

# Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College (A-B Tech) Policy Manual

## Policy 201: Academic Freedom

It is the policy of the Board of Trustees to recognize the principle of academic freedom.

## The Board recognizes three key aspects of academic freedom:

* Freedom to discuss subject matter pertinent to the course being taught.
* Freedom to research and to publish.
* Freedom to speak and write as “a member of the learned profession”.

Detailed explanations of these aspects are found in Procedure 201: Academic Freedom

## The Board recognizes five essential freedoms of the College to determine for itself:

* Who may teach,
* What courses may be taught,
* When classes are scheduled and the modality used,
* Who may be admitted to study, and
* The extent to which state, accreditation, or local standards must be followed.

Finally, the Board recognizes that there are limits to academic freedom. Intellectual dishonesty, serious moral dereliction, or arbitrary and capricious disregard of standards of professional conduct are not protected by academic freedom and can be grounds for disciplinary action.

## Scope

Applies to all curriculum faculty.

## Definitions

None

## References

1940 Statement on Principles of Academic Freedom and Tenure found at <https://www.aaup.org/report/1940-statement-principles-academic-freedom-and-tenure>

Reviewed by the Executive Leadership Team on March 17, 2021

Reviewed by the College Attorney on March 19, 2021

## Policy Owner

Vice President for Instructional Services, Ext. 7633

See Procedure 201: Academic Freedom

Approved by the Board of Trustees on April 5, 2021