

Dean of Student Life

Freedom of Expression in the Educational Environment

Helpful Tips to Responsibly Exercise Your Rights

The University recognizes and supports the rights of free expression and speech. Freedom of expression is essential to the University's commitment to ensure inclusive educational opportunities. At Portland State, differences and dissenting viewpoints are not only tolerated but encouraged as part of the educational process.

The following guidelines provide some of the foundation for expression at PSU:

- Freedom of speech is a fundamental right guaranteed by the U.S. and Oregon constitutions.
- Freedom of speech does not extend to specific threats of violence against individuals and **cannot be exercised in ways that significantly disrupt the operation of the university or the legal rights of others.**
- The University may reasonably **regulate the time, place and manner** of expression to **ensure that it does not disrupt the University's activities.**

Students who engage in behavior or activities that pose a threat or that disrupt the University's activities may be referred to the Office of the Dean of Student Life for review under the Code of Student Conduct and Responsibility. Potential violations of the Code could include Obstruction, Disruptive Behavior, Failure to Comply, Unauthorized Entry or Misuse of University Property, Harassment, Property Damage, or Violation of Law or Policy, among others.

Questions?

Office of Dean of Student Life: <https://www.pdx.edu/dean-student-life/> | askdos@pdx.edu

Student Conduct and Community Standards:

<https://www.pdx.edu/dean-student-life/student-conduct> | conduct@pdx.edu

To learn more visit:

www.pdx.edu/freespeech *[free speech website address]*

<https://www.pdx.edu/dean-student-life/psu-code-student-conduct-and-responsibility>