

Guys:

This document is an excerpt from the university's highest governing body on policy concerning student responsibilities on learning. (Note especially the last paragraph.)

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**FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**Workload, Sabbaticals, and Teaching**

[...]

**J) Assessments of Instructional Effectiveness**

[...]

**Resolution #4: Concerning Students' Academic Responsibilities and the Culture of Learning**

WHEREAS:

1. High quality instruction provides opportunities for academic achievements, the processes and content of that learning ultimately depend upon what students do; and
2. Academic assignments, schedules, lectures – indeed, almost all course requirements and options – assume certain amounts of preparation, prerequisite skills and/or an attitude of readiness;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Provost and Deans promulgate (via the Student Handbook as well as in other ways) a list of Student Academic Responsibilities that, at a minimum, should include the following:

1. knowing and following University policy regarding drop-add dates, making up incomplete grades, etc;
2. understanding and following each course syllabus, particularly in regard to assignments, due dates, attendance policies, office hours, available assistance and how to access it (by e-mail, graduate assistants, extra labs), etc;
3. preparing for and participating in class;
4. informing the instructor, in advance if possible, if for any reason a deadline cannot be met or a class must be missed; and
5. requesting of the instructor as soon as possible the need for extra help on an assignment or topic.

[...]

Finally, this policy [on class attendance] is not a license to neglect course activities. It does not excuse students who miss classes because they forgot, sleep through exams because they studied all night, or do not get to laboratories because they were mesmerized by the weather channel. Unjustified absences merit neither remedy nor defense; none is here provided.

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