University of Mississippi

University, MS • Public School

College Free Speech RANKINGS

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
33 ▼
/261
▼ -6 FROM 2025

GRADE
C-
C- FROM 2025

CONTROVERSIES
0
0 FROM 2026

Overview

University of Mississippi ranks 33 out of 261 schools in the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 71 and a C- speech climate grade.

Mississippi ranks in the top 50 for "Administrative Support," suggesting students trust the administration to defend free speech. However, its rank for "Comfort Expressing Ideas" tumbled 156 places from the top 50 last year, indicating students feel increasingly constrained sharing views on controversial topics. The university also plummeted 123 places from the top 50 last year for "Self-Censorship," showing students report more frequent hesitation to speak.

Mississippi maintains a "green light" Spotlight rating. It should adopt the pro-free speech Chicago Statement and an official commitment to institutional neutrality. Mississippi should respond clearly and forcefully to defend free speech whenever censorship occurs or is demanded.

Spotlight Rating
Green

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

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.

HIGHLIGHTS



47% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



59% of students say shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.



32% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

1.6 : 1

There are roughly 1.60 conservative students for every one liberal student.

Institutional Neutrality

NOT ADOPTED



Chicago Statement for Free Speech

NOT ADOPTED



SCORE DEEP DIVE

COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

D

▼ DECREASE

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

B–

▲ INCREASE

OPENNESS

C–

▲ INCREASE

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D

▼ DECREASE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

D

▲ INCREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▼ DECREASE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

0

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

0

DEPLATFORMINGS

0