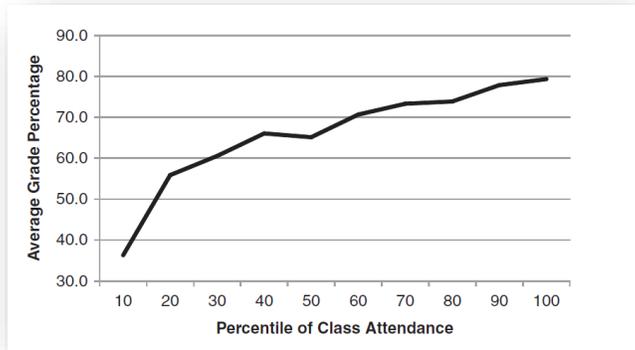


Super Charge Your Education!

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Good attendance = good grades. Take a look at the graph below tracking class attendance and course grades:



⇨ Illustration of the relationship between attendance and grade outcomes. Data from Gendron and Pieper, cited in Credé, Roch, and Kieszczynka, 2010.

“The following are valid excuses for skipping class: I have a fever of 105 degrees; I need to fly to L.A. to accept an Academy Award; today in class we are reviewing a book I wrote; my leg is caught in a bear trap. The moral of this exercise: **Always go to class!**”

— Cal Newport, from *How to Win at College*

Why does attendance matter so much?



If you have circumstances where you can't make it, make sure to review the material they went over because teachers still put important information in lectures that can't be translated onto a power point. --Junior history major & ARC tutor

- College material is a lot harder than in high school. Take advantage of *every part* of your classes (homework, reading, study groups, student-teacher conferences, study guides, and yes, class attendance).
- A lot more happens in class that what can be captured in class notes like class discussion, Q&A opportunities, hands-on activities, demonstrations, and group activities.
- Your instructor will note your absences, which makes a poor impression and reduces opportunities for future interactions. You might not ask a question the next class because of the potential embarrassment of the instructor saying that was covered in the last class, which you apparently missed.
- It's hard to be prepared for upcoming assignments if you don't go to class on a regular basis. You might be able to wing it, but the amount of time you spend trying to undo the damage you've done by skipping class is more time consuming than just going to class in the first place.
- If you are worried that the class will be all lecture and just a rehash of the material you read in the textbook, then you can always study in class. “It's the best study location on campus!” says Cal Newport. Even if your professor just goes over the reading, such a review means one less hour you have to spend studying later.
- In class, instructors give direct and subtle indicators about which material is important for the test.
- Justifying skipping one class makes it mentally easier to justify skipping a lot of classes, and suddenly it is hard to talk yourself into going to class. Attending class faithfully is a sign to yourself, and your professor, that you are taking academics seriously.

MONEY TO BURN?

Each semester's tuition at EC is \$10,176. Assuming you are taking 12 hours, that breaks down to **\$60** each class session, whether you attend or not.



When you have to be absent:

- Let the instructor know ahead of time why you won't be there; send an email first thing that morning when you know you are sick. Don't expect the instructor to ask you for your excuse or to excuse an absence days or even weeks later.
- Expect to turn in work on time, unless you have made explicit arrangements with the instructor to get an extension.
- You are still responsible for what happened in class, so ask around to find out if there are any new assignments or changes to deadlines, and what is expected in the next class when you return.

References

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