

F1FacUnsure

Need to use it first

The proposed change to the calendar doesn't appear to take into account all the colleges at the university- most notably the veterinary school. We start earlier than the undergraduates, have fewer and shorter breaks during the fall, and run through the middle of December. I don't know how this proposed change to the calendar would affect the veterinary college so I'm unsure how this changes anything for us. If it means that we would start a week later it would be nice as it would give more time than 5 days between the end of summer session/summer college and the beginning of the fall semester. However I worry that this would ultimately cut down on teaching days as our classes already run to the point