

Creighton School of Law Policy on Free Speech and Expression

Adopted 10/24/25

At Creighton School of Law, our students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to exercise their right to free expression. Protected free expression includes ideas that may be unpopular or controversial, and it may be exercised through verbal and nonverbal communication in all aspects of the legal education experience. As is consistent with the Jesuit and Catholic tradition, Creighton School of Law respects the right and responsibility of each member of our community to engage meaningfully in the process of legal education by thoughtfully and respectfully questioning settled ideas; gathering and relying on research and vetted resources to make arguments for expansion or modification of the law; expressing, and listening to, new or controversial ideas; participating in dissent, protests, or demonstrations; and respectfully bringing new perspectives by sharing lived experiences that help others in the community build empathy and understanding. Freedom of Expression and Active Dialogue Policy, Creighton University Student Handbook, Sec. N.

To protect the right of all members of our community to engage in free expression, Creighton School of Law prohibits disruptive conduct that substantially interferes with law school functions or activities, such as classes, meetings, library services, interviews, ceremonies, or public events. In addition, speech that violates the law, constitutes harassment or a threat, falsely defames a specific individual, or unjustifiably invades the substantial privacy or confidentiality interests of an individual is prohibited. Anyone subject to this policy has the right to due process in adjudicating whether a violation of the individual's right to free expression has been violated. The University Committee on Student Discipline, Creighton University Student Handbook.

At Creighton, all faculty members, including anyone teaching in a part-time, full-time, clinical, or adjunct role, have broad Academic Freedom. See Academic Freedom and Responsibility Policy, Creighton University Faculty Handbook. These academic freedom rights extend to research, writing scholarship, participating in law school governance, providing law related public service, curating library collections and information services. Anyone subject to this policy has the right to due process in adjudicating whether a violation of the individual's right to academic freedom has been violated. Committee on Academic Freedom and Responsibility, Creighton University Faculty Handbook, Section I.1.