



POLICY ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM

THE POLICY HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE DECISION OF THE
SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL OF NAKHCHIVAN STATE UNIVERSITY
AT THE MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 (PROTOCOL
NO: 01), AND REVIEWED ON JANUARY 6, 2025.



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Policy on Academic Freedom

Content of the Policy

An essential component of the legal status of teachers is their academic rights and freedoms. Nakhchivan State University shall ensure the responsible exercise of academic freedom of expression, which plays a key role in the proper conduct of teaching, administrative, and research activities of academic staff and students. The University shall guarantee the freedom of its academic, administrative, and student staff in the areas of training, teaching, research, and social activities, in accordance with applicable legislative norms. Academic freedom shall be exercised with corresponding responsibilities, expectations, and accountability, within the framework of relationships of trust and confidence.

I. General Provisions

Article 1. This Policy shall define the principles, rules, and obligations related to the assurance, protection, and development of academic freedoms at Nakhchivan State University (hereinafter – NSU).

Article 2. For the purposes of this Policy, “academic freedom” shall be understood as the fundamental right of teachers, researchers, and students, ensuring freedom of scientific activity, teaching, learning, expression, and independent thought.

Article 3. The purpose of this Policy shall be to establish a modern scientific and pedagogical environment within the University and to support democratic and transparent academic governance.

II. Principles of Academic Freedom

Article 4. Freedom of Scientific and Pedagogical Activity. Teachers and researchers shall have the freedom to choose their research topics, determine their methodology, and disseminate the results of their work.

Article 5. Pluralism of Ideas. No person shall be restricted in their teaching or research activities on the basis of religious, political, or ideological beliefs.

Article 6. Student Freedom. Students shall have the right to freely express their thoughts, conduct independent research, and defend alternative views within the educational process.

Article 7. Academic Integrity. All participants shall refrain from plagiarism, fraud, and other ethical violations in the course of scientific and pedagogical activities.



III. Ensuring Academic Freedom

Article 8. The University Administration shall establish the legal, organizational, and material conditions necessary for the exercise of academic freedoms.

Article 9. Teachers and students shall have the right to freely publish their scientific results, present at conferences, and participate in public discussions.

Article 10. Academic freedoms shall not be restricted by any state or administrative intervention, except in cases expressly provided for by national legislation.

IV. Rights and Duties

Article 11. Rights of Teachers and Researchers:

1. Teachers and researchers shall have the right to conduct independent research in their chosen field;
2. Teachers and researchers shall have the right to determine teaching methods freely;
3. Teachers and researchers shall have the right to disseminate scientific results freely;
4. Teachers and researchers shall have the right to express opinions freely within an academic environment.

Article 12. Rights of Students:

1. Students shall have the right to study and defend different theories and views;
2. Students shall have the right to choose a research topic;
3. Students shall have the right to freely choose forms of participation in the educational process;
4. Students shall have the right to participate freely in academic discussions.

Article 13. Duties:

1. All members of the University shall observe academic ethics and integrity;
2. All members of the University shall comply with the rules of discipline of the University;
3. All members of the University shall respect the rights and freedoms of others.

V. Resolution of Academic Disputes

Article 14. Complaints regarding violations of academic freedoms shall be investigated by a special commission of the University.

Article 15. The Commission shall operate independently and transparently, and its decisions shall be binding on the University Administration.



VI. Final Provisions

Article 16. This Policy shall be mandatory for all teachers, students, and employees of Nakhchivan State University.

Article 17. Issues not regulated by this Policy shall be governed in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Article 18. This Policy shall enter into force on the date of its approval.