

Appendix B

Some of the reasons for not attending lectures quoted by medical and nursing students at the University of Ottawa:

Medical Students quoted:

- Mostly just if they are early in the morning.
- Frustration at the organization of the lecture slides as well as teaching style.
- One of the main reasons this year however were wellness reasons because of things happening at home.
- Content is irrelevant to the block, or not clinically relevant.
- Disengaged professors, not interested in teaching.
- There should never be a need for mandatory attendance.
- If students recognize a value to the lecture, they will attend - if they do not it is their tuition money down the drain.
- Disinterest in some of the material.
- It is easier for me to learn if I can pause/play the recorded presentations.
- For some topics, I do not find that auditory learning is effective. I need to read the slides, for example, embryology.
- Health reasons.
- If time is better spent elsewhere (research deadlines or exam prep). Too many back to back lectures have too much information not related to objectives.
- Self-directed learner

While nursing Students quoted:

- There needs to be a way for lectures to be more engaging with the class.
- I believe the main reason students do not attend lectures is because they do not like the course material to begin with, or they do not care about their learning and/or mark in the class.
- The main reason why I do not attend classes sometimes is because some courses are only given early in the morning, and the course itself is intense.
- The traditional lecture style where a professor just stands in front of the class is not engaging enough.
- Sitting in a classroom for a 3 hours lecture is not fun. Instead, I think they should split the hours in half and have the lecture twice a week.
- The professor may not be comfortable speaking the language in which the lecture is held or when the class is being taught by four different professors.
- Physical classroom characteristics are very often ignored.
- Classes are so big (~150 students).
- Nursing students have to go to a minimum of four campuses in a week. I spend an average of 3 hours a good day on buses going from campus to campus and then home.