



To: Undergraduate Students in the Krieger and Whiting Schools

From: Toni Blackwell  
Senior Associate Dean of Students

Re: ABSENCE FROM CLASS DUE TO ILLNESS

The Student Health and Wellness Center does not provide excuses for students who miss individual classes, including required attendance classes or labs. If you are seen at the Health Center for a serious or extended illness that causes you to miss a number of classes over several days or major academic assignments, such as mid-terms examinations and major presentations, the Health Center will provide verification of the visit to you and also alert the Office of the Dean of Student Life. Verification will not be provided retroactively. It is your responsibility to forward the verification to your professors/instructors who request it.

Since, the absence from a final examination is excused only for the most serious of circumstances, the Health Center will provide verification of your visit, for those students who are seen at the Center for treatment, **at the time of their illness only**.

Students should be guided by the following:

- 1) You should ask your instructors about expectations for class attendance and what procedures they will follow for students who miss class or assignments. Such policies are determined by each instructor and will differ from class to class.
- 2) If you miss class or are unable to complete course work due to illness you should contact your instructor to make whatever arrangements are necessary to make up any work.
- 3) If you will miss class or are unable to complete assignments due to an illness, notify your professor promptly by email. This should be done **before** you miss class unless you are unable to do so (for example, if you are hospitalized or incapacitated). If you are unable to notify your professor of a missed class or assignment prior to class, notify your professor **as soon as possible**.
- 4) You are reminded that misrepresenting your personal circumstances to a faculty member, Student Health and Wellness staff, or any university official constitutes academic dishonesty and is grounds for action by the Academic Ethics Board.

Please contact [DeanofStudents@Jhu.edu](mailto:DeanofStudents@Jhu.edu) with any questions regarding this policy.