The General Assembly of North Carolina enacted G.S. 116-11(3a), a law mandating the establishment of excused absences for religious observance by students.

1. The University allows up to two (2) excused absences per academic term for religious observances required by the faith of a student.

2. Instructors have the authority to specify, by posting on their course syllabi, the requirements that students must follow in requesting an excused absence for religious observances. These requirements may include, but are not limited to, providing written notice to the instructor, the amount of lead time required prior to the religious observance, the nature of the religious observance and confirmation of the student's participation in writing by an official of the religious organization. All requests for absences for religious observances and the supporting documentation must be maintained by the student’s academic college/school.

3. When appropriate notice is provided by a student, the student must be granted up to two (2) excused absences per academic term under this policy and must be allowed to satisfy missed assignments, tests/exams, or other course work disseminated during the period of absence, including requirements to complete anticipated tests/exams or assignments in advance of the originally scheduled
date. Beyond the terms and limits of this policy, instructors maintain authority to establish and enforce the attendance policy in their respective courses.

The requirement for students to make such requests for excused absences applies only to days when the University is holding class.

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