

BP 4030 - Academic Freedom

We the members of the Napa Valley College Community embrace our responsibility to protect academic freedom. Academic freedom is essential to the pursuit of truth and thus it is integral to the mission of NVC.

The exercise of Academic Freedom protects the rights of teachers to teach and the rights of students to learn in an environment free from censorship, coercion and other undue restrictions. The NVC community believes that scholarly inquiry is a conversation enriched by diverse voices, backgrounds, and ideas and that such diversity is to be encouraged. We promote free discussion and access to information, and respect the new ideas formed in these pursuits. All members of the academic community should be free to assert their ideas and perspectives without fear of reprisal.

By the same token, we welcome the responsibilities inherent in academic freedom. Academic responsibility implies the performance of all professional and educational duties and obligations. Additionally, we must distinguish between personal conviction and professionally accepted views in a discipline. Members of the NVC community should make efforts to be accurate, respectful and fair in their interactions and make clear that their personally held ideas and convictions are not those of Napa Valley Community College as a whole.