LSU Ensemble Events Necessitating Student Absence from Class
2017-2018

FALL SEMESTER

Football pep band*
   Oct. 6 – depart 8:00 a.m.
   Oct. 22 – depart 3:00 p.m.
   Nov. 3 – depart 3:00 p.m.
   Nov. 17 – depart 8:00 a.m.

*The same student need not perform at all pep band events. A rotation system allows students to choose to attend multiple events. Students are urged to miss class as little as possible.

All bands (marching and sit down)
   Nov. 20 – Tigerama, 9:00-noon performance, for the area schools
   Nov. 21 – Tigerama, noon departure, Saenger Theatre, New Orleans**

**The increase in Tigerama performances anticipates student recruitment and financial benefit to the SoM.

Full marching band
   Dec. 1 – SEC Championship game (unlikely)

A Cappella Choir
   Nov. 29 – 11:00-2:00, Rotary Club performance

SPRING SEMESTER

Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Winds
   Jan. 26 – Conductor’s Art Symposium
      9:00-11:30 - Symphonic Winds
      2:00-6:00 – Wind Ensemble

Basketball Pep Band***
   Feb 28-Mar 4 – Women’s SEC
   Mar 7-11 – Men’s SEC
   Mar 13-14, 15-18, 22-25, 30-Apr 2 – Men’s NCAA
   Mar 16-19, 23-26, 30-Apr 1 – Women’s NCAA

*** These are the maximum number of days. Actual days on the road depend on how the teams perform. A rotation system allows students to choose to attend multiple events. Students are urged to miss class as little as possible.
Group Excused Absences: The Process
School of Music
Effective 11/1/2017

Discussions involving Dean, Director, the Music Advisory Committee, and the Ensemble Directors Council have delivered a process for more adequately addressing group excused absences. Our discussions have been rooted in one principled position, that class/ensemble conflicts should be kept to a minimum because we value student attendance. Some conflicts, however, are inevitable, even inherent to the School of Music culture of service, outreach, and engagement. It is in these cases that we endeavor to live by a process that is sensible, clear, and known by faculty and students. As the process is applied, we will take stock of how it is working.

Group Excused Absences
The SoM Process:

1. No later than two weeks before the start of fall classes, the lead faculty member will request the Dean’s validation of group absence from class.

2. For each request, the dean, in demonstrating good stewardship of the School’s human and material resources, will consider the intersections of pedagogical priorities, the student experience, and the School’s inherent obligations.

3. One week before the start of fall classes, a complete list of validated group absences will be available to all faculty.

4. No later than 3 weeks prior to the event, the lead faculty member will have prepared an excuse letter, the list of students involved, acquired the Dean’s signature, and distributed to his/her students.*

*There may be exceptions. The precise days and times to be away for tournament basketball band, for example, are not known until several days before the event.

5. Student responsibility. Each student will notify the appropriate teacher(s) through email no less than one week before a validated group absence. The Dean’s excuse letter and a list of all students involved will be attached to the email. Failure to notify the teacher one week in advance may result in forfeiture of the student’s right to “make up” class material missed.** For group absences, number 5 defines “reasonable advance notification and appropriate documentation” found in PS 22.

**See the exceptions comment above.

6. It is the responsibility of ensemble directors to explain this process to their captive student groups both verbally and in writing (syllabus) and, in so doing, give this matter high priority. As outlined in PS 22, it is the responsibility of faculty members to assist students in making up, as much as possible, material missed. It is the responsibility of students to be proactive about make up work.
Group Excused Absences
Timeline:

1. 2 weeks prior to fall semester – lead faculty requests Dean’s validation
2. 1 week prior to fall semester – director distributes semester list of validated group absences
3. 3 weeks prior to event – lead faculty distributes to students an excuse letter w/dean’s signature and list of students who will miss class*
4. 1 week prior to event – students communicate with faculty through email and in person as appropriate

*There may be exceptions that do not fit well with the above schedule. The precise days and times to be away for tournament basketball band, for example, are not known until several days before the event.