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October 2, 2017

RE: Economics department student class attendance policy

The economics department supports each of our faculty members in adhering to the guidelines for student attendance and engagement in our courses as detailed in the College's faculty handbook. Accordingly, the department's policy on class attendance is as follows.[†]

Students are expected to attend all of their classes and scheduled course events in any semester or January term and are responsible for any work missed. Failure to attend can lead to a warning, grading penalties, and/or dismissal from the course by the instructor with a failing grade.

Attendance and absence policies differ among departments and programs, and among specific courses and instructors. Each professor will explain her or his own rules at the beginning of a course, and will provide this information on a printed syllabus. This information may also be provided on a course web site.

Individual instructors determine whether students can be excused from classes or scheduled course events, whether exams can be postponed, or deadlines extended. Instructors also determine whether options are available for completing work when College-sponsored activities or events (e.g., musical performances or athletic competitions) conflict with a class, lab or exam. Instructors may require work to be completed during the regularly scheduled time. It is the responsibility of students to communicate promptly and directly with instructors concerning these matters.

Excuses may be granted at the instructor's discretion for the following reasons: critical emergencies (normally verified by the Office of the Dean of the College), athletic or organizational trips, or illness (normally verified by the College Health Center). Students on academic probation should know that they cannot be excused from any class because of extracurricular or athletic activities.

College policy states that students are not permitted to miss a class for a practice. Students are permitted to miss a class for an athletic contest but only at the discretion of the instructor of that class. Individual instructors have the authority and discretion to decide whether students may be excused from classes or scheduled course events for any reason, including athletics. Own policies on missed classes must be stated on the syllabus and/or course web site at the beginning of the semester. Students should be held responsible for following policies, but these policies must be announced and available.

[†]Taken from Faculty Relationships with Students, Section II.B., page 72, revised version September 2017. Supporting policies and guidelines also appear in Appendix VII on page 118 of the Faculty Handbook.