

Academic Freedom Policy

Purpose

The Academic Freedom Policy is established to demonstrate UCFB's commitment as a higher education institution to the principle of Academic Freedom within a UK, and particularly English, higher education context.

Academic Freedom Policy

1. UCFB's Mission

'To provide best in class graduates with football, sport and business expertise'

The student learning experience is our highest priority. We put our students at the centre of everything we do.

2. Commitment to academic freedom

Every member of the UCFB academic community, including all our students and academic staff, shall have freedom within the law to:

- hold and express opinions;
- question and test established ideas or received wisdom;
- develop and advance new ideas or innovative proposals;
- present controversial or unpopular points of view;
- exercise the right to reflect on practice within UCFB as well as the wider HE sector.

It is intended that this freedom operates as normally understood within the usual parameters of higher education in England.

3. Academic freedom and UCFB core values

In exercising academic freedom at UCFB, we acknowledge our seven core values:

1. Always trying to be the best you can;
2. Attention to detail;
3. Equitable;
4. Honesty;
5. Integrity;
6. Loyalty;
7. Respect

We will apply these principles in our teaching, research, study, and debate.

4. Exercising academic freedom at UCFB

In exercising academic freedom at UCFB:

- We will strive to be academically rigorous in a way consistent with recognised best practice in our fields;
- We will seek to justify our views with accurate evidence and academic arguments; remaining open to seeing arguments that challenge ours and gaps and weaknesses within in our own arguments;
- We will act responsibly and ethically; only involving others with their express consent;
- We will not seek in promoting our arguments to cause harm to others: whether individuals, institutions or communities;
- We recognise that there may be consequences if we act in ways that breach any applicable law.

We will be proactive in protecting academic freedom for ourselves and for others and use it responsibly for the promotion of knowledge and understanding.

We recognise that while some academic opinions and arguments could cause offence this is not a sufficient reason on its own not to voice such opinions and arguments.

5. Regular review of policy

The Academic Freedom Policy will be reviewed on an annual or as required basis to ensure they keep pace with developments, with a more thorough review carried out periodically. The outcomes of such reviews will be reported to the Governing Board which shall approve any fresh or amended policy.

6. Contact person

Any query about the exercise of this policy may be raised with the Quality & Registry Manager (UCFB), Mr Peter Brown at p.brown@ucfb.com

Approved by: UCFB Governing Body

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