The Campus Expression Survey
A Heterodox Academy Project
Administration Instructions
Contents
This document contains administration and scoring instructions for the Campus Expression Survey.

Please cite as:

Introduction
Most professors and campus administrators want an open environment where all members of the academic community can express their ideas honestly. But, in recent years reports that students and faculty have been self-censoring their views in the classroom and on campus in general, have increased and are concerning. If this is going on in your classroom, or at your university, then it is vital to know: WHICH students are feeling intimidated, about WHICH topics, and WHY? Are students primarily afraid of the professors, or of other students? Is it happening in all departments, or only in a few? Heterodox Academy’s Campus Expression Survey is an easy to administer tool for professors and administrators that provides a diagnosis, or X-ray, of what is going on in your classroom or on your campus.
Modules

The Campus Expression Survey consists of three modules.

1. Core Module. The core module of the Campus Expression Survey consists of two components: Comfort and Consequences. The items in this module repeat for each of five potentially controversial issues: gender, race, politics, sexuality, and religion; as a baseline comparison, these items are also asked regarding a non-controversial topic. The full Core Module appears in Appendix A.

   a. Comfort. The first item asked within each issue assesses how comfortable or reluctant students to share their views in a typical small classroom setting of 20-30 students.

   For instance: Think about being at your school in a class that was discussing a controversial issue about GENDER. How comfortable or reluctant would you feel about speaking up and giving your views on this topic?

   Response options include: “I would be very comfortable giving my views,” “I would be somewhat comfortable giving my views,” “I would be somewhat reluctant giving my views,” and “I would be very reluctant giving my views.”

   b. Consequences. Next, students are asked how concerned they would be about different consequences that might occur if they shared their views in a class discussion on a specific topic. These include concerns about the reactions of the professor and other students, as well as social media posts concerning their views.

   For instance: Next, if you were to speak up and give your views on a controversial issue about GENDER during a class discussion, how concerned would you be that the following would occur: Other students would criticize my views as offensive.

   Response options range from “Not at all concerned” to “Extremely concerned.”

2. Experience on Campus Module. The Experience on Campus Module assesses student perceptions of how they think different groups of students experience the classroom (e.g., female students; male students; LGBT students).

   For instance, students are asked to: “Think about each of the following categories of students at your school. Do you think students in that category are more comfortable sharing their views in a classroom discussion compared to the average student, less comfortable compared to the average student, or about the same as the average student?” They are then presented with a variety of groups, for instance: Left-leaning or progressive students.

   Response options include: “More comfortable sharing their views than the average student,” “Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student,” and “About the same as the average student.”

   The Experience on Campus module also asks students about how frequently they have been mistreated on campus on the basis of their gender, race, political views, sexuality, or religious belief.

   For instance: How frequently are you treated badly or unfairly because of your race or ethnicity?

   Response options include: “Every day,” “More than once a week,” “Every few weeks,” “A few times a year,” “Once a year or less,” and, “It never happens.”

   Please see Appendix B for the items of the Experience on Campus Module.

3. Viewpoint Diversity Module. The Viewpoint Diversity Module of the Campus Expression Survey consists of four items that ask students how diverse the viewpoints are on campus among students, faculty, and administrators; and, how often the college or university encourages a wider variety of viewpoints and perspectives.

   For instance: Thinking about students at your college/university, would you say most of them are politically to the left of you (more liberal) or politically to the right of you (more conservative)?

   Response options include: “Most are to the left of me,” “Most are to the right of me,” “Most have positions close to mine,” “Most are about equally to the left or right of me,” and, “Don’t know.”

   Please see Appendix C for the items of the Viewpoint Diversity Module.
Administering The Campus Expression Survey

1. Core Module
   - We recommend always including the non-controversial items in any administration of the Core Module, so they can serve as a baseline for the other topics assessed.
   - The controversial issues we offer in the Core Module are merely suggestions. Different issues may be more or less controversial within your local context; the instrument can be modified to capture student comfort discussing any set of issues. For example, perhaps you are interested in how comfortable students are discussing a more specific political issue, such as immigration or criminal justice. If so, you can use the basic item format and substitute your issue of interest into the items where relevant. Please customize the issues assessed to your liking.
   - If you assess more than one controversial issue, we recommend that you randomize the order the issues are presented in for each respondent. We also recommend that you randomize the order of presentation for each of the potential concerns for sharing one’s views, for each respondent.

