

Academic Calendar Questionnaire 2018  
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Intro The Ad Hoc Committee on Calendar Reform seeks your views on a proposed calendar that would finish fall term exams before the winter break, start and end the year earlier to preserve the length of summer, and create a two-week Wintersession in January for optional non-credit-bearing activities.

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Section1 Visual Representation of the Proposed Calendar

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H1 First-year move-in and orientation in late August, followed by an early September start of classes. Start classes on Tuesday after Labor Day (Sept 2-6) or on Wednesday before Labor Day (Sept 1-2):

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G1



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H2 A full-week fall break and 3-day Thanksgiving break. The Tuesday of Thanksgiving week is a virtual Friday in most years:

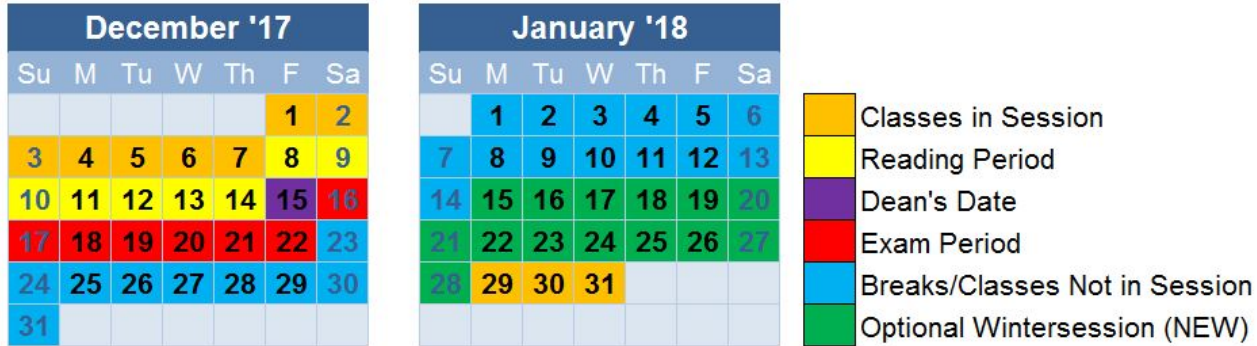
G2



H3 An 8-day reading period and 7-day exam period in December, with the fall semester ending between December 19 and 23. Then a 3-week winter break and 2-week Wintersession, for optional non-credit-bearing activities, prior to the spring term starting in late January:

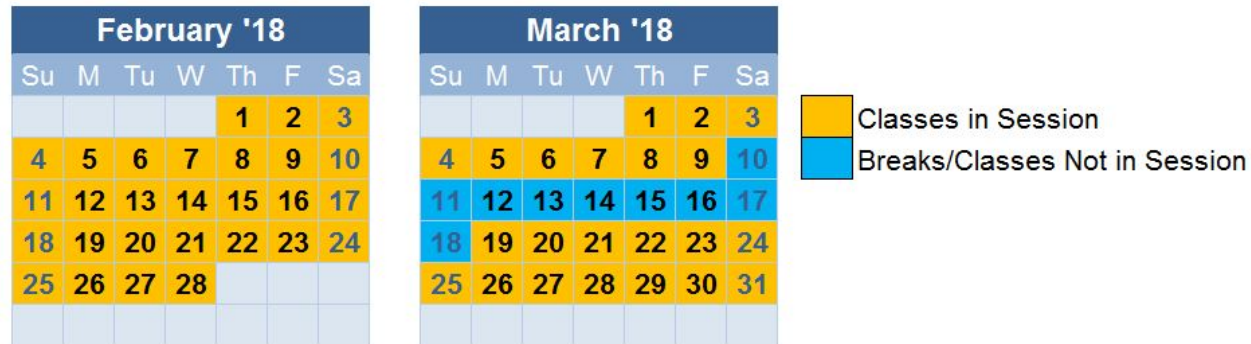
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G3



H4 The spring semester remains largely unchanged, with a full-week spring break:

