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# Freedom of Expression

## Freedom of Expression

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## Protocols and Procedures

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## Freedom from Disruption

The following Campus Disruption Protocol is intended to protect both invited guests' and Tulane community members' freedom of expression, protest, and demonstration, in addition to protecting the safety and operations of the university community from disruption to teaching, research, administrative procedures, and other activities.

The Campus Disruption Protocol promotes and protects the free exchange of ideas through prohibiting the physical or virtual disruption, shouting down, blocking or suppressing a protest, demonstration, or invited speakers' right to speak; simultaneously, no one may attempt to coerce, intimidate, or harass any other person into viewing or listening to any communication.

- Hosting: the privilege of hosting a speaker on Tulane property is reserved solely for Recognized Student Organizations and University departments. As hosts, Tulane affiliates should follow all **Tulane Event Registration policies**.
- Invited speakers have the ability to express their message and Tulane affiliates have the privilege to receive it safely and without disruption that interferes in either's ability to deliver and/or receive the message.
  - Disruption is the process of physical or virtual shouting down, obstructing, suppressing, or impeding the speaker's ability to deliver their message and others' ability to listen;
  - The Tulane community should be able to view or listen to invited speakers without disruption;
  - Invited speakers should be able to perform or speak without disruption.
- Tulane affiliates must not be coerced, intimidated, or harassed into viewing, listening to, or accepting a copy of any communication in-person or online.
  - No one may attempt to coerce, intimidate, or harass any other person into viewing, listening to, or accepting a copy of any communication in-person or online.
- Tulane affiliates should have free movement on sidewalks, roads, pathways, driveways, hallways, doorways, stairs, and exits from University facilities.
  - No one may obstruct or restrict the free movement of persons on sidewalks, roads, pathways, driveways, hallways, doorways, stairs, and exits from University facilities.

to registration, they must adhere to time, place, and manner guidelines of this protocol and the Freedom to Demonstrate Protocol.

- Examples of *allowed disturbance* versus *not allowed disruption* include but are not limited to:
  - Allowed:
    - Holding paper or poster board signs in front of one's body that do not block the view of others.
    - Asking questions during an invited Q&A session.
    - Wearing clothing with words or images on it, unless those words or images are themselves unprotected speech.
    - Symbolic and/or silent acts such as kneeling or turning away.
    - Holding a counter-demonstration in an approved location that does not disrupt the protested event.
    - Distribution of literature in an approved location separate from the protested event.
  - Not Allowed:
    - Deliberately blocking the audience's view of the speaker or presenter.
    - In-person or virtual shouting down or producing noise with the intent to prevent the speaker or presenter from being heard.

• Using something or using online, virtual resources to distract or shut down event or university resources.

- Physical disruption of a registered campus demonstration.
  - Creating in-person or virtual barriers to entry or access to the event.
  - Destructive or disorderly conduct.
  - Inciting violence, intimidating, or threatening others.
- Care for Safety: an immediate physical threat to persons and/or property may require immediate Tulane University Police response, as well as situations in which a warning may not provide adequate protection for persons or property.
  - Tulane affiliates who disrupt individuals' freedom of speech and/or the university's ability to carry out its mission will be held accountable as specifically outlined in the Student Code of Conduct and the Staff Handbook.

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**University Response Team**

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**Demonstration Registration Form**

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**TULANE UNIVERSITY STUDENT AFFAIRS**  
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**Hours of Operation**  
**Monday–Friday**  
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