

Application of CGU Free Speech and Harassment Policy and TCC Demonstration Policy

Claremont Graduate University is committed to the First Amendment right to free speech and peaceable assembly and supports the appropriate exercise of such rights on its campus. At the same time, the University is committed to maintaining the safety and well-being of the campus community and all visitors. Thus, clarification and understanding of current policies and how they apply to demonstrations on our campus is essential for members of our community, The Claremont Colleges, and the general public.

CGU's [Policy on Free Speech and Harassment](#) and [The Claremont Colleges Policy on Demonstrations](#) both protect peaceful assembly and expression and prohibit interference with the exercise of such freedoms by others on our campus.

No set of policies or clarifications can address every scenario. Thus, we urge anyone who plans on participating in a demonstration, protest, or assembly of any kind to review our answers to these frequently asked questions and to contact CGU's Dean of Student's Office in advance to resolve any policy questions and to discuss safety and security concerns.

Does the University have guidelines related to expressive activities on campus?

- Yes. [The Claremont Colleges Policy on Demonstrations](#) and CGU's [Policy on Free Speech and Harassment](#) provide content-neutral, time, place, and manner guidelines that protect peaceful assembly and expression and prohibit interference with exercising such freedoms by others on our campus.

What do we mean by “demonstration?”

- The term is used broadly and intended to cover activities, including rallies, assemblies, protests, and other gatherings of people joined together to express views on a particular issue. Participating in the group's activities is sufficient to qualify as participation in a demonstration, even if an individual does not hold the same beliefs as the group.

When the policy says “material disruption” or “non-peaceable” and also talks about infringements on the rights or freedoms of others, threatening property or public safety, or “impeding” the business of the University, what exactly is prohibited or allowed?

- It is not possible to make a complete or exhaustive list of allowable or prohibited activities. Those seeking to engage in protest are expected to understand University policy and respect the responsibility of the University to protect its community members, campus, and educational operations. [The Claremont Colleges Policy on Demonstrations](#) includes some examples of prohibited activities. Below are additional examples that apply in a variety of contexts. The best way to avoid policy violation is for members of the CGU community to discuss plans for demonstration activities in advance with the Dean of Student's Office.

How can demonstrations best avoid “materially disruptive” actions?

- A demonstration may not prevent, foreclose, or interfere with teaching, research, administration, studying, or other authorized activities on campus. For instance, no one may block access to campus buildings, offices, or parking lots.

What are examples of interfering with the rights of others?

- Free expression cannot impede the rights of others in our community. For example, noise levels that interfere with the ability of others to exercise their freedom of expression or to access their education are prohibited.

What are examples of impermissible activities that may threaten CGU's public safety and property?

- Bypassing fencing or crossing other designated areas, lines, or barriers that are physical or marked by the presence of CGU representatives or Campus Safety Officers.
- Activity that damages, defaces, marks, discolors, or alters in any way CGU's property or any person's property, including any signs, tables, or exhibits.
- Any form of overnight lodging or sustained presence in a particular location on CGU's property.
- Occupation of University facilities that blocks or restricts points of safe entry to or exit from a CGU facility or event (whether blocking from the inside or outside of a facility or event).
- Intentionally disguising or concealing one's identity.
- Failure to show valid identification when requested by a campus official, a campus safety officer, or law enforcement.
- Possessing or displaying weapons or replica weapons on any part of the campus except in the limited exceptions outlined in the [Policy on Explosives, Firearms, and Other Weapons](#).

What can I do if someone engages in an activity on campus that interferes with my rights, including my right to come and go freely?

- Report potential policy violations to the [Dean of Students Office](#) or [Campus Safety](#):
 - By cell or off-campus phone: 909-607-2000 or 909-607-7233
 - By on-campus extension: 7-2000 or 7-2333
- Report potential safety concerns through the [LiveSafe](#) app.

Are 7C community members permitted to engage in demonstrations on CGU's campus?

- Yes. In recognition of the free exchange across the Claremont campuses, students, faculty, and staff from The Claremont Colleges are generally allowed on CGU's campus to engage in peaceful, non-disruptive demonstrations. However, to protect the safety, property, and normal operation of our programs, CGU reserves the right to limit access to its campus or portions of its campus to CGU community members only. CGU also reserves the right to request a non-CGU community member to leave the campus when a CGU official has determined that the person is violating University policy. If a person refuses to leave after being warned, that person is subject to a trespass citation, possible arrest, and a possible ban from CGU's campus.

Do members of the public have a right to engage in demonstrations on CGU's campus?

- No. We do not permit members of the public to engage in demonstrations on our campus.

Can CGU set up specific areas for demonstrations to take place, or require demonstrators to stay a certain distance away from entrances or exits to buildings?

- Yes. The University may require demonstrators to avoid a certain area or limit the areas in which demonstrations may occur. In addition, the University may require demonstrators to remain in specific identified areas for the duration of the demonstration. Depending on how a demonstration develops over time (e.g., more participants, noisier), if the designated location does not protect University operations from material disruption, the University may require demonstrators to relocate. Participants in demonstrations must abide by any written or verbal instructions given in this regard.

Can CGU document through video and other means the conduct of participants in a demonstration?

- Yes. Documenting a demonstration provides protection both for those participating as evidence of peaceful activity and the University as evidence of any violation of policy and is helpful for holding both participants and the University accountable for compliance with all policies.

