

Use of Mobile Devices, Laptops, etc. During Class

As research on learning shows, unexpected noises and movement automatically divert and capture people's attention, which means you are affecting everyone’s learning experience if your cell phone, pager, laptop, etc. makes noise or is visually distracting during class.

For this reason, I [insert the language that aligns with your sentiments]

* ask you to turn off your mobile devices and close your laptops during class.
* allow you to take notes on your laptop, but you must turn the sound off so that you do not disrupt other students' learning. If you are doing anything other than taking notes on your laptop, please sit in the back row so that other students are not distracted by your screen.

There are other variations based on your tolerance of such devices; the key is simply to communicate clearly to students what your expectations are.