

## Free Speech in College: How Free Should It Be?

Read the article and fill in the gaps using words in the box.

Just how far does freedom of speech go in college? How much freedom should people have to express possibly offensive ideas? The First \_\_\_\_\_ to the U.S. Constitution promises that the \_\_\_\_\_ won't get in the way of free speech, but many schools make rules against sharing some ideas.

### The Chicago Principles

Dr. Luana Maroja, who \_\_\_\_\_ biology at Williams College in Massachusetts, is worried about free speech. She wanted the school to adopt the Chicago Principles, which the University of \_\_\_\_\_ made in defense of free speech. More than 60 colleges follow the Chicago Principles. Dr. Maroja got more than 100 teachers at Williams to agree to these guidelines, but Williams College announced in July 2019 that it would not adopt the Chicago Principles.

What happened? Many pupils and teachers think free speech is \_\_\_\_\_. Some students interrupted a staff meeting in November 2018, holding signs with messages like "free speech \_\_\_\_\_. They even claimed the faculty members who agreed to the Chicago Principles wanted to kill them. The College Fix \_\_\_\_\_ reported that one professor threatened violence if the school \_\_\_\_\_ the guidelines.

Williams is a private college, so the First Amendment doesn't stop it from making rules about speech. The fear of free speech is becoming more common even at public schools. The \_\_\_\_\_ for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) says that more than 90% of the nation's public colleges have some rules for speech on \_\_\_\_\_.

### Safe Spaces

Some schools treat the campus as a \_\_\_\_\_ and try to protect students from hearing \_\_\_\_\_ they don't like. Some only let people share certain ideas in special "free speech zones." Some want professors to give students "trigger warnings" to let them know they might hear something offensive or \_\_\_\_\_ in class.

Some say that feeling safe encourages students to participate more. They believe that trigger warnings and safe spaces \_\_\_\_\_ free speech, not stop it. Others think college is a place where people should hear ideas and decide for \_\_\_\_\_ what to believe, even if they might not like what they hear. Can a balance be found? Just how free should \_\_\_\_\_ be on campus?

government	Foundation	themselves	government
safe space	adopted	dangerous	campus
	opinions	shocking	speech
teaches		Amendment	
	Chicago		