

Rules for Class Attendance

Legitimate excuses for missing class

- I was injured and was taken to the hospital (and here is the note from the doctor/paramedic/ambulance driver)
- I was sick (and here is the note from the Dean/doctor/faith healer/local voodoo priest)
- I am on the verge of a nervous breakdown (and here is the note from the Dean/shrink/licensed mental health care professional)
- I play competitive sports and will be away that day for a match/meet/mud-wrestling contest [Note future tense]
- My dorm room flooded/burned down/fell over in an earthquake (and here is the notice from the newspaper/the Dean/the Fire Marshal/the Army Corps of Engineers)
- A close relative was very sick/injured/dying/dead so I had to fly out of town (and here is the notice from my family/the Dean/the hospital/the funeral home)

Non-excuses for missing class *

- I needed to pick my mother up at the airport
- My boyfriend/girlfriend/long-lost cousin arrived unexpectedly in town
- My boyfriend/girlfriend/alien lover broke up with me
- I am taking two classes whose time slots overlap
- One of my cats has a urinary tract infection, and I needed to take him to the vet
- Like, my alarm clock fell off of my shelf overnight and shattered into a dozen of plastic pieces, so it didn't, like, go off this morning. I think my roommate must have done it when she was, like, drunk.
- I had work for my other classes
- I am not really interested in _____ (insert topic of the week)
- I actually believed those Master Card ads that say I deserve to do whatever I want
- My dog/cat/goldfish/pet mongoose died
- There was a rerun of *Star Trek* on TV
- The lecture conflicted with my aqua-aerobics class
- I invented a time machine for my senior project and was trapped in 2071 when everyone else was in class, but I promise that three years from now, when I've gotten all the bugs out of the system, I'll go back to last week and make up the class, so you won't even remember we had this conversation.

Note: You get up to TWO unexcused absences without penalty per semester.

* All of which your professor has actually heard while at MIT.