

Missouri State University

Office of the Provost

Policy on Use of Cell Phones in Classes

As a member of the learning community, each student has a responsibility to other students who are members of the community. When cell phones or pagers ring and students respond in class or leave class to respond, it disrupts the class. Therefore, the Office of the Provost prohibits the use by students of cell phones, pagers, PDAs, or similar communication devices during scheduled classes. All such devices must be turned off or put in a silent mode and cannot be taken out during class. At the discretion of the instructor, exception to this policy is possible in special circumstances.

Sanctions for violation of this policy are determined by the instructor and may include dismissal from the class—see Class Disruption (<http://www.missouristate.edu/registrar/classdis.html>). In testing situations, use of cell phones or similar communication devices, or any other electronic or data storage device, may lead also to a charge of academic dishonesty and additional sanctions under the *Student Academic Integrity Policies and Procedures* (<http://www.missouristate.edu/provost/22102.htm>).

There are two appeal processes available to students. A sanction for class disruption may be appealed using the appeal process stated in the Class Disruption policy; however, a violation that involves a charge of academic dishonesty must be appealed using the process described in the *Student Academic Integrity Policies and Procedures*.