



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
SANTA CRUZ

Express Yourself

UCSC Values Diverse Thoughts & Ideas

Office of Campus Life,
Dean of Students UCSC
831.459.4446
campuslife.ucsc.edu

UC Santa Cruz is committed to assuring that all persons may exercise the constitutionally protected rights of free expression, speech and assembly. The ongoing opportunity for the expression of a variety of viewpoints is at the core of this commitment. As campus citizens, it is imperative that we live up to the responsibilities that accompany these rights.

Resources & Contacts

For more information on the expression of free speech, student activism and event planning, please visit the Dean of Students website:



Student Policies & Regulations Handbook

<http://deanofstudents.ucsc.edu/student-conduct/student-handbook.html>



Free Speech Statement

<http://deanofstudents.ucsc.edu/student-resources/exercising-free-speech/free-speech-statement.html>



Exercising Free Speech— Time, Place & Manner

<http://deanofstudents.ucsc.edu/student-resources/exercising-free-speech/time-place-manner.html>



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Freedom of thought, inquiry, speech and lawful assembly are fundamental rights of all persons. These rights include the freedom to express opinions; to hear, express and debate various views, no matter how unpopular; and to voice criticism. Free speech is uniquely important to the University as it brings about a free interchange of ideas integral to the University's fundamental mission of teaching, research and public service.

Protests and civil disobedience have played an historic role on the University campuses, in bringing important and beneficial changes within society, and in the development of our democracy. However, civil disobedience is not protected speech under the Constitution. The Constitution does not guarantee any right to engage in civil disobedience – which, by its very definition, involves the violation of laws or regulations – without incurring consequences. Civil disobedience may have a negative effect on the protected interests of others and may interfere with University business or threaten public safety or University assets, in ways that may require the University to act to protect those other interests.