

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE

Senate Committee on Educational Policy
(Final; Action)

EP. 12.11 Revisions to 2012-2013 Academic Calendar

Background

The current 2012-2013 Academic Calendar would create a hardship for achieving all the activities that need to be accomplished between the end of when grades must be submitted and the Federal Financial Aid disbursement deadline date. These activities include grades processing, and academic decisions by the Colleges and Departments (e.g. drops, probation, etc) related to Fall Semester student performance.

This hardship is created due to the late timing of finals for Fall Semester 2012 and the abbreviated window between the Fall Semester 2012 and the Spring Semester 2013.

More time needs to be “created” for the above activities. This “effective time” needs to occur between when grades must be submitted and the Federal Financial Aid disbursement deadline date, and needs to be created with as little disruption to the academic calendar overall as is reasonably possible. Please see FAQs related to the academic calendar for additional information and requirements:

[Hyperlink to FAQs](#)

Aspects of the currently approved Fall Semester 2012 and Spring Semester 2013 Schedule:

Fall Semester 2012 and Start of Spring Semester, 2013

Instruction Begins	Monday, August 27
Labor Day	Monday, September 3 (no classes)
Thanksgiving Vacation Begins	Saturday, November 17, 1 p.m.
Instruction Resumes	Monday, November 26, 7 a.m.
Instruction Ends	Wednesday, December 12
Reading Day	Thursday, December 13
Final Examinations Begin	Friday, December 14
Final Examinations End	Friday, December 21
Grade submission deadline - noon	Friday, December 28
Academic Standing Review Completed – 5pm	Friday, January 4, 2013
Financial Aid Disbursement deadline	Saturday, January 5, 2013
Spring Semester 2013 – Instruction begins	Monday, January 14, 2013

Proposed Solution:

- Allow for Saturday Finals to occur on December 15, 2012. This allows for the final Examination period to end on Thursday, December 20, 2012 (one day prior to what is listed on the currently approved calendar.
- Grades submission deadline will be noon on Wednesday, December 26, 2012. This compresses the grading period by one day compared to previous general practice, but still allows for 5.5 days for grading examinations, and determining and reporting of grades after final examinations end (including holidays).

- EP.12.11 effectively revises both [EP.05.29](#) and [EP.07.32](#). EP.05.29 states that “There shall be 18 3-hour Final Examination periods scheduled, with 3 periods each day and none on **Saturday** or Sunday.” EP.07.32 is the currently approved 2012-13 Academic Calendar.

Impact

Even with the above adjustments to the Academic Calendar, this provides the Office of the Registrar, Colleges and Departments 3 full service days and 2 reduced service days, plus one weekend and 2 holiday days to conduct needed work. In comparison, for Fall Semester 2011, there are 6 full service days, 3 reduced service days, 2 weekends and 3 holidays between the end of the Grade submission deadline and the Federal Financial Aid disbursement deadline to complete the needed work to meet the Federal Financial Aid disbursement deadline date.

This solution shares the burden among students, faculty and campus administrators.

Given the advanced notice, faculty can plan their syllabi accordingly, and also take advantage of the pedagogical opportunity to try new examination or grading methods, or other strategies that meet course and student needs.

Assessment

The Educational Policy Committee requests reports from the Council of Undergraduate Deans, Office of the Registrar, Office of Student Financial Aid, and The Graduate College of the effectiveness and impact of this calendar adjustment.

Recommendation

The Senate Committee on Educational Policy recommends approval of the following revised 2012-2013 Academic Calendar. The following 2012-2013 Academic Calendar is formulated in accordance with *Synopsis of Policies Governing the Academic Calendar at UIUC*, adopted December 5, 2005 with the exception of permitting Saturday finals examination.

Fall Semester 2012

Instruction Begins	Monday, August 27
Labor Day	Monday, September 3 (no classes)
Thanksgiving Vacation Begins	Saturday, November 17, 1 p.m.
Instruction Resumes	Monday, November 26, 7 a.m.
Instruction Ends	Wednesday, December 12
Reading Day	Thursday, December 13
Final Examinations Begin	Friday, December 14
Final Examinations to be conducted on	Saturday, December 15
Final Examinations End	Thursday, December 20

Senate Committee on Educational Policy

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