

## **Motion in Support of the GSS Department's Right to Teach SYG 2000 Uncensored**

The Faculty Senate concurs with the faculty of the Global and Sociocultural Studies (GSS) Department, as expressed in their [letter](#) of January 16, 2026, that the Office of the Provost violated their academic freedom by soliciting and circulating a state-created course outline and textbook for SYG 2000 (Introduction to Sociology) that censors key field-based concepts. In alignment with already agreed-upon principles of academic freedom operative within the field of sociology as well as within university-level teaching and research generally, inside and outside of FIU, we affirm students' right to receive an accurate understanding of the concepts of the field, established in accordance with expertise in that field, in order that they be adequately prepared for future academic and professional opportunities.

Because the Board of Governors objections were unwritten and vague, they served to pressure faculty to self-censor against their own professional judgment. Furthermore, because the course outline and textbook issued by the working group do not conform to the professional standards of the discipline of sociology (see the American Sociological Association's [Code of Ethics](#), particularly section 13 on "Plagiarism," and section 17 on "Education, Teaching, and Training"), GSS should not have been compelled to adopt the course outline and textbook from the working group and should not be expected to use them in the future.

The Faculty Senate supports Global and Sociocultural Studies Department faculty's desire to teach SYG 2000 uncensored as a Tier 2 Course in the University Core Curriculum.