2. Experience on Campus Module
   - We recommend a randomized order of presentation for both sets of items (on perceptions of other students’ experiences in the classroom and on personal experience on campus in general).

3. Viewpoint Diversity Module
   - We recommend a randomized order of presentation for all items.

4. General Recommendations
   - We recommend including a demographic assessment. Our suggested demographic questions can be found in Appendix D.
   - We also recommend administering the CES through a survey platform such as Qualtrics or SurveyMonkey. We have created templates for both platforms and are happy to share them with you. This will allow you to easily distribute a unique survey link, and analyze your results.

Scoring The Campus Expression Survey

The nature of the items in the Campus Expression Survey invite raw number comparisons across issues and items. Appendix E shows a sample report from a classroom administration of the CES. Beyond computing and visualizing frequency (or percentage) of responses, the CES is not otherwise scored.

Contact Us
If you have questions or suggestions about the Campus Expression Survey, please contact Sean Stevens, the product manager for Campus Expressions Survey at stevens@heterodoxacademy.org.
Appendix A: Core Module

We are interested in how you would feel about expressing your personal opinions in class discussions on various topics. Think of a class with about 20-30 students.

**Gender Items:**

Think about being at your school in a class that was discussing a controversial issue about **GENDER**. How comfortable or reluctant would you feel about speaking up and giving your views on this topic?

- _______ I would be very comfortable giving my views.
- _______ I would be somewhat comfortable giving my views.
- _______ I would be somewhat reluctant giving my views.
- _______ I would be very reluctant giving my views.

Next, if you were to speak up and give your views on a controversial issue about **GENDER** during a class discussion, how concerned would you be that the following would occur (presented in a randomized order):

**The professor would criticize my views as offensive.**

- _______ Not at all concerned
- _______ Slightly concerned
- _______ Somewhat concerned
- _______ Very concerned
- _______ Extremely concerned

**Other students would criticize my views as offensive.**

- _______ Not at all concerned
- _______ Slightly concerned
- _______ Somewhat concerned
- _______ Very concerned
- _______ Extremely concerned

**Someone would post critical comments about my views on social media.**

- _______ Not at all concerned
- _______ Slightly concerned
- _______ Somewhat concerned
- _______ Very concerned
- _______ Extremely concerned
Someone would file a complaint claiming that my views violated a campus harassment policy or code of conduct.

[Not at all concerned] [Slightly concerned] [Somewhat concerned] [Very concerned] [Extremely concerned]

The professor would give me a lower grade because of my views.

[Not at all concerned] [Slightly concerned] [Somewhat concerned] [Very concerned] [Extremely concerned]

The professor would say my views are wrong.

[Not at all concerned] [Slightly concerned] [Somewhat concerned] [Very concerned] [Extremely concerned]

Race Items:

Think about being at your school in a class that was discussing a controversial issue about RACE. How comfortable or reluctant would you feel about speaking up and giving your views on this topic?

[I would be very comfortable giving my views.] [I would be somewhat comfortable giving my views.] [I would be somewhat reluctant giving my views.] [I would be very reluctant giving my views.]

Next, if you were to speak up and give your views on a controversial issue about RACE during a class discussion, how concerned would you be that the following would occur:

The professor would criticize my views as offensive.

[Not at all concerned] [Slightly concerned] [Somewhat concerned] [Very concerned] [Extremely concerned]
Other students would criticize my views as offensive.

Not at all concerned
Slightly concerned
Somewhat concerned
Very concerned
Extremely concerned

Someone would post critical comments about my views on social media.

Not at all concerned
Slightly concerned
Somewhat concerned
Very concerned
Extremely concerned

Someone would file a complaint claiming that my views violated a campus harassment policy or code of conduct.

Not at all concerned
Slightly concerned
Somewhat concerned
Very concerned
Extremely concerned

The professor would give me a lower grade because of my views.

Not at all concerned
Slightly concerned
Somewhat concerned
Very concerned
Extremely concerned

The professor would say my views are wrong.

Not at all concerned
Slightly concerned
Somewhat concerned
Very concerned
Extremely concerned
Political Issue Items:

Think about being at your school in a class that was discussing a controversial POLITICAL ISSUE. How comfortable or reluctant would you feel about speaking up and giving your views on this topic?

