

October 20, 2009

Student FAQ—Missing Class and Making Up Assignments

Q: If I have been exposed to H1N1 flu but don't have symptoms, should I stay away from class?

A: No. You need to attend class. Monitor your health. If you become ill, notify Student Health and your instructors and stay home. Remember to wash your hands or use hand sanitizer often and to cover your cough or cough into your elbow.

Q: If I become ill with H1N1 flu-like symptoms, do I need to inform my instructor?

A: Yes. Notify your instructor by e-mail and ask how to make up missed classes, tests, and assignments. Make sure to copy that e-mail to our Student Health coordinator, Stacey Grunewald (sgrunewa@umn.edu).

Q: If I am absent due to the flu, am I responsible for what was covered in class?

A: Yes. You are responsible for all course requirements, deadlines, and exams. Make arrangements with your instructor or classmates to find out what was covered.

Q: How can I keep up with what's covered in lectures and labs?

A: Establish a habit of sharing notes with your classmates and lab partners. If your instructor agrees, ask a classmate to record classes or see if you can participate remotely, for example, by listening through a classmate's speaker phone.

Q: How much time will I have to catch up with assignments and other course requirements?

A: This is at the discretion of your instructor. All instructors have been asked to be flexible.

Q: What resources are available to help me catch up?

A: The Academic Assistance Center in Owen Hall 270 is a great resource for this.

Q: What if I can't make up some required activity for a course?

A: The key is to communicate with your instructor to discuss options. This can be done via e-mail or phone. Your instructor may substitute another activity. University policy states: "Students will not be penalized for absence during the semester due to unavoidable or legitimate circumstances."

Q: If I have H1N1 flu-like symptoms, when can I safely return to class?

A: When you've recovered and are without a fever for 24 hours, without fever-reducing medication.

Q: If I've recovered, do I need to bring a doctor's note excusing my absence from class?

A: No.

Q: Will classes or other campus activities be canceled if enough students get sick?

A: At this time we expect that classes and campus activities will continue as scheduled throughout the fall semester.

Q: If the University does need to cancel classes or activities, how will I be informed?

A: We will inform you immediately through multiple means (e.g., TextU, e-mail, University Web site).