



University of Western States recognizes the importance of and strongly supports academic freedom. Faculty members have an obligation to distinguish personal conviction from proven conclusions and to present relevant data fairly. Academic freedom does not suggest the right of any faculty or staff member to engage in propagandizing for any particular group or political issue. In addition, academic freedom does not give license to any group to adulterate the process of education by introducing propaganda into the educational program. The Board of Trustees and the university administration encourage instructors to present a variety of perspectives on their subjects, including the point of view that individual experience, education, and reflection suggests, so long as the individual believes such perspectives further student understanding of the discipline.

Faculty, staff and students at UWS are free to examine all pertinent data, to question received ideas, and to be guided by evidence. Alternative and opposing points of view are to be respected, and, if appropriate, utilized in the synthesis of new approaches.

Students at UWS are encouraged to analyze, to question, to challenge, and to respond. Facts, truths, and the methods to derive them are the primary concern, as opposed to the particular interests of institutional benefactors; individual practitioners; public opinion; and/or social, economic, political, and professional groups.

Related Policies:

Keywords: academic freedom