/2021 0 |