

## Supporting Students with Children in Class.

The following text is an example of what some faculty have used in their course outlines with regards to children in the classroom.

This text is not being formally recommended nor endorsed by the Association in any way – it is being provided here as a possible resource to faculty who are interested in how to accommodate students with children in class.

### **“Children in Class**

I commend anyone who is in school at the same time as they’re caring for children! I recognize the difficulty of balancing academic (and work) life with the demands of parenthood or childcare. I have adopted the following policies regarding children in class:

1. I will maintain high expectations for coursework regardless of circumstances related to children. I will, however, do my best to accommodate any issues related to the inevitable exhaustion and sleep deprivation associated with caring for young children.
2. Any breastfeeding babies are welcome in class as often as necessary.
3. Non-nursing children are allowed in class if other arrangements cannot be made. If you let me know in advance, I can supply a lap-top, earphones, and a Netflix subscription (“Paw Patrol” has its uses!). I understand that caregivers fall through, partners have conflicting schedules, children get sick, and other issues arise that leave few other options.
4. If children are in class, I invite parents/caregivers to sit at the back of class near the door. Other (non-parent/caregiver) students, please reserve seating near the door for your classmates with children.
5. All students are expected to join me in creating a welcoming environment that is respectful of classmates who bring children to class.
6. Due to health and safety concerns, children are not allowed in labs.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.” (original author unknown)