

University of Florida

Gainesville, FL • Public School



The most comprehensive guide to free speech on campus — anywhere

Because a true university education requires freedom of expression.

The College Free Speech Rankings are based on student surveys, campus policies, and recent speech-related controversies.

OVERALL RANK

45 ▲

/257

▲ 125 FROM 2024

GRADE

D

— D FROM 2024

SPEECH CONTROVERSIES

4

1 FROM 2025

Overview

University of Florida ranks 45 in the 2026 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 64, a D speech climate grade. The school continues to be penalized for speech controversies — this year Florida suspended a law student over controversial speech.

Policy remains Florida's strong suit: it earns a "green light" Spotlight rating and benefits from the State University System of Florida's adoption of the Chicago Statement. Student perceptions tell a different story. This year, student perceptions are slightly worse across the board compared to last year's perceptions.

Florida could strengthen its position by adopting an official commitment to institutional neutrality and launching more initiatives that promote open discussion.

Spotlight Rating

Green



FIRE's Spotlight database annually rates regulations on student expression based on the extent to which they restrict free speech.

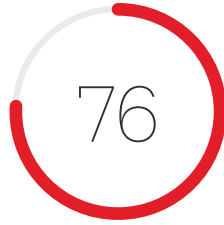
If you are a school administrator and would like to discuss your rating, reach out to speechcodes@thefire.org.

Visit our website: <https://rankings.thefire.org/> for more information.

HIGHLIGHTS



44% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



76% of students say shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.



34% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

1.77:1

There are roughly 1.77 liberal students for every one conservative student.

Institutional Neutrality

NOT ADOPTED



Chicago Statement for Free Speech

ADOPTED



SCORE DEEP DIVE

COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

D

▼ DECREASE

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

C+

▼ DECREASE

OPENNESS

D+

▼ DECREASE

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D-

▼ DECREASE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

F

▼ DECREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▼ DECREASE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

0

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

2

DEPLATFORMINGS

2