

Divisive Concepts Syllabus Attachment

East Tennessee State University is a citadel of higher education. Our responsibility is to educate students with factual information, data, and analyses, without regard to political sensitivities, ideological persuasion, or personal beliefs. As a student in this course you may learn about concepts which challenge popular culture. As an institution dedicated to inquiry, the free exchange of ideas, and civil debate grounded in fact and evidence, ETSU provides an education whereby students are challenged intellectually, trained through reading, writing, lecture, and discussion, to think about the world around them. All ETSU students should expect to hear and learn about ideas as a matter of academic discourse.

In 2022, the Tennessee General Assembly passed, and the governor signed into law, Senate Bill 2290. There are several sections which address various concerns of our state legislative body. The most important section for ETSU is section 7. It clearly states academic freedom and freedom of speech of faculty are not to be infringed upon. ETSU has unequivocally stated it will defend academic freedom, the integrity of our classrooms, and the preservation of university values in compliance with all applicable university regulations and policies, Tennessee state law, federal law, and standards established by our accreditation partner, The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). All members of the ETSU community are reminded that the Campus Free Speech Protection Act of 2017 applies to everyone.