
Memorandum

Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning)
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TO: Senate

FROM: Professor Ollivier Dyens, Deputy-Provost (Student Life and Learning)
Ms. Kathleen Massey, University Registrar and Executive Director (Enrolment Services)

SUBJECT: Calendar of Academic Dates 2017-2018

DATE: May 14, 2013

DOCUMENT #: D13-69

ACTION REQUIRED: INFORMATION APPROVAL/DECISION

ISSUE: Calendar of Academic Dates for 2017-2018.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE: The terms of reference for the Committee on Enrolment and Student Affairs (CESA) state:

The Committee shall review and recommend to Senate:

“policies as they affect course timetabling, student records, and student affairs in general principles regarding sessional dates and specific sessional dates for all faculties and for the Centre for Continuing Education, including the beginning and end of the session, holidays, and examinations.”

In line with its mandate, CESA recommends that Senate approve the Calendar of Academic Dates for 2017-2018 as outlined in Appendix A. The dates conform to the principles regarding sessional dates as approved at Senate on April 27, 2011.

MOTION OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL: *Be it resolved that, on the recommendation of the Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning) and the University Registrar and Executive Director (Enrolment Services), Senate approve the Calendar of Academic Dates for 2017-2018.*

PRIOR CONSULTATION:

- Enrolment and Student Affairs Advisory Committee
- Committee on Enrolment and Student Affairs

NEXT STEPS: Implementation of the calendar of dates for the 2017-2018 academic year.

APPENDICES: Appendix A: Academic Calendar of Dates 2017-2018

CESA-approved Calendar of Dates for Academic Year 2017-2018

Fall 2017 Term	Classes Start	Reading Week	Classes End	Exam Prep	Exams Begin	Exams End	Schedule Pattern and End Dates	
RECOMMENDED (67 lecture days)	T, Sep 5	n/a	R, Dec 7 ¹	Weekend Dec 9-10	F, Dec 8	R, Dec 21	M ¹	R, Dec 7 ¹
							MW, MWF	W, Dec 6
							MTR	T, Dec. 5
							WF, F, TRF	F, Dec 1
							TR, R	R, Nov 30
							W	W, Nov 29
							T,	T, Nov 28
¹ R, Dec. 7 will follow a Monday schedule.								

Notes

This maintains the traditional Tuesday after Labour Day start date but ends the overall exam period a day earlier, increasing the holiday break. However, to do this, this proposal eliminates the Friday exam preparation day based on there being only one schedule pattern (M) being made up on Thursday, Dec. 7. All other schedule patterns will have ended by Dec. 6 or earlier allowing ample study time for the vast majority of students. Enrolment Services modeling shows that, if necessary, the exams for Monday-only classes could be scheduled later in the exam period to allow for more preparation time.

Winter 2018 Term	Classes Start	Reading Week	Classes End	Exam Prep	Exams Begin	Exams End	Schedule Pattern and End Dates	
RECOMMENDED (63 lecture days)	M, Jan 8	Mar 5-9	M, Apr 16	Weekend Apr 14-15	T, Apr 17	M, Apr 30	M, MW, MWF*, MTR	M, Apr 16
							F*, WF*, TRF*	F, Apr 13
							R, TR	R, Apr 12
							W,	W, Apr 11
							T	T, Apr 10
							There is no make-up day this term. *There is a shortfall of 1 to 3 contact hours for some schedule patterns.	

Notes: This proposal maximizes the holiday break, but results in a shortfall of contact hours for schedule patterns including Fridays, as it will only make up one of two lecture days lost to the Easter holiday. The 10-day exam period ends by April 30. When combined with Fall 2017 recommendation, there are total of 130 teaching days, meeting the Engineering accreditation requirement.

Key Dates 2017-2018:

Labour Day: Monday, September 4, 2017	Good Friday: Friday, March 30, 2018
Thanksgiving: Monday, October 9, 2017	Easter Monday: Monday, April 2, 2018
McGill closed Sat. Dec. 23-Tues. Jan. 2 inclusive	Passover begins: Saturday, March 31, 2018 (commences at sundown March 30)
Christmas Day: Monday, December 25, 2017	Passover ends: Saturday, April 7, 2018
New Year's Day: Monday, January 1, 2018	