HMS Departmental Policy on Use of Electronic Devices in the Classroom

The classroom is a place for learning; therefore, courtesy and respect are required by students and faculty. Electronic devices, such as cell phones, iPhones and all related devices, may not be used during class time. All such devices must be turned off and stored out of sight during class time. This includes tablets and laptop computers unless the tablet or laptop is being used exclusively for note-taking or other activities specifically approved for the classroom by the instructor. Checking e-mail, web-surfing, etc. during class are strictly prohibited. Students violating any part of this policy will be required to immediately turn off the device and put it out of sight, and are also subject to sanctions by the instructor. Such sanctions may include dismissal from the classroom for the remainder of the class time and academic penalty. Academic penalties could include a grade reduction (magnitude to be stated by the instructor in the syllabus). These penalties may be invoked for each violation, and may be increased for subsequent violations over the course of a semester at the discretion of the instructor (as stated in the syllabus).