

June 2012

## 6.102 Student Academic Rights, Freedom, and Responsibilities

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Type of Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>University</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Campus</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Department/Unit</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Interim</b>		<b>Student Academic Rights, Freedom, and Responsibilities</b>	
<b>Student Policies</b>		<b>Policy 6.102</b>	
		Effective date: November 1, 2016	
<b>Policy History:</b>	<b>Approved by:</b>	<b>Resolution #</b>	<b>Date</b>
	Chancellor	N/A	June 5, 2012
Revised	Chancellor	N/A	October 27, 2016
<b>Responsible Office</b>	<b>Responsible Administrator:</b>	<b>Contact information</b>	<b>Applies to:</b>
Office of Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs	Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs	937-769-1890	All Students

## I. Introduction

**A. University Expectations.** Antioch University adheres to the principles of academic freedom and intellectual pluralism as both rights and responsibilities. Academic freedom and intellectual pluralism are aligned with, and in support of, Antioch University’s commitment to nurture in students the knowledge, skills, and habits of reflection to excel as lifelong learners, democratic leaders, and global citizens who live lives with meaning and purpose.

Adherence to these principles contributes to a climate in which debate about complex and challenging subjects and issues, about which reasonable people will disagree, is encouraged and engaged within a spirit of openness, tolerance, and civility. To vigorously assert a proposition or a viewpoint, however controversial, is to engage in discourse and debate, which is at the very heart of academic freedom.

**B. Purpose.** This policy informs students and faculty of the University's expectation regarding students' academic freedom as well as the responsibilities that students accept as members of the academic community.

## **II. Student Rights and Responsibilities**

**A. Students as Learners.** Students are expected to acquire the knowledge and critical thinking skills needed to effectively demonstrate personal and collective agency, global citizenship, and socially conscious leadership, all of which are needed to address the challenges and complexities of increasingly diverse societies.

Students should be free to develop and express reasoned interpretations of the data or points of view that may differ from those offered in any course of study. This freedom, however, does not supersede students' responsibility for learning the content of any course of study in which they are enrolled, or their responsibility to respect the academic freedom of others and to refrain from disrupting the learning environment.

Students should not be unfairly evaluated based on any such expression. Furthermore, academic decisions including student performance evaluations and the awarding of credit should be based solely on considerations that are intellectually relevant to the subject matter under consideration and that are consistent with expectations explicitly stated in the course syllabi.

Faculty should treat information about student views, beliefs, and political associations that they acquire in the course of their work as faculty as confidential, except in situations where they believe that a student may present a danger to himself/herself or to others. In these situations, faculty should contact the Chief Student Services Officer or Provost.

**B. Students as Scholars.** Students are entitled to full academic freedom in research and creative activity and in the publication, exhibition, or performance of the results, subject to the requirements of research ethics and responsibilities as well as the standards of academic performance established by the faculty.

**C. Students as Community Members.** Students are citizens of the University, communities of service, communities of practice, and the larger society. As citizens, students have the right to express their thoughts freely and openly, unrestrained by threat of censorship or discipline. Equally, students have the responsibility to respect the free and open expression of the thoughts of others. Students should not be disadvantaged or evaluated on the basis of their political opinions. However, as members of the academic community, students are expected to strive to be accurate in their expressions and to demonstrate respect for the opinions of others. No student shall represent his or her views as being those of the University or that his or her views are endorsed by the University.

### **III. Protection of Academic Freedom**

As a matter of both principle and policy, Antioch University will not discipline or dismiss any student on the basis of the exercise of academic freedom as outlined in this policy.

Further, Antioch University will not intimidate any student through the implication that he or she will be disciplined or dismissed on the basis of the exercise of academic freedom.

In support of the protection of academic freedom, it is the right of every Antioch University student to have access to a fair and objective appeal process, in accordance with campus procedures and Antioch University policies.

#### **Policy Cross Reference**

Student Conduct Policy	Policy # 6.103
Student Academic Integrity Policy	Policy # 6.105
Student Grievance Policy	Policy # 6.109
Student Academic Appeal Policy	Policy # 6.111
Student Organizations and Publications	Policy # 6.127