

Motion from Calendar Committee regarding observance of Jewish High Holy Days (Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur)

The two-day festival of Rosh Hashanah is observed beginning at sundown of the first day and continues for two more days. We have up until now only observed just the first full day of Rosh Hashanah, not the evening before or its second full day.

With Yom Kippur, although we have observed the holy day, we have not included the evening before the full day of observance.

The motion here is intended to update the calendar committee's framework to fully address the observance of these two high holy days when preparing the college calendar. Also, we are recommending retroactive adherence to this requirement for already approved 15-16, 16-17, and 17-18, as well as, the proposed 18-19 college calendars.

In our review (please see attached), the changes in the number of instructional minutes for fall classes still meet minimum requirements.

MOTION:

Whereas we have a longstanding tradition of observing these important High Holy Days in our College Calendar,

Whereas the correct observance of these religious holidays require the evening before (after sundown) and in the case of Rosh Hashanah two full days of observance,

Whereas appropriate observance of High Holy Days still provides adequate instruction time for courses,

Be it resolved that effective from the 2015-2016 College Calendar, all College Calendars will adhere to the following framework:

- When the evening before either High Holy Day (Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur) is on a class day, we will hold no classes in that evening (classes that begin after 4:00 pm).
- There shall be no classes on the first full day of either High Holy Days.
- There shall be no classes on the second full day of Rosh Hashanah.

Calendar Development Framework

Calendar Committee

Initial Date May 29 2008

The following is the framework agreed upon by the committee in creating new college calendars:

- The Jewish holidays need to be considered when making decisions on fall start date, when break(s) are, or if we need days of the week that act as other scheduled day (ex. A Tuesday that is a Monday).
- Full instructional-weeks are preferred. Monday semester starts are preferred.
- December 22nd is the latest date we could work with for commencement.
- Avoid redefining days as much as possible: Mon is a Tues, etc.
- Try to keep spring break on the 8th week or later to help with logistics for those who do student teaching.
- SUNYAC games begin in the end of March; it will be good to have the break before they start giving spring-sports athletes an opportunity for a southern trip to get some of their schedule in early during spring break. This will also avoid too many during-the-week away games in these sports' schedules, keeping the athletes in classes.
- Leave enough time for winter session.
- No classes on Good Friday in Spring (amended the policy to include Saturday as well in Fall 2013)
- No classes on Labor Day.
- A 1-day Fall Break added to the schedule whenever possible close to the middle of the fall semester. (added 2009)
- **When the evening before either High Holy Day (Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur) is on a class day, we will hold no classes in that evening (classes that begin after 4:00 pm). (proposed 2014)**
- **There shall be no classes on the first full day of either High Holy Days. (proposed 2014)**
- **There shall be no classes on the second full day of Rosh Hashanah. (proposed 2014)**

Note: For a 3-credit course a minimum of 2,250 minutes of class-room instruction is needed; the 120-minute final exam should be included in determining total instruction time. We already have policies in place for not having classes on Jewish holidays or Good Friday.

Framework updated 11/13/2014

Fall 2015

Rosh Hashanah begins in the evening of Sun., Sept. 13 and ends Tues., Sept. 15 (Currently No Classes - Mon., Sept. 14)

Yom Kippur begins in the evening of Tues., Sept. 22 and ends Wed., Sept. 23 (Currently No Classes - Wed., Sept. 23)

Fall 2016

Rosh Hashanah begins in the evening of Sun., Oct. 2 and ends Tues., Oct. 4 (Currently No Classes - Mon. Oct. 3)

Yom Kippur begins in the evening of Tues., Oct. 11 and ends Wed., Oct. 12 (Currently No Classes Wed., Oct. 12)

| <u>Approved Calendar</u> | | | | <u>Proposed Calendar</u> | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|--|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Days | Class Meetings | # of Minutes | Total Minutes | Days | Class Meetings | # of Minutes | Total Minutes |
| Monday | 13 | 55 | 715 | Monday | 13 | 55 | 715 |
| Tuesday | 15 | 80 | 1200 | Tuesday* | 14 | 80 | 1120 |
| Wednesday | 13 | 55 | 715 | Wednesday | 13 | 55 | 715 |
| Thursday | 14 | 80 | 1120 | Thursday | 14 | 80 | 1120 |
| Friday | 14 | 55 | 770 | Friday | 14 | 55 | 770 |
| MWF + 120 Mins for Final | | | 2320 | MWF + 120 Mins for Final | | | 2320 |
| T, Th + 120 Mins for Final | | | 2440 | T, Th + 120 Mins for Final | | | 2360 |
| | | | | * 13 Tue night classes (no classes evening of Yom Kippur) + No Tue classes for Rosh Hashanah | | | |

Fall 2017

Rosh Hashanah begins in the evening of Wed., Sept. 20 and ends Fri., Sept. 22 (Currently No Classes - Thurs., Sept. 21)

Yom Kippur begins in the evening of Fri., Sept. 29 and ends Sat., Sept. 30 (Currently No Classes Sat., Sept 30)

| <u>Approved Calendar</u> | | | | <u>Proposed Calendar</u> | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|---|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Days | Class Meetings | # of Minutes | Total Minutes | Days | Class Meetings | # of Minutes | Total Minutes |
| Monday | 14 | 55 | 770 | Monday | 14 | 55 | 770 |
| Tuesday | 15 | 80 | 1200 | Tuesday | 15 | 80 | 1200 |
| Wednesday | 14 | 55 | 770 | Wednesday* | 14 | 55 | 770 |
| Thursday | 13 | 80 | 1040 | Thursday | 13 | 80 | 1040 |
| Friday | 14 | 55 | 770 | Friday** | 13 | 55 | 715 |
| MWF + 120 Mins for Final | | | 2430 | MWF + 120 Mins for Final | | | 2375 |
| T, Th + 120 Mins for Final | | | 2360 | T, Th + 120 Mins for Final | | | 2360 |
| | | | | *13 Wednesday night classes (no classes evening of Rosh Hashanah) | | | |
| | | | | ** No Fri classes for Rosh Hashanah | | | |

Fall 2018

Rosh Hashanah begins in the evening of Sun., Sept. 9 and ends Tues., Sept. 11 (No Classes - Mon. Sept. 10)

Yom Kippur begins in the evening of Tues., Sept. 18 and ends Wed., Sept. 19 (No Classes Wed., Sept. 19).

Fall Break Day - No Classes - Fri., Oct. 19

| <u>Proposed Calendar</u> | | | | <u>Proposed Calendar Ammended</u> | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|--|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Days | Class Meetings | # of Minutes | Total Minutes | Days | Class Meetings | # of Minutes | Total Minutes |
| Monday | 13 | 55 | 715 | Monday | 13 | 55 | 715 |
| Tuesday | 15 | 80 | 1200 | Tuesday* | 14 | 80 | 1120 |
| Wednesday | 13 | 55 | 715 | Wednesday | 13 | 55 | 715 |
| Thursday | 14 | 80 | 1120 | Thursday | 14 | 80 | 1120 |
| Friday | 13 | 55 | 715 | Friday | 13 | 55 | 715 |
| MWF + 120 Mins for Final | | | 2265 | MWF + 120 Mins for Final | | | 2265 |
| T, Th + 120 Mins for Final | | | 2440 | T, Th + 120 Mins for Final | | | 2360 |
| | | | | * 13 Tuesday night classes (no classes evening of Yom Kippur) + No Tue classes for Rosh Hashanah | | | |