I would be very comfortable giving my views.
I would be somewhat comfortable giving my views.
I would be somewhat reluctant giving my views.
I would be very reluctant giving my views.

Next, if you were to speak up and give your views on a controversial POLITICAL ISSUE during a class discussion, how concerned would you be that the following would occur:

The professor would criticize my views as offensive.

Not at all concerned
Slightly concerned
Somewhat concerned
Very concerned
Extremely concerned

Other students would criticize my views as offensive.

Not at all concerned
Slightly concerned
Somewhat concerned
Very concerned
Extremely concerned

Someone would post critical comments about my views on social media.

Not at all concerned
Slightly concerned
Somewhat concerned
Very concerned
Extremely concerned

Someone would file a complaint claiming that my views violated a campus harassment policy or code of conduct.

Not at all concerned
Slightly concerned
Somewhat concerned
Very concerned
Extremely concerned
The professor would give me a lower grade because of my views.

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<tr>
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The professor would say my views are wrong.

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**Sexuality Items:**

Think about being at your school in a class that was discussing a controversial issue about SEXUALITY. How comfortable or reluctant would you feel about speaking up and giving your views on this topic?

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>I would be very comfortable giving my views.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I would be somewhat comfortable giving my views.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I would be somewhat reluctant giving my views.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>I would be very reluctant giving my views.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Next, if you were to speak up and give your views on a controversial issue about SEXUALITY during a class discussion, how concerned would you be that the following would occur:

The professor would criticize my views as offensive.

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not at all concerned</th>
<th>Slightly concerned</th>
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Other students would criticize my views as offensive.

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</table>
Someone would post critical comments about my views on social media.

[ ] Not at all concerned
[ ] Slightly concerned
[ ] Somewhat concerned
[ ] Very concerned
[ ] Extremely concerned

Someone would file a complaint claiming that my views violated a campus harassment policy or code of conduct.

[ ] Not at all concerned
[ ] Slightly concerned
[ ] Somewhat concerned
[ ] Very concerned
[ ] Extremely concerned

The professor would give me a lower grade because of my views.

[ ] Not at all concerned
[ ] Slightly concerned
[ ] Somewhat concerned
[ ] Very concerned
[ ] Extremely concerned

The professor would say my views are wrong.

[ ] Not at all concerned
[ ] Slightly concerned
[ ] Somewhat concerned
[ ] Very concerned
[ ] Extremely concerned

Religion Items:

Think about being at your school in a class that was discussing a controversial issue about RELIGION. How comfortable or reluctant would you feel about speaking up and giving your views on this topic?

[ ] I would be very comfortable giving my views.
[ ] I would be somewhat comfortable giving my views.
[ ] I would be somewhat reluctant giving my views.
[ ] I would be very reluctant giving my views.
Next, if you were to speak up and give your views on a controversial issue about RELIGION during a class discussion, how concerned would you be that the following would occur:

The professor would criticize my views as offensive.

- Not at all concerned
- Slightly concerned
- Somewhat concerned
- Very concerned
- Extremely concerned

Other students would criticize my views as offensive.

- Not at all concerned
- Slightly concerned
- Somewhat concerned
- Very concerned
- Extremely concerned

Someone would post critical comments about my views on social media.

- Not at all concerned
- Slightly concerned
- Somewhat concerned
- Very concerned
- Extremely concerned

Someone would file a complaint claiming that my views violated a campus harassment policy or code of conduct.

- Not at all concerned
- Slightly concerned
- Somewhat concerned
- Very concerned
- Extremely concerned

The professor would give me a lower grade because of my views.

- Not at all concerned
- Slightly concerned
- Somewhat concerned
- Very concerned
- Extremely concerned
The professor would say my views are wrong.

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Non-Controversial Items:

Think about being at your school in a class that was discussing a NON-CONTROVERSIAL TOPIC. How comfortable or reluctant would you feel about speaking up and giving your views on this topic?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>I would be very comfortable giving my views.</th>
<th>I would be somewhat comfortable giving my views.</th>
<th>I would be somewhat reluctant giving my views.</th>
<th>I would be very reluctant giving my views.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Next, if you were to speak up and give your views on a controversial issue about a NON-CONTROVERSIAL TOPIC during a class discussion, how concerned would you be that the following would occur:

The professor would criticize my views as offensive.

