

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS' COMMUNICATION

Approved by the Regents
April 21, 2011

ACTION REQUEST

ACTION REQUEST: Approval of Academic Calendar for 2013-2014

The attached calendar for the academic year 2013-2014 has been constructed using the established principles noted in previous communications (see attached).

Holiday Issues

There are no conflicts with religious holidays contained in this calendar.

Spring Break

Application of the University's principle of scheduling spring break in the eighth week of the winter term has resulted in the University break occurring not the last week in February, which is often the case, but the first week of March, Saturday, March 1 through Sunday, March 9.

We have communicated with the Ann Arbor Public School District, which in the past often tried to schedule a winter break that coincides with the UM academic calendar. We have been informed that new state requirements will mean that AAPS is unlikely to have much flexibility about when its breaks are set.

Number of Class Days

Fall term has 68 days; winter has 69 class days.

The proposed calendar has been vetted by faculty and administrative groups. I am writing to request your approval of the 2013-2014 academic calendar.

Respectfully submitted,



Philip J. Hanlon
Provost and Executive Vice
President for Academic Affairs

April 2011
Attachments

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Academic Calendar Guidelines

1. Classes cannot begin before Labor Day.
2. There should be a minimum of 67 class meeting days in a regular term. (UM academic calendars average 67-69 meeting days per term, although the accrediting body recommends 70 days.)
3. There must be a minimum of 13 class meetings for each day of the week.
4. The number of days for fall and winter terms should be as close to the same as possible.
5. There must be 6 exam days for fall and winter terms and 2 exam days for spring and summer terms.
6. There must be at least one study day before exams start, two if possible, including weekends.
7. Exams should not be scheduled on the first full day of Passover.
8. Spring commencement must be scheduled over a three day period that runs from Friday through Sunday. Winter term exams must be over by the Friday of commencement weekend.
9. Fall commencement must be on a Sunday. Fall commencement can be scheduled to take place before exams are over.
10. Football games are not a factor in setting the fall academic calendar.
11. There is a day off between the end of spring term and the beginning of summer term.
12. Spring term has one registration day and summer term has two registration days.
13. Spring term starts on the Monday following commencement.
14. Honors Convocation should not conflict with Easter or the first two days of Passover.
15. If the academic calendar includes two "study days" in the fall, final exams will run through December 23 every five or six years, sometimes twice in a row.

Since 2005, the Office of the Registrar has applied the following guidelines to make the academic calendar more consistent from year to year:

Fall

- Term start date: First Tuesday after the first Monday in September
(ensures starting after Labor Day)
- Term end date: Tuesday of the 15th week

Study days: Wednesday of the 15th week, following Saturday and Sunday
Exams: Thursday and Friday of the 15th week, Monday – Thursday of the 16th week

Exception: When the last exam day would be December 24, the last day of classes, the first study day, and all exams are moved one day sooner so that the final exam is on Wednesday, December 23. While some faculty and students may find this inconvenient, there is no business rule or religious conflict to support blocking December 23 from the exam schedule.

Winter

Term start date: First Wednesday after the first Monday in January
(ensures always starting after January 2)
Term end date: Tuesday of the 15th week
Study days: Wednesday of the 15th week, following Saturday and Sunday
Exams: Thursday and Friday of the 15th week, Monday – Thursday of the 16th week

**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN ACADEMIC CALENDAR
ANN ARBOR CAMPUS**

FALL TERM, 2013

*Registration (for students not pre-registered).....	Aug 30, Fri
Labor Day (Holiday)	Sept 2, Mon
Classes begin	Sept 3, Tues
Fall Study Break.....	Oct 14-15, Mon-Tues
Thanksgiving recess, 5:00 p.m.....	Nov 27, Wed
Classes end	Dec 11, Wed
Study Days.....	Dec 12, Thurs & Dec 14-15, Sat-Sun
Examinations	Dec 13, Fri & Dec 16-20, Mon-Fri
Commencement.....	Dec 15, Sun

68 class days: M=13, T=14, W=15, Th=13, F=13

**Rosh Hashanah 9/4 - 9/6; Yom Kippur 9/13 - 9/14; Hanukkah 11/27 - 12/5

WINTER TERM, 2014

*Registration (for students not pre-registered)	Jan 7, Tues
Classes begin	Jan 8, Wed
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (University Symposia/No Regular Classes).....	Jan 20, Mon
Vacation begins 12:00 noon.....	Mar 1, Sat
Classes resume	Mar 10, Mon
University Honors Convocation	Mar 16, Sun
Classes end	Apr 22, Tues
Study Days	Apr 23, Wed; Apr 26-27, Sat-Sun
Examinations	Apr 24-25, Thurs-Fri & Apr 28-May 1, Mon-Thurs
Commencement Activities	May 2-4, Fri-Sun

69 class days: M=13, T=14, W=14, Th=14, F=14

**Passover 4/14 - 4/22

SPRING-SUMMER TERM, 2014

*Registration (Full Term and Spring Half).....	May 5, Mon
Classes begin	May 6, Tues
Memorial Day (Holiday).....	May 26, Mon
Classes end (Spring Half) 5:00 p.m.	June 20, Fri
Study Days	June 21-22, Sat-Sun
Examinations	June 23-24, Mon-Tues
Spring Half Term ends	June 24, Tues
*Registration (Summer Half).....	June 25, Wed
Summer Half Term classes begin.....	June 26, Thurs
Independence Day (Holiday)	July 4, Fri
Classes end, 5:00 p.m.	Aug 12, Tues
Study Day	Aug 13, Wed
Examinations	Aug 14-15, Thurs-Fri
Full Term and Summer Half Term end.....	Aug 15, Fri

*Students enrolling in Business Administration, Dentistry, Law, Pharmacy, Social Work, and Medicine should check with their respective schools for academic calendar information including registration. This calendar is subject to change.

**Jewish holy days begin and end at sundown on the first and last days listed. The University's policy concerning observance of religious holidays can be found at <http://www.umich.edu/~provost/dates/hdaymemo.html>