

RATIONALE

Drake University sponsors intercollegiate athletic programs. Participants in these programs are bound to the same standard of academic excellence expected of all students. To ensure this standard, the University recruits and enrolls student-athletes who have the intellectual abilities necessary to succeed in the classroom. Since the pursuit of both academic and athletic excellence is a time-intensive activity, it is inevitable that student-athletes will face conflicts between their class and athletic schedules. The purpose of this policy, in compliance with NCAA regulation 3.2.4.13 as stipulated below, is to set forth principles and procedures aimed at reducing conflicts, negotiating those that remain, and insuring both the integrity of the academic process as well as the just treatment of student-athletes.

3.2.4.13

Missed Class-Time Policies.

Active members are obligated to establish policies in all sports concerning student-athletes' missed class time due to participation in intercollegiate athletics and in athletics competition scheduled during final examination periods. In men's basketball, an institution's athletics participation schedule, which shall include the anticipated amount of missed class time due to athletics participation, shall be approved by the institution's faculty athletics representative or faculty oversight committee prior to the beginning of each regular academic term. (Adopted: 4/29/10 effective 8/1/10)

PRINCIPLES

1. In accord with NCAA and the Missouri Valley Conference regulations and with oversight of Intercollegiate Athletics Council (IAC), the athletics program will take every measure to minimize the number of classes student-athletes must miss due to athletic competition.
2. Athletic supervisors and coaches will take the academic calendar and schedule into consideration when scheduling athletic contests, practices and team meetings.
3. No student-athlete may absent him/herself from class to attend a practice session (NCAA Rule 17.1.6.6.1)
4. When an athletic competition takes place at Drake (i.e. a "home game"), student-athletes are authorized to be absent from class beginning one hour before the start of scheduled preparation for the competition. This may include warm up sessions, working with trainers and team meals. See missed class letter for details.
5. Authorized absences for official athletic competitions do not relieve student-athletes of their class responsibilities. They are responsible for any material, assignments or activities covered during a missed class.
6. Student-athletes will not be penalized academically when they miss a class due to intercollegiate athletic competition. Faculty should indicate on the course syllabus, available to students on the first day of class, the dates of all major exams, due dates for paper or project submissions, and dates of field trips and other mandatory class-related activities.

PROCEDURES

1. In the first week of class, preferably by the end of the first class, student-athletes must give each of their professors a copy of the 'missed class letter' issued by the Athletic department which details missed class dates and times for the student-athlete.
2. In the first week of class, student-athletes are responsible to review the syllabus, note potential conflicts, bring them to the attention of their professors and request reasonable accommodations in the event of missed quizzes, exams and assignments.
3. The faculty member will determine the accommodations, which shall neither penalize the student-athlete nor unfairly advantage him/her relative to other students. In the case of missed quizzes or exams, a faculty member may choose to have the quiz or exam administered and proctored through academic resources or athletics administration at the host institution.
4. The process of establishing accommodations should be concluded by the deadline to drop courses each semester. If after sincere efforts to reach agreement, the number of missed classes projected would jeopardize the student-athlete's successful completion of the course, the faculty member may recommend that the student-athlete enroll in another course where fewer scheduling conflicts would occur.
5. If a student-athlete is advised to select another course, he/she may ask for assistance from their advisor or Associate/Assistant Dean.
6. In the event that there is a conflict between missed class dates and core academic activities which cannot be avoided or resolved, the student-athlete shall immediately contact the Assistant Athletic Director for Student-Athlete Success to ascertain course impact or NCAA eligibility and discuss the best course of action.
7. In the event that there are changes to the course schedule and/or requirements distributed during the first ten days of the course, faculty should work with student athletes to accommodate any unforeseen conflicts.
8. In the event that there are unforeseen changes to the athletics schedules after the travel letter has been given to faculty, student athletes will proactively contact faculty to address any conflicts or missed work and seek accommodations.

Approved by:

Effective Date: