

Procedure Title	Academic Freedom Procedure
Procedure Holder	Vice President Academic
Procedure Approver(s)	Senior Team
Related Policies	
Related Procedures	
Appendices	
Storage Location	Website - https://www.confederationcollege.ca/policies-and-procedures
Effective Date	2023Nov16
Next Review Date	2025Nov16

Purpose

The goals of this policy are to:

- protect the rights of individuals in their pursuit of knowledge without fear of reprisals by the college or by third parties;
- protect the rights of individuals to communicate acquired knowledge and the results of research freely;
- promote and protect creativity;
- protect the reputation of Confederation College of Applied Arts and Technology.

Scope

The Academic Freedom Policy pertains to all members of Confederation’s academic community, including administration, faculty, staff, and students.

Definitions

Academic Freedom	The freedom to teach and conduct research in an academic environment. Academic freedom includes the right to freely communicate knowledge and the results of research and scholarship without fear of impairment to position or other reprisal.
Scholarship	The pursuit, creation, and dissemination of knowledge through integrity in research and other scholarly initiatives.

Governing Laws and Regulations

Minister’s Binding Policy Directive: Framework for Programs of Instruction
 Ontario Qualifications Framework

Procedure Statements

Confederation affirms the rights of faculty and staff to discuss aspects of topics pertinent to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the course being taught as documented in the course outline, which may include diverse opinions in order to gain a well-rounded understanding of an issue, and taking place within Confederation’s academic community.

Confederation further affirms that faculty and staff are free to act and speak in their capacity as public citizens provided they indicate they are speaking as individuals and not acting as representatives of Confederation. As professionals and representatives of their discipline or field of study, faculty and staff have a responsibility to be honest, accurate, and respectful in their statements and activities. The freedom to express ideas carries with it an attendant responsibility and accountability.

Non-Compliance

It is the joint responsibility of the Registrar and Dean to ensure that the guidelines contained in this policy are followed and adhered to in order to effectively and efficiently support student focused learning objectives. Lack of compliance will result in delays in academic operations and student success.

Revision History

Version	Change	Author	Date of Change
	New format	Richard Gemmill	2023-04-20