

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

119 ▼

/261

▼ -74 FROM 2025

GRADE

D -

▼ D FROM 2025

CONTROVERSIES

5

1 FROM 2026

Overview

University of Florida ranks 119 out of 261 schools in the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 61 and a D- speech climate grade. UF dropped 74 places from last year and was penalized after a political student organization was deactivated.

UF ranks in the bottom 50 for “Comfort Expressing Ideas,” indicating discomfort sharing views on controversial topics. The data shows no top 50 strengths.

UF maintains a “green light” Spotlight rating. UF is part of the State University System of Florida, which has affirmed the pro-free speech Chicago Statement. UF should also adopt an official commitment to institutional neutrality. Given this year’s student organization deactivation, UF should respond clearly and forcefully to defend free speech whenever censorship occurs or is demanded.

[View the Full Spotlight Rating](#)

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

Visit our website, rankings.fire.org, for more information.

Spotlight Rating

Green



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

HIGHLIGHTS



38% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



68% of students say shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.



26% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

2.24:1

There are roughly 2.24 liberal students for every one conservative student.

Institutional Neutrality

NOT ADOPTED



Chicago Statement for Free Speech

ADOPTED



SCORE DEEP DIVE

COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

D

— NO CHANGE

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

C+

▲ INCREASE

OPENNESS

C-

▲ INCREASE

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D

▲ INCREASE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

F

▼ DECREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

— NO CHANGE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

1

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

2

DEPLATFORMINGS

2