

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS' COMMUNICATION

Approved by the
Regents
May 15, 2014

ACTION REQUEST

ACTION REQUEST: Approval of Academic Calendar for 2016-2017

The attached calendar for the academic year 2016-2017 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. However, because Labor Day falls on September 5, final exams are scheduled through December 22.

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 running into the first week in March. The break begins February 25, and classes resume on March 6, 2017.

We are in communication with the Ann Arbor Public School District, which in the past tried to schedule a winter break that coincides with the UM academic calendar. UM is unable to accommodate the vacation schedules of all of the schools attended by the children of UM faculty, staff, and students.

Number of Class Days

Fall term has 67 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 2016-2017 academic calendar.

Respectfully submitted,



Martha E. Pollack
Provost and Executive Vice
President for Academic Affairs

May 2014
Attachments

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

FALL TERM, 2016

Labor Day (Holiday)	Sept 5, Mon
Classes begin	Sept 6, Tues
Fall Study Break	Oct 17-18, Mon-Tues
Thanksgiving recess, 5:00 p.m.	Nov 23, Wed
Classes resume	Nov 28, Mon
Classes end	Dec 13, Tues
Study Days	Dec 14, Wed & Dec 17-18, Sat-Sun
Examinations	Dec 15-16, Thurs-Fri
.....	Dec 19-22, Mon-Thurs
Commencement.....	Dec 18, Sun

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

**Rosh Hashanah 10/2 – 10/4; Yom Kippur 10/11 – 10/12; Hanukkah 12/24 – 1/1/2017

WINTER TERM, 2017

Classes begin	Jan 4, Wed
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (University Symposia/No Regular Classes).....	Jan 16, Mon
Winter Break begins 12:00 noon.....	Feb 25, Sat
Classes resume	Mar 6, Mon
University Honors Convocation	Mar 19, Sun
Classes end	Apr 18, Tues
Study Days	Apr 19, Wed; Apr 22-23, Sat-Sun
Examinations	Apr 20-21, Thurs-Fri &
.....	Apr 24-Apr 27, Mon-Thurs
Commencement Activities	Apr 27-30, Thurs-Sun

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

**Passover 4/10 – 4/18

SPRING-SUMMER TERM, 2017

Classes begin	May 2, Tues
Memorial Day (Holiday).....	May 29, Mon
Classes end (Spring Half) 5:00 p.m.	June 19, Mon
Study Days	June 20-21, Tues-Wed
Examinations	June 22-23, Thurs-Fri
Spring Half Term ends	June 23, Fri
Summer Half Term classes begin.....	June 28, Wed
Independence Day (Holiday)	July 4, Tues
Classes end, 5:00 p.m.	Aug 15, Tues
Study Day	Aug 16, Wed
Examinations	Aug 17-18, Thurs-Fri
Full Term and Summer Half Term end.....	Aug 18, 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>

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. An exception is made when Labor Day falls on September 7. In these years when 67 class days would push exams beyond December 23, a fall term may have 66 class meeting days. (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 is scheduled over a four-day period that runs from Thursday through Sunday. Winter term exams must be over by the Friday of commencement weekend, although individual school, college, and department ceremonies can be scheduled to take place before exams are over.
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