Can CGU limit the type of objects used during a demonstration?

- If CGU or TCCS officials determine that an object is being used in violation of University policy, demonstrators will be asked to dispose of the item safely.

Does everyone have to provide photographic identification upon request to a CGU or TCCS official during events, including demonstrations?

- Yes. 7C community members may be asked for school-issued identification at any time, including demonstrations, by University or TCCS officials, Campus Safety, or law enforcement to confirm that the person is a community member and has permission to be on CGU's campus.
- Members of the public may also be asked for identification.
- In instances when individuals are masked or wearing face coverings, they must provide identification upon request of CGU and TCCS officials, Campus Safety, or law enforcement.

Are any portions of CGU's campus off-limits to demonstrations?

- Yes. Demonstrations may only occur in outdoor areas of the campus.

Does the College respond to campus incidents involving alleged violations of its policies related to demonstrations and other forms of permissible expressive activity?

- Yes. Alleged violations involving members of the CGU community are referred to the appropriate disciplinary process, including the [Basic Code of Conduct Policy](#). Potential sanctions could include suspension or expulsion depending upon the circumstances and the severity of the misconduct. Alleged violations involving individuals from one of the other Claremont Colleges will be referred to the individual's respective campus. If other 7C students are found responsible for policy violations, they may be subject to being banned from the CGU's campus.

Does the College respond to campus incidents involving allegations of hate?

- Yes. The University responds to all reports or complaints of incidents involving allegations of hate in a fair, neutral, and appropriate manner based on its relevant policies, including those related to discrimination and harassment and, if applicable, threats.

Do all expressions of hate violate University policies?

- No. Under our system of government, free speech includes the right to express opinions that are objectionable, even abhorrent to the majority or the minority. Freedom of speech must be accorded to the ideas we hate; otherwise, it will be denied to the ideas we cherish. However, some “hate speech” may violate policy when it violates the [Student, Staff, and Faculty Harassment and Discrimination Policy](#) (such expressions may qualify as harassment) or the [Basic Code of Conduct](#) (such expressions may constitute intimidation). Please consult these policies for their definitions of harassment, discrimination, and intimidation. Regardless of whether such conduct is found to violate University policies, the University provides appropriate supportive resources to impacted individuals.

If I want to post a flyer or other information on campus, how should I do that?

- Registered student organizations that want to post digital or print information on CGU bulletin boards must follow all behavioral standards outlined in the Basic Code of Conduct.
- The CGU Dean of Students Office must approve all written or digital materials displayed on CGU bulletin boards. Written materials must display the CGU Dean of Students approval stamp before posting.
- Material posted that is not approved by the CGU Dean of Students will be removed and may result in sanctions.

What are other ways that I can engage in self-expression or connect with others who share my beliefs/values while at CGU?

- Engaging in free speech and expression is vital to your graduate education. It allows you to challenge ideas, engage with diverse perspectives, and contribute to the broader academic discourse. By thoughtfully engaging with those with different views, you strengthen your intellectual foundation and foster an environment of mutual respect and educational growth. The exchange of ideas, even when challenging, is a cornerstone of our community.

To support your journey, CGU offers a variety of resources designed to help you navigate and enrich these dialogues. Whether you need guidance on engaging constructively, forums to voice your opinions, or support in dealing with conflicts, CGU and The Claremont Colleges have resources to assist you. Embrace these opportunities as you contribute to the vibrant academic community we share.

CGU Resources:

- [CGU Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee](#): The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) committee works with the executive team and academic and administrative units to promote an institutional culture that values and advances diversity, equity, and inclusion. It works to ensure alignment and

- coordinated effort throughout the university, its strategic plan, and the diversity work being done across The Claremont Colleges.
- [CGU Graduate Student Council](#): The Graduate Student Council (GSC) promotes the welfare and concerns of the graduate student body and communicates with CGU faculty and administration on behalf of students.
 - [CGU Clubs and Organizations](#): The Office of Student Life, Diversity and Leadership (SLDL) manages, and serves as a resource for student organizations. Through these organizations you also have the opportunity to strengthen and develop your leadership skills by planning, developing, and implementing events on campus or by collaborating with other organizations or campus constituents.

The Claremont Colleges (TCC) Resources:

- [Interfaith Chaplaincy](#): The Chaplains affirm the importance of the religion and spirituality within the academic community and their significant roles in training future leaders for service to society. McAlister Center for Religious Activities welcomes students representing the diversity of world religions and advances unique opportunities for interfaith dialogue, service learning, and collaborative programming.
- [The Office of Black Student Affairs](#) (OBSA): On behalf of The Claremont Colleges, OBSA is dedicated to providing support, resources and space for students of African descent to feel safe, valued, informed and connected. OBSA offers a range of programming on behalf of enrolled 7C students of African descent, faculty, staff and allies.
- [Chicano Latino Student Affairs](#) (CLSA): CLSA offers academic support, personal guidance, graduate/professional school advice, cultural enrichment and leadership opportunities. We strive to promote programming that establishes a strong foundation in order to ensure success at The Claremont Colleges.
- The [Queer Resource Center](#) (QRC): The Queer Resource Center is a 7 College resource center serving the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, asexual, omnisexual, and pansexual communities, as well as allies, at The Claremont Colleges.