

Statement on Class Attendance

The Managing Board of the English Department at Georg-August-Universität Göttingen fully agrees with the statement on class attendance of the English Department of Münster University and hereby adopts it as follows:

We strive to make the English Department at the University of Göttingen a space for collaborative learning and scholarly exchange. Faculty and staff are committed to creating learning opportunities for students through in-class interaction as well as through forms of digital learning. The engaged classroom is a space in which a unique teaching and learning experience occurs. It cannot be replicated through only using uploaded slides or sharing notes. We encourage our students to attend classes regularly, to contribute to the collaborative learning environment and to make use of networking, feedback and support structures in the classroom throughout the semester.

Instructors are expected to clearly communicate course expectations and requirements, including information on attendance through their syllabi and other course materials.

Students who cannot attend are responsible for staying informed about course requirements and to fulfill all assignments designated in the official "Prüfungsordnung." Those who do not attend class regularly are expected to catch up on missed discussions and content by familiarizing themselves with course materials, reading additional material, and communicating with fellow students.

Students should be aware that completing an end-of-semester assignment or preparing for a final exam may be more challenging and time-consuming if they have not consistently engaged with the course materials throughout the semester. In some courses, attendance is required. Even in courses where it is not required, experience shows that regular attendance in class can be a predictor of successful learning outcomes.

We are mindful of students' well-being, and acknowledge that students may face various challenges, such as chronic illnesses, disabilities, health issues, work responsibilities, and financial constraints, which can have an impact on their ability to attend classes regularly. Nevertheless, academic English is best learned via its regular and extensive use in the classroom. All of our courses are taught in English and offer extensive opportunities to foster students' English language competences. Students should seize these opportunities for their personal learning success as well as for their future careers.

Together, we can make the English Department at the University of Göttingen a space for interactive, collaborative learning and scholarly exchange.