



Academic Freedom and Responsibility Policy	Action number	-----
	Release Date	01/2023
	Review and modification date	09/2022
	Review and modification number	01
	number of pages	03
	Date the procedure was approved	12/2022
	Deans Council Resolution No.: 2023/59	
Policy Statement	<p>AAU is committed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Freedom in Research and Publication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Upholding the right of faculty and students to conduct research and to publish or disseminate findings without undue interference or restriction, subject to the highest standards of scholarly integrity and ethical conduct. ▪ Recognizing that academic freedom in research and publication comes with the responsibility to ensure accuracy, rigor, and adherence to ethical and legal standards. 2. Freedom in Teaching: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensuring that faculty have the freedom to discuss their subject matter in the classroom, explore diverse theoretical perspectives, and present material relevant to their curriculum, while maintaining respect for the intellectual rights of others. ▪ Emphasizing that the freedom to teach carries with it the responsibility to promote critical thinking, foster respectful dialogue, and provide a balanced presentation of controversial issues. 3. Freedom of Expression: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protecting the rights of faculty, staff, and students to express their views freely, in a manner consistent with the rights of others, and without fear of retaliation or censorship. ▪ Recognizing that freedom of expression should be exercised with a sense of responsibility to the community, respect for the dignity of others, and adherence to the university's policies on non-discrimination and harassment. 	



	<p>4. Institutional Autonomy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Respecting the autonomy of the university in making decisions based on academic considerations and in accordance with its mission, free from undue external influence. ▪ Acknowledging that the university has the responsibility to maintain academic standards, ensure the quality of its programs, and protect the rights of its community members. <p>5. Public Engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting the right of faculty, staff, and students to participate in public discourse and to comment on matters of public interest, recognizing that such engagement contributes to the role of the university as a societal critic and conscience. ▪ Clarifying that individuals who participate in public discourse should make clear when they are speaking as private citizens and when they are representing the views of the university.
Policy Purpose	<p>The purpose of this policy is to affirm AAU's commitment to upholding the principles of academic freedom and to clarify the associated responsibilities. This policy aims to foster an environment that encourages free inquiry, open exchange of ideas, and the pursuit of knowledge and understanding, while also recognizing the responsibilities that accompany these freedoms.</p>
Policy Scope	<p>This policy applies to all faculty, staff, and students of AAU and governs all academic activities, including teaching, research, publication, and public engagement.</p>
Policy Responsibilities	<p>1. All University Members are responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exercising their academic freedoms in a manner that reflects a commitment to scholarly inquiry, intellectual integrity, and respect for the rights and dignity of others. <p>2. The University Administration is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safeguarding the principles of academic freedom and ensuring that university policies and practices do not impose undue restrictions on the academic community. ▪ Addressing any infringements upon academic freedom in a timely and fair manner.
Policy Compliance	<p>Allegations of violations of academic freedom or failure to uphold the responsibilities associated with it should be addressed through the appropriate university procedures. The</p>



	university is committed to investigating such allegations promptly and resolving them fairly.
Policy Review	This policy will be reviewed and, if necessary, revised every year or as needed to ensure it remains effective and aligned with the core values and strategic goals of the university.