Frequently Asked Questions

Can I ask a peer to provide supplementary notes?

Please Note: ARS does not consider Supplementary Notes to be an accommodation, it is a service and ARS cannot make any guarantees concerning the quality or availability of class notes. Students should make use of the Learning Center to develop their independent notetaking skills and use, where appropriate, assistive technology resources available. ARS can, as an accommodation, loan students a SmartPen, Digital Recorder or the Audio Notetaker smartphone app and computer application.

Following the receipt of a Supplementary Notes Request, ARS will email all students in the class for which you are requesting notes inviting volunteers. Up to 3 e-mail invitations will be issued.

- Volunteer note takers will not be given your details i.e. a volunteer will not know the identity of the person receiving their notes.
- The volunteer note taker will be asked to upload their notes into Sakai for your use.
- The volunteer will receive 'credit hours' for their assistance.
- Students who receive supplementary notes are responsible for attending class and for being an active participant in the learning process.

Class Attendance
Accessibility Resources & Service cannot issue official written excuses for absences. We do not determine attendance policies for faculty. We can provide written verification of a medical condition that might cause a student to miss a class. This verification may address the legitimacy of, but not excuse, an absence. However, if class attendance/participation is an essential requirement, reasonable accommodations may not be possible.

The following legislation by the Faculty Council gives each instructor the authority to prescribe attendance regulations for his or her class:

Regular class attendance is a student obligation, and a student is responsible for all the work, including tests and written work, of all class meetings. No right or privilege exists that permits a student to be absent from any class meetings except for excused absences for authorized University activities, or religious observances required by the student's faith.

And the Undergraduate Bulletin states:

Only course instructors excuse absences from class for valid reasons (illness or family emergency, religious observance, etc.). A student should present his or her explanation for any absences in writing to the course instructor in advance if the reason for the absence could be foreseen, or as soon as possible thereafter if the reason for the absence could not be foreseen.

Source URL: https://ars.unc.edu/students/FAQs