

# Free Speech FAQ

## San Francisco State University

What is SF State's Stance on Freedom of Expression?

**SF State:**

- Supports and promotes freedom of expression and assembly by all students, faculty, staff, and community members.
- Uses Time, Place, and Manner to ensure, concurrently, that our core mission of teaching, research, and creative activity are not disrupted.



Is anyone allowed to come on our campus and share their opinions?

The short answer is 'yes'.

- SF State is a publically funded, state institution, and by law, we are required to provide opportunities and venues for free speech to any entity that requests it.
- A non-SF State person or group may go through the Risk Management Process to request space to do this, and they must adhere to appropriate Time, Place, and Manner guidelines.

Who can I talk to if I have concerns about Freedom of Expression/Free Speech at State?

The Dean of Students (DOS) Office and the Student Conduct Office, both located in the Student Services Building on the 4th floor, are available to assist students with questions or concerns about the Freedom of Expression/Free Speech policy at SF State.

The Division of Equity and Community Inclusion is available to share resources that may help prepare students for dealing with potentially difficult dialogues and competing perspectives. Visit [equity.sfsu.edu](http://equity.sfsu.edu) or call (415) 338.7290

# San Francisco State University Resources & Values

How do I know that I'm feeling triggered?

Difficulty concentrating

- Flashbacks
- Difficulty making decisions
- Preoccupation with the event or activity
- Headache
- Fear

The Dean of Students Office (SSB 403), Counseling and Psychological Services (SSB 205), and the Division of Equity and Community Inclusion (Village C) are places where students can seek support if they feel uncomfortable or would like to speak to SF State staff.

What can I do if I feel triggered by someone else's expression or speech?

student life\*  
SF STATE

- Don't Engage! It's not worth your time or energy
- Consult with a friend or family member
- Find a quiet study room in the Lib
- Ground yourself—count 5 things around you

## SF STATE VALUES

**Courage** empowers us to hold difficult conversations and accept and celebrate differences.

**Life of the Mind** SF State aspires to encompass the richness and breadth of human knowledge.

**Equity** is our commitment to fairness and inclusion. Our commitment to equity fosters an environment of respect, diversity, and support.

**Community** We believe in creating space for pluralism and counter stories; we reinforce the tenets of equity.

**Resilience** is grit, and SF State has grit. We transfer adversity into opportunity.