DAVIDSON COLLEGE

Scholar-Athlete Class Absence Notification Form

Course Title: _____

Absences due to Athletic Events

"Davidson College policies require that schedules for athletic and other college sponsored extracurricular activities may not require any student to miss more than three Monday/Wednesday/Friday, two Tuesday/Thursday, or two Monday/Wednesday classes or laboratories" (Academic Regulations). The Educational Policy Committee (EPC) reviews athletic schedules each year to ensure compliance with the regulations. The VPAA in consultation with the EPC may approve appeals for one additional absence during the regular season, as well as appeals for absences needed for teams engaged in postseason play.

Division of the Day

In 1992, the Davidson College faculty discussed the College Daily Schedule with the aim of providing students with access to the full College experience without scheduling conflicts. The faculty determined that on weekdays, from 8:05 am to 4:20pm, academics are a student's top priority; during that time, students should not be asked to compromise academic work for conflicts related to athletics. In addition to classes, the period between 8:05am and 4:20pm should be reserved for meetings with professors, visits to the writing or tutoring centers, and the like. On weekdays after 4:20pm, students should be free to be able to take full advantage of all College activities, including athletics, music ensemble and theatre rehearsals, and club meetings.

Faculty may require students to attend special, "one off" academic events after 4:20 pm, but they must offer alternate times and/or alternate events for a student for whom the event conflicts with a mandatory athletic commitment. Faculty, students, and coaches should collaborate to maximize students' access to educational experiences whenever possible.

Name: _____

Sport: _____

Head Coach's name and contact info: _____

I will miss your class on the following dates for my sport (two TR or three MWF):

1: _____

2: _____

3: _____

I have VPAA and EPC approval for an additional absence (3rd TR/MW or 4th MWF) on the following date: _____

*Note that absences required for athletic play-offs are separate from"regular-season" absences.

As the student-athlete completing this form, I acknowledge that I am responsible for materials or assignments occurring during my absence. I will notify my professors of any changes to the schedule.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

FAQS

I have to miss some classes (already approved by the faculty's Educational Policy Committee) during the semester. What should I do?
Give this paper to your instructors during the first week of class. Review your syllabi to determine important assignments and deadlines. Follow-up with your professors when it gets closer to the missed days to determine if there is work you need to complete in advance.

Can I enroll in a class that ends at 4:20pm if I am an athlete?
Yes. Coaches know that classes end at 4:20pm. Concerns about athletic schedules should not deter you from taking a course. You are permitted to wear your practice uniform to class to save time.

Can I attend a class remotely to avoid an absence while traveling with a team? No.

Am I allowed to do weightlifting or an individual workout during the academic day, prior to 4:20pm?
Yes. This is fine, as long as it does not impact an academic obligation. You should go to office hours during the day and you will not be penalized for prioritizing an academic responsibility. Athletic staff should provide alternative times for your workout or lift if it conflicts with academics during the day.

What happens if I have academic and athletic events both scheduled during "Common Hour?"
Common hour is on Tuesday and Thursday from 11:05am-12:05pm. This is a good time to attend an Apprentice Teacher (AT) or tutoring session if offered then, go to office hours if offered then, or to catch up on homework. You may be able to fit in a workout during this time (coming to class immediately afterwards is fine). In the event of a schedule conflict between academic activities and athletic events, you should prioritize your academic work during Common Hour.

I'd like to go to an educational lecture or performance at night, but I have practice. What should I do?
Talk to your coach. There is typically a lot of flexibility given in terms of missing a practice for an academic purpose. Faculty members should provide alternatives in case an event is a "one time affair" and a required part of coursework. You can talk to your professor about your options.

How do absences approved by the Educational Policy Committee intersect with other absences I may have during the semester?
The Academic Regulations state, "A student who is absent from more than one-fourth of the course meetings scheduled by the instructor shall be assigned a grade of F, unless the instructor specifies a different policy at the beginning of the course." Athletic absences count toward the "one-fourth of course meetings," so you should attend class at all other times unless you are ill or have a serious personal conflict.

How will missing class and coursework for my sport affect my grade?
It's your responsibility to complete any required work for a particular class meeting, but the professor will not deduct participation points for a day that you are required to be absent for your sport. Knowing that you will be absent for your sport, keep in mind that your participation when you *are* in class will count more. You can also ask your professor for further guidance.

Whom do I go to if I have questions about the procedures regarding priorities before and after 4:20 pm?
It's best to start with the people you are working with directly. E-mail both the professor and head coach together to outline the situation and work towards a solution. You can also talk to your advisers if you need guidance. Clear and ongoing communication is essential.

For questions beyond what is covered in this form, please connect with your professor and/or coach.