

Re: Events in Iran – Student Absence Policy

To whom it may concern,

I am reaching out to you regarding the recent murder of Zhina Amini. As a student, I have been directly affected by this atrocity and have been dealing with the mental health toll that it has taken on me. I have attached the new “*student absence policy form*”, an official document from the university.

For context, please read the following articles discussing exactly what has happened in Iran, I hope that you'll understand the stress and toll that this has taken on myself and many other students.

- <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/9/16/iranian-woman-dies-after-moral-polices-detention-reports>
- <https://time.com/6214636/mahsa-amini-iran-death-outcry/>
- <https://www.forbes.com/sites/emmawoollacott/2022/09/22/iran-shuts-down-whatsapp-and-instagram-as-protests-spread/?sh=574fe3b35154>

Due to a lack of internet in Iran, many students are currently unable to even connect with their families back home, leaving us with severe anxiety, sadness, and fear. Due to these reasons, as well as the overall anxiety that this situation has caused, I will be taking up to 120 hours off of my schoolwork. I appreciate your understanding in this situation and I am incredibly grateful for your understanding in this case.

If you have any questions, please direct them to the student advocacy office (https://umanitoba.ca/student-supports/academic-supports/student-advocacy_) And they can answer any of your questions. Once again, I appreciate your understanding and look forward to returning to class once this situation has changed. If you require any additional information on the new student absence policy, please refer to the article below.

- <https://news.umanitoba.ca/new-student-absence-policy/>

Thank you very much for your support. I look forward to reconnecting with you upon my return to class.

All the best.