

What To Do When a Fascist Comes To Your Campus

1. ***As soon as you hear they are coming, organize an open public meeting***
 - Find a location and issue a leaflet advertising this meeting and distribute and post them broadly across campus and in important community locations (progressive bookstores/coffee shops, etc.)
2. ***Before the meeting reach out to key organizations and individuals to attend the meeting and ask them to join an anti-fascist coalition against the fascists who plan to come:***
 - On campus contact sympathetic faculty organizations (faculty union, faculty governance bodies, organizations of progressive, queer, Jewish and Muslim faculty, and faculty of color) and student organizations that would be targeted by the fascists (students of color, Jewish, Arab, Muslim, Immigrant, Progressive, Pro-Labor, LGBT students)
 - Off campus contact sympathetic labor unions; immigrant, LGBT, Jewish, Muslim and people of color organizations; progressive Churches, Mosques and Synagogues.
3. ***At the organizing meeting, work to build a consensus—or at the minimum a majority of people at the meeting around the following points:***
 - The need for a demonstration to confront the fascists. Fascists are not engaged in “speech”—they are not coming to campus to convince people of their reactionary ideas but to *intimidate* and *terrorize*.
 - Inform the University of your Intention to **demonstrate** against the fascists, while recognizing the need to organize *independently* of the University police and administration. If the University bans the fascists, they will use the precedent to ban *our* activities as well.
 - Issue a leaflet for the demonstration, as early as possible, specifying: DATE, VENUE, that will be broadly distributed and posted on campus and in the community—with a special emphasis on members of the coalition mobilizing their organizations and constituencies. **List** all the organizations involved in organizing the demonstration—this will ensure that those organizations mobilize their members.
 - Begin the process of training trusted members of the coalition to organize *self-defense* against the fascists—we cannot rely on the campus or local police to protect us against the fascists’ violence.
 - **Elect a demonstration steering committee** to handle issues of speakers at the rally, security, self-defense and whether or not to attempt to shut-down the fascist meeting. We need to have consensus that such an action will only be undertaken if we clearly *outnumber* the fascists and are likely

to disperse them. *We do not want to engage in a confrontation that we might lose—that would only embolden the fascists.*

4. ***On the day of the demonstration:***

- Make sure that the Coalition steering committee and activists trained in self-defense and marshalling arrive **at least one hour before** the time of the demonstration. They should “scout out” the area, determine where to station marshals and self-defense groups and determine possible routes to either disrupt the fascist meetings or effectively retreat in case of attack.
- Begin speeches when the crowd is of sufficient size—the program should **last less than 30 minutes**, followed by massive chanting and possible disruption.
- Remember—**as organizers of the demonstration you have the responsibility of not only getting out the maximum numbers, but ensuring their safety, whether in an effort to disrupt the fascist action or not.**
- At the end of the rally, the organizers and marshals need to organize demonstrators to leave the action in groups to avoid being isolated and attacked by the fascists.