

# ATTENDANCE POLICY

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## Attendance and Online Participation Policy

The model of learning practiced in the College of Adult & Professional Studies and in the Graduate School relies on active, self-directed students who enhance each other's learning interactively. Students are accountable not only for completing individual work, but also for participating in all interactive learning activities designed by course faculty in the following ways:

- Online interaction as directed by faculty.
- Energetic participation in classroom sessions.
- Participation in clinicals, field tours, etc.

A student is considered to have participated in an online course by participating in measurable activities as assigned such as graded work, synchronous, interactive, and collaborative activities.

The attendance and participation policy emphasizes faculty and student responsibility for interactive adult learning in the following ways:

- In course syllabi, faculty will designate the value of participation in interactive learning activities in the classroom, in the field, and online.
- Students are responsible to participate in and complete all interactive learning activities and to master their content.
- Full (100%) course participation is defined by completion of all activities as assigned.
- Course syllabi will indicate whether make-up work is or is not appropriate for attendance in the classroom or participation in designated learning activities.
- Absence or non-participation due to illness or other emergency may be excused at the discretion of the faculty.
- Students should expect that non-participation in interactive activities associated with more than 20% of the schedule of the course will reduce a course grade or risk course failure. For face-to-face and hybrid courses, this includes attending at least 80% of scheduled face-to-face time.
- At the discretion of the institution, lack of participation during the first two weeks of a course may result in course registration being dropped; this may affect financial aid award. Multiple instances of course registrations being dropped for non-participation may result in all registration

being dropped for the student and an unofficial withdrawal being recorded.

## Program-specific Attendance Requirements

In addition to those programs listed here, other programs may communicate additional attendance requirements by means of a program handbook and/or in individual course syllabi.

### Physician Assistant Program Attendance

The Physician Assistant (PA) Program is committed to the development of PA professionals. Courses are designed to build upon previous knowledge as well as cover large volumes of material in a short amount of time. Because of these factors, attendance is mandatory. The PA Student Handbook will be reviewed with students at a mandatory program orientation and has more details about attendance including the policy on medical leave. The faculty does recognize that students have outside obligations, and that situations may arise that cause a student to be absent or tardy. Therefore, the following guidelines will serve as the basis for faculty actions:

1. Attendance on all class days and clinical days is expected. Tardiness, with rare exception, will not be allowed for professionalism issues.
2. It is expected that students will utilize term or rotation breaks for vacation and other personal needs such as weddings, trips, etc. Vacations are not permitted during class days.
3. It is understood that unscheduled absences during the program are possible, including illness and other unforeseen problems that prevent a student from attending clinical or class. Excessive absence, however, may be grounds for dismissal. Greater than 3 absences during Summer Session or greater than 5 absences during Spring Semester or Fall Semester will be referred to the PA program's Progress & Promotions committee for assessment of the situation and recommendations.

## Attendance Requirements for Students Auditing a Course

Auditing is defined as "observation in the classroom setting." Auditors are required to meet the attendance and other requirements set by the instructor. Auditors who do not meet the attendance and other requirements will be graded WZ. Participation for auditors beyond attendance in class activities is at the instructor's discretion. A student may change to or from audit status with the instructor's approval only during the first 60% of the course.