

FSU Law Policy on Academic Freedom

The Law School is bound by the FSU Constitution (Article VI, Section C), the FSU Policy on Academic Freedom, and the Bargaining Agreement between the University and the unionized faculty as it pertains to academic freedom. The Law School also abides by, "A Summons to Responsible Freedom: Values and Moral Standards at The Florida State University." Those documents are incorporated into this policy by reference.

It is the policy of the College of Law to maintain and encourage full freedom, within the law, of inquiry, discourse, teaching, research, publication of scholarship, engaging in law school governance, participating in law-related public service activities, curating library collections and providing information services, and exercising teaching responsibilities, including those related to client representation in clinical programs for all full- and part-time faculty as well as others teaching law school courses. It is also the policy of the College of Law to protect any member of the academic staff against influences, from within or without the University, which would restrict him or her in the exercise of academic freedom in his or her area of scholarly interest. The right to protection of the University or the College of Law shall not, necessarily, include any right to the service of the University's legal counsel in any proceedings in which the academic freedom of the faculty member may be an issue.

A faculty member who believes that he or she does not enjoy the academic freedom which it is the policy of the University of maintain and encourage shall be entitled on his or her written request to a hearing before the Committee on Grievances.

The FSU Constitution is available here: [Constitution.pdf](#)

The FSU Policy on Academic Freedom is available here: [FSU Policy 3-1.pdf](#)

The 2022-2025 Bargaining Agreement is available here: [UFF 2022-2025 Bargaining Agreement](#)

The Law School adheres to these policies and values in its encouragement of faculty scholarship from scholars of different points of view who specialize in different areas. The Law School schedules and encourages presentations from scholars from other schools and disciplines that challenge the conventional wisdom. The Law School does not police what instructors choose to teach in their classes or how they approach certain topics. Law School faculty, including legal writing and clinical faculty and adjunct faculty, are free to present their classes as they see fit.