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<th>Not at all concerned</th>
<th>Slightly concerned</th>
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Other students would criticize my views as offensive.

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Someone would post critical comments about my views on social media.

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</table>
Someone would file a complaint claiming that my views violated a campus harassment policy or code of conduct.

[ ] Not at all concerned
[ ] Slightly concerned
[ ] Somewhat concerned
[ ] Very concerned
[ ] Extremely concerned

The professor would give me a lower grade because of my views.

[ ] Not at all concerned
[ ] Slightly concerned
[ ] Somewhat concerned
[ ] Very concerned
[ ] Extremely concerned

The professor would say my views are wrong.

[ ] Not at all concerned
[ ] Slightly concerned
[ ] Somewhat concerned
[ ] Very concerned
[ ] Extremely concerned
Appendix B: Experience on Campus Module

Perception of How Comfortable Other Students are Sharing Their Views:

Now that you have told us how comfortable you feel in classroom discussions, please tell us how you think members of various other groups on campus feel in those classroom discussions.

Think about each of the following categories of students at your school. Do you think that students in that category are more comfortable sharing their views in a classroom discussion compared to the average student, less comfortable compared to the average student, or about the same as the average student?

Left-leaning or progressive students.

[ ] More comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
[ ] Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
[ ] About the same as the average student.

Right-leaning or conservative students.

[ ] More comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
[ ] Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
[ ] About the same as the average student.

White (Caucasian) students.

[ ] More comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
[ ] Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
[ ] About as comfortable as the average student.

Black (African-American) students.

[ ] More comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
[ ] Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
[ ] About as comfortable as the average student.

Hispanic/Latino students.

[ ] More comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
[ ] Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
[ ] About as comfortable as the average student.
Asian students.

______ More comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ About as comfortable as the average student.

Female students.

______ More comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ About as comfortable as the average student.

Male students.

______ More comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ About as comfortable as the average student.

Transgender students.

______ More comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ About as comfortable as the average student.

Gay/lesbian/bisexual students.

______ More comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ About as comfortable as the average student.

Straight students.

______ More comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ About as comfortable as the average student.

Christian students.

______ More comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ About as comfortable as the average student.

Jewish students.

______ More comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
______ About as comfortable as the average student.
Muslim students.

_____ More comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
_____ Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
_____ About as comfortable as the average student.

Atheist students.

_____ More comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
_____ Less comfortable sharing their views than the average student.
_____ About as comfortable as the average student.

Is there any other group, not listed above, that you think faces a hostile climate or other restrictions on speech? (If so, please also supply a rating using the same rating scale).

[Open-ended response option]

**Individual Treatment on Campus in General:**

Next, the following questions are about your experiences **ON CAMPUS IN GENERAL** - including classroom activities, public events with speakers, meetings of student organizations, informal gatherings, and conversations with other students.

Please use the scale beneath each item to indicate your response:

**How frequently are you treated badly or unfairly because of your race or ethnicity?**

_____ Every day
_____ More than once a week
_____ Every few weeks
_____ A few times a year
_____ Once a year or less
_____ It never happens

**How frequently are you treated badly or unfairly because of your sex or gender?**

_____ Every day
_____ More than once a week
_____ Every few weeks
_____ A few times a year
_____ Once a year or less
_____ It never happens
How frequently are you treated badly or unfairly because of your religion?

_______ Every day
_______ More than once a week
_______ Every few weeks
_______ A few times a year
_______ Once a year or less
_______ It never happens

How frequently are you treated badly or unfairly because of your political views?

_______ Every day
_______ More than once a week
_______ Every few weeks
_______ A few times a year
_______ Once a year or less
_______ It never happens

How frequently are you treated badly or unfairly because of your sexual orientation?

_______ Every day
_______ More than once a week
_______ Every few weeks
_______ A few times a year
_______ Once a year or less
_______ It never happens
Appendix C: Viewpoint Diversity Module

Thinking about students at your college/university, would you say most of them are politically to the left of you (more liberal) or politically to the right of you (more conservative)?

_______ Most are to the left of me
_______ Most are to the right of me
_______ Most have positions close to mine
_______ Most are about equally to the left or right of me
_______ Don’t know

Thinking about faculty at your college/university, would you say most of them are politically to the left of you (more liberal) or politically to the right of you (more conservative)?

