

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS' COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

ACTION REQUEST: Approval of Academic Calendar for 2019-2020

The attached calendar for the academic year 2019-2020 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 in the last week of February, which is often the case, but the first week of March. The break begins on Saturday, February 29, and classes resume on Monday, March 9.

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 2019-2020 academic calendar.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul N. Courant  
Interim Provost and Executive Vice President  
for Academic Affairs

May 2017  
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. 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 six exam days for fall and winter terms and two 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 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 will take place on a Sunday, two weeks after Spring Break. In years when the date falls on St. Patrick's Day (March 17), consider moving out to the following Sunday if there are no conflicts with Easter or the first two days of Passover. 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

Revised 4.7.16

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

**FALL TERM, 2019**

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

**WINTER TERM, 2020**

Classes begin.....	Jan 8, Wed
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (University Symposia/No Regular Classes) .....	Jan 20, Mon
Vacation begins 12:00 noon.....	Feb 29, Sat
Classes resume .....	Mar 9, Mon
University Honors Convocation .....	Mar 15, Sun
Classes end.....	Apr 21, Tues
Study Days.....	Apr 22, Wed; Apr 25-26, Sat-Sun
Examinations.....	Apr 23-24, Thurs-Fri &
.....	Apr 27-Apr 30, Mon-Thurs
Commencement Activities .....	Apr 30-May 3, Thurs-Sun

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

**SPRING-SUMMER TERM, 2020**

Classes begin.....	May 5, Tues
Memorial Day (Holiday).....	May 25, Mon
Classes end (Spring Half) 5:00 p.m. ....	June 22, Mon
Study Days.....	June 23-24, Tues-Wed
Examinations.....	June 25-26, Thurs-Fri
Spring Half Term ends.....	June 26, Fri
Summer Half Term classes begin .....	July 1, Wed
Independence Day (Holiday).....	July 3, Fri
Classes end, 5:00 p.m.....	Aug 18, Tues
Study Day.....	Aug 19, Wed
Examinations.....	Aug 20-21, Thurs-Fri
Full Term and Summer Half Term end.....	Aug 21, 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.