

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS' COMMUNICATION

Approved by the Regents

June 19, 2008

ACTION REQUEST

ACTION REQUEST: Approval of Academic Calendar for 2010-2011

The attached calendar for the academic year 2010-2011 has been constructed using the established principles noted below. It has 66 meeting days in the Fall Term, one fewer day than the established goal of at least 67 meeting days. The shortened term is necessary to avoid having examinations on December 23, a consequence of incorporating a two-day fall study break into UM academic calendars since 2002. Because of the two-day fall study break, late exam dates are a possibility every five or six years, sometimes twice in a row. The calendar for Fall Term 2009 approved last year also has 66 meeting days.

UM calendar criterion include:

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 week-ends.
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. The academic calendar will include two "study days" in the fall unless its inclusion results in a final exam date on December 23.
15. Honors Convocation should not conflict with Easter or the first two days of Passover.
16. 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
(insures 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
(insures always starting after January 2)

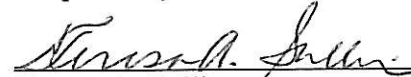
Term end date: Tuesday of the 15th week

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

The proposed calendar has been vetted by faculty and administrative groups. I am writing to request your approval of the 2010-2011 academic calendar.

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa A. Sullivan
Provost and Executive Vice
President for Academic Affairs

June 2008
Attachment

Proposed to Regents July 2008
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN ACADEMIC CALENDAR
ANN ARBOR CAMPUS

FALL TERM, 2010

*Registration (for students not pre-registered).....	Sep 3, Fri
Labor Day (Holiday)	Sept 6, Mon
Classes begin	Sept 7, Tues
Fall Study Break.....	Oct 18-19, Mon-Tues
Thanksgiving recess, 5:00 p.m.	Nov 24, Wed
Classes end	Dec 13, Mon
Study Days.....	Dec14, Tues & Dec 18-19, Sat-Sun
Examinations	Dec 15-17, Wed-Fri & Dec 20-22, Mon-Wed
Commencement.....	Dec 19, Sun

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

**Rosh Hashanah 9/8-9/10; Yom Kippur 9/17- 9/18; Hanukkah 12/1-12/9

WINTER TERM, 2011

*Registration (for students not pre-registered)	Jan 4, Tues
Classes begin	Jan 5, Wed
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (University Symposia/No Regular Classes).....	Jan 17, Mon
Vacation begins 12:00 noon	Feb 26, Sat
Classes resume	Mar 7, Mon
University Honors Convocation	Mar 20, Sun
Classes end	Apr 19, Tues
Study Days	Apr 20, Wed; Apr 23-24, Sat-Sun
Examinations	Apr 21-22, Thurs-Fri & Apr 25-28, Mon-Thurs
Commencement Activities	April 29-May 1, Fri-Sun

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

**Passover 4/18-4/26

SPRING-SUMMER TERM, 2011

*Registration (Full Term and Spring Half)	May 2, Mon
Classes begin	May 3, Tues
Memorial Day (Holiday).....	May 30, Mon
Classes end (Spring Half) 5:00 p.m.	June 20, Mon
Study Days	June 21-22, Tues-Wed
Examinations	June 23-24, Thurs-Fri
Spring Half Term ends	June 24, Fri
*Registration (Summer Half)	June 28, Tues
Summer Half Term classes begin.....	June 29, Wed
Independence Day (Holiday)	July 4, Mon
Classes end, 5:00 p.m.	Aug 16, Tues
Study Day	Aug 17, Wed
Examinations	Aug 18-19, Thurs-Fri
Full Term and Summer Half Term end.....	Aug 19, 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>

Regents Meeting, June 2008

Background for Academic Calendar 2010-2011

Holiday Issues

There are no conflicts with religious holidays in this calendar.

Spring Break

Application of the University's principle of scheduling spring break in the eighth week of the term has resulted in the University break occurring Saturday, February 26, through Sunday, March 7.

We have communicated with the Ann Arbor Public School District, which has not yet negotiated a contract for 2010-2011, so that they will have the option of scheduling a winter break that coincides with the UM academic calendar when their calendar is determined.

Number of Class Days

Fall term has 66 days; winter has 69 class days. The exception to the standard of 67-69 class days for the fall term is necessary to avoid exams on December 23. The Office of the Registrar has examined several approaches to solving the problem of late exams when Labor Day falls late in the first week of September, including pre-Labor Day starts and scheduling exams over a weekend. Reducing the number of class days by one appears to be the best solution.