

uOttawa Varsity Track & Field / X-Country Team

Academic Standards 2018-19

This is the 2nd year for a new approach to GG Track & Field / Cross Country that was initiated effective immediately for Fall 2017 and moving forward.

IT IS UNDERSTOOD BY THE STUDENT-ATHLETE:

That for any academic COURSE DROPS, you will be required to report to the Head Coach and to Danika Smith in Sport Services. Our team mentors will assist you in this contact as well as myself. **NO ONE can drop below 4 courses** without permission from Danika and the Head Coach must be fully aware of this situation as well.

The success of the academic outcome of your exams, *tests, assignments, final Fall semester grades* will be critical to a student-athlete being allowed to travel and compete with the team.

Meeting mandatory attendance with our academic mentors, tutors and use of the academic centre support is not enough. The key will be your ability to focus, develop time management skills and improving the way you do business when writing tests and exams.

The final step will be your **“transparency”** to reach out to key staff. If you want, you can include testing feedback to your mentors. Your privacy will be respected in all these matters. We need to sense your enthusiasm to be a successful student-athlete as much as your training and efforts to be great in the sport. The transparency process will consist of YOU sending the Head Coach the grade results of any course evaluation outcome. I need this done by email for my record keeping. You can send me a snapshot of your student record whenever a grade is posted or just an image of your grade on a paper to make things happen quickly.

Track & Field / X-Country Team Academic Expectations

These minimum GPA's are based on the SA's (Student-Athlete) most recent **ANNUAL GPA** ... which is more lenient and easier to effect a change than using CUMULATIVE GPA. Of course for 2nd year students returning to the team, this is also their Cumulative GPA as well.

Track & Field / Cross Country Academic GPA Minimums

Rookies – Have no team GPA minimum but are expected to proactively seek help with our academic support system. Some Year 1 SA's could be mandated to attend study hall and receive tutoring. You will hear directly from the Head Coach followed by the team mentors.

2nd Year – 5.0 GPA (Annual GPA)

3rd Year and on – 6.0 GPA (Annual GPA)

Failure to meet these academic expectations will result in “No away team travel”. The SA consequence could be no real competitive team involvement for a Fall semester or possibly the entire academic year. It is possible that the SA could choose to join the team and train with the team but they will be subject to study guidelines and expectations with tutors and be monitored by our team mentors and provide reports from their professors as well during each

semester to the Head Coach. Failure to meet the agreed upon study criteria will result in “no participation” in team organized training or team training privileges during the winter semester.

STUDENT-ATHLETE ACADEMIC APPEAL

**** Cross Country Team SA's** will generally have NO appealable route for this situation because they are returning to the team in a Fall Semester each season. At the start of Fall classes, nothing can be done or can be effectively proven by the SA to indicate that they are capable of making a change in their studies that can impact their GPA. However, the impact of course grades taken in the Spring and Summer sessions will be factored into the Annual GPA of the past year. This could change the team Annual GPA eligibility situation. The SA will need to advise the Head Coach of this so added grades can be considered. To appeal and implement a successful academic recovery plan during the Fall Semester to be reinstated for the Winter Semester, a SA should be within a 1.0 GPA of obtaining the team academic GPA minimums. Example – A 2nd year student would require a 4.0 to 4.9 GPA and a well-planned academic Fall Semester recovery strategy to be able to appeal for reinstatement for the Winter Semester Track Season.

**** Track Team SA's** can appeal to return to a team travel for the Winter Semester based their Fall Semester outcome and the support from their professors and recommendations from our Team Mentors. To appeal from a successful Fall Semester to be reinstated, an athlete would need to be within a 1.0 GPA of meeting the team academic GPA minimum. Example: A 2nd year student would require a 4.0 to 4.9 GPA and a successful academic Fall Semester to be able to appeal for a Winter Semester Team reinstatement. The impact of any grades from courses taken in the Spring and Summer sessions can be factored into the Annual GPA which could change their team eligibility. The SA needs to advise the Head Coach of the add grades so we can take this into consideration.

**** OTHER GROUNDS TO APPEAL** – appeals will be considered with special circumstances, compassionate grounds and historical academic grounds. Example – an SA's academic history where the Cumulative GPA is better than the Annual GPA being applied.

Here's to a great Student-Athlete experience at the University of Ottawa.

Andy McInnis - Head Coach / Director

University of Ottawa Varsity Track & Field / Cross Country