



Policy: Pandemic Continuity of Learning Policy

Responsible Office: SOE Department Chairs (Yolanda Abel, Christina Harnett, Mary-Ellen Beaty-O’Ferrall), Office of Student Affairs (Teri Murray)

Approved by: Hunter Gehlbach, Vice Dean of Academic Affairs

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Rationale

The purpose of this policy is to address continuity of learning for a student who has been affected by the COVID pandemic. The policy is intended to address disruptions in student learning due to an *off-duty* designation that does not allow a student to attend class in person. *Off-duty* status means the student has been officially identified by the University as deferred from on-campus activities, including classes, for a period of time. The goal of the policy is to prevent learning inequity arising from health issues that are beyond the student’s control. The following represents the current SOE policy.

Off-Duty Designation

The process for officially designating a student as *off-duty* is described as:

Students are reported to their respective school’s Student Affairs representative by the University. In turn, SOE Office of Student Affairs will notify faculty that the student should not be on campus or in classes (these students can be in isolation because of exposure, in testing protocol awaiting results, or positive for COVID). When a student requests that faculty be alerted to their status, faculty may be contacted directly by the Covid Call Center or the Student Health and Wellness Center to alert them to the off-duty status of the individual.

Return to Class

When a student is cleared to return to classes by the university, faculty will be notified by SOE Student Affairs. If the student has been cleared, but the notification has not yet come through Student Affairs, the student may notify their instructor that they have been cleared and return to class.

Guidance for Faculty to Support “Off-Duty” Student Learning:

As you are thinking about supporting individual students, please be flexible in facilitating the continuity of learning for “off-duty” students.

- Students may not be penalized for missing a class if they are “off-duty.”
- Currently, faculty are not required to provide a virtual attendance option per SOE policy on face-to-face classes.

Some suggested strategies for supporting students:

- Make learning resources available
- Encourage students to consult with you/your TA during office hours
- Encourage students to connect with other students in the class; set up a buddy system
- Provide make-up work
- Modify attendance and work requirements
- Record live lectures for later use

This policy may be amended as needed in response to emergent pandemic-related issues.

If you need further support, please contact your department chair.

JHU COVID Resources:

<https://covidinfo.jhu.edu/information-for-faculty-researchers/>

<https://covidinfo.jhu.edu/diagnostic-testing/johns-hopkins-covid-19-call-center/>