



SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
VICE CHANCELLOR AND PROVOST

September 2008

Dear Faculty, Part-time Instructors, Adjuncts, and TA's,

Faculty members have inquired whether Syracuse University has a position regarding the class absence of students who are required to travel as part of their obligations to intercollegiate athletics. As you perhaps know, Syracuse University participates in NCAA Division 1A sports competitions as scheduled by the Big East Conference and the NCAA Championship series. While our student athletes are obligated to meet both their academic and athletic commitments, there are times when required travel conflicts with class schedules and other academic commitments. I request that you not penalize these students for their required absences. Furthermore, I request that you accommodate, within an appropriate time frame, their need to fulfill their academic assignments.

As a Syracuse University instructor you should expect to receive a letter from the Student-Athlete Support Services' Office within the Department of Athletics prior to any travel commitments. This letter will state that student "X" is a member of team "Y," and will provide a specific travel schedule. This will give you an opportunity to talk with the student about how he or she might deal with the circumstances surrounding his or her required absence.

Sincerely,

Eric F. Spina

cc: Chancellor Nancy Cantor
Michael Wasylenko
Sandra Hurd
Erlease Wagner
Kenneth Miles
Academic Coordinating Committee

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