

## Attendance and Disability

**Students need to be aware that exceptions to attendance policies may not always be possible given the nature of the individual course, curriculum, or program. It is recommended that students should meet with their instructors early in the semester to discuss this accommodation.**

It is critical that the student with an Attendance Accommodation understand:

- Students are expected to be present for all scheduled class times unless unable they are to attend due to an exacerbation of the symptoms of their disability.
- All students, including students who have an Attendance Accommodation, must meet the fundamental objectives and essential requirements of the class in order to successfully complete the course.
- Students are expected to inform faculty and other affected parties (i.e. clinical supervisor, field instructor, Disability Specialist, etc.) when they miss class and why. If unable to reach the faculty member, the student should contact their Disability Specialist as soon as possible.
- It is the student's responsibility to work with faculty to determine how best to compensate for any missed classes/course work. Faculty are not obligated to re-teach material missed due to absence.
- Students need to observe deadlines for submission of assignments. Extension of deadlines and making up exams cannot be guaranteed and will be considered on a case by case basis with the faculty.
- Students should familiarize themselves with each individual course attendance policy as stated by the instructor or in the class syllabus.
- The Office of Accessibility is available for consultation if faculty becomes concerned when the number of absences begins to fundamentally alter the essential elements of the course. The faculty member, Disability Specialist, and student can discuss what options are available to the student at that time.

### Discussion points for student, disability specialist and faculty member

- Would modification of attendance policies be a fundamental alteration of the course or curriculum?
- Are classroom interactions and dialogue between the instructor and students and among students a fundamental element of the course?
- Does student participation constitute a significant component of the learning process for the class?
- Does the fundamental nature of the course rely on student participation as an essential method for learning?
- To what degree does a student's failure to attend class constitute a significant loss to the educational experience of the class as a whole?
- Are attendance requirements listed in the course syllabus? What are the classroom practices and policies regarding attendance?
- What method is used to calculate a final grade for the course?