_______ Most are to the left of me
_______ Most are to the right of me
_______ Most have positions close to mine
_______ Most are about equally to the left or right of me
_______ Don’t know

Thinking about administrators at your college/university, would you say most of them are politically to the left of you (more liberal) or politically to the right of you (more conservative)?

_______ Most are to the left of me
_______ Most are to the right of me
_______ Most have positions close to mine
_______ Most are about equally to the left or right of me
_______ Don’t know

How often does your college/university encourage students to consider a wider variety of viewpoints and perspectives?

_______ Very frequently
_______ Frequently
_______ Occasionally
_______ Rarely
_______ Very rarely
_______ Never
### Appendix D: Suggested Demographic Questions

**How old are you?**

- [ ] 18 to 19
- [ ] 20 to 21
- [ ] 22 to 25
- [ ] 26 to 29
- [ ] 30 to 39
- [ ] 40 to 49
- [ ] 50 to 59
- [ ] 60 and over
- [ ] Prefer not to say

**Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or something else?**

- [ ] Republican
- [ ] Democrat
- [ ] Independent
- [ ] Something else [Open-ended response option]
- [ ] Prefer not to say

**When it comes to politics do you usually think of yourself as liberal, conservative, moderate, libertarian, or something else?**

- [ ] Very liberal
- [ ] Liberal
- [ ] Slightly liberal
- [ ] Moderate or middle-of-the-road
- [ ] Slightly conservative
- [ ] Conservative
- [ ] Very conservative
- [ ] Libertarian
- [ ] Something else [Open-ended response option]
- [ ] Haven’t thought much about this
- [ ] Prefer not to say

**What is your major or intended major (if double-major, indicate both)?**

- [ ] [Open-ended response option]
- [ ] Undecided
- [ ] Prefer not to say
What is your current year of study?

- First Year (Freshman)
- Second Year (Sophomore)
- Third Year (Junior)
- Fourth Year (Senior)
- Fifth Year or More (Senior)
- Graduate student
- Prefer not to say

How do you describe your gender?

- Female
- Male
- Transgender Female
- Transgender Male
- Other [Open-ended response]
- Prefer not to say

How do you describe your sexual orientation?

- Heterosexual/straight
- Gay
- Lesbian
- Bisexual
- Something Else
- Prefer not to say

How do you describe your race/ethnicity?

- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black
- Hispanic/Latino
- Pacific Islander
- White
- Multiracial
- Something else
- Prefer not to say
How do you describe your religious beliefs?

- ☐ Protestant
- ☐ Catholic
- ☐ Evangelical Christian
- ☐ Orthodox Christian
- ☐ Mormon
- ☐ Jehova's Witness
- ☐ Adventists Church
- ☐ Christian Science
- ☐ Mennonite/Amish
- ☐ Salvation Army
- ☐ Other Christian (open-ended)
- ☐ Buddhism
- ☐ Hinduism
- ☐ Jewish
- ☐ Muslim
- ☐ Other non-Christian (open-ended)
- ☐ Atheist
- ☐ Agnostic
- ☐ Something else
- ☐ Prefer not to say

What is your family's socioeconomic status?

- ☐ Less than $20,000
- ☐ $20,000 to $29,999
- ☐ $30,000 to $39,999
- ☐ $40,000 to $49,999
- ☐ $50,000 to $74,999
- ☐ $75,000 to $99,000
- ☐ $100,000 to $149,999
- ☐ $150,000 to $199,999
- ☐ $200,000 to $249,999
- ☐ $250,000 to $499,000
- ☐ $500,00 or more
- ☐ Prefer not to say
Appendix E presents results obtained from an administration of the Campus Expression Survey in a small classroom of 35 students.

Think about being at your school in a class that was discussing a controversial issue about [INSERT TOPIC]. How comfortable or reluctant would you feel speaking up and giving your views on this topic?

Next, if you were to speak up and give your views on a controversial issue about [INSERT TOPIC], how concerned would you be that the following would occur: Other students would criticize my views as offensive.
How frequently are you treated badly because of your [INSERT CATEGORY]?

Thinking about STUDENTS at your college/university, would say most of them are politically to the left of you (more liberal) or politically to the right of you (more conservative)?