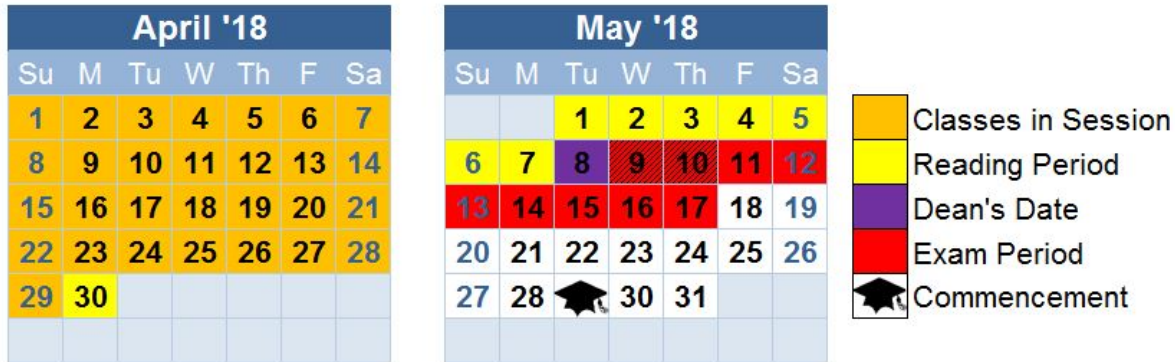
G4



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H5 Final exam period shortened to 7 days, with an extra 2 days at the beginning set aside for senior comprehensive exams. The spring term ends one week earlier, with Commencement in late May:

G5



Q1 When comparing this proposed calendar with the University's current calendar, which calendar do you favor?

- I favor the **proposed** calendar. (1)
- I favor the **current** calendar. (2)

*Display This Question:*

*If Q1 = 2*

Q2 Please indicate which changes in the proposed calendar you **object to** (select all that apply):

- Moving final exams to December (1)
- Earlier start of classes in the Fall (2)
- Shortened exam period (3)

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*Display This Question:*

*If Q1 = 1*

Q3 Please indicate which changes in the proposed calendar you **support** (select all that apply):

- Moving final exams to December (1)
  - Earlier start of classes in the Fall (2)
  - Shortened exam period (3)
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*Display This Question:*

*If Career = UGRD*

*Or Career = GRAD*

Q4 A 2-week Wintersession would create space in the academic year for student exploration, reflection, and hands-on learning, with optional activities geared to students at different stages of their academic careers. For example, juniors and seniors might wish to use this time to focus on independent work. Undergraduate and graduate students might take or teach short workshops in R, Python, or digital media. It might also be a window for a two-week off-campus study trip. Undergraduate students might also take the opportunity to participate in Princeternships or service experiences. Students would not be required to participate in Wintersession.

If an optional 2-week, non-credit-bearing Wintersession during January were available, hypothetically, would you participate?

- I definitely would participate (1)
  - I might participate (2)
  - I don't know (3)
  - I probably would NOT participate (4)
  - I definitely would NOT participate (5)
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*Display This Question:*

*If Career = PUDOF*

*Or Career = PUHRS*

Q5 A 2-week Wintersession would create space in the academic year for student exploration, reflection, and hands-on learning, with optional activities geared to students at different stages of their academic careers. For example, juniors and seniors might wish to use this time to focus on independent work. Undergraduate and graduate students might take or teach short workshops in R, Python, or digital media. It might also be a window for a two-week off-campus study trip. Undergraduate students might also take the opportunity to participate in Princeternships or service experiences. Faculty would not be required to offer Wintersession activities.

If a 2-week Wintersession were created in January, how would you anticipate using that time?  
(Check all that apply)

- Participate in departmental searches (1)
- Participate in graduate student admissions (2)
- Administer Ph.D. general exams (3)
- Prepare spring-term courses (4)
- Conduct on-campus research (5)
- Conduct off-campus research (6)
- Offer on-campus Wintersession activity (7)
- Offer off-campus Wintersession activity (8)

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Section 4 Other Comments

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Q6 Please share with us any other comments about the existing academic calendar and/or these potential changes. Your response will be shared, in its entirety, with the Committee, but not attributed to you personally unless you identify yourself within the body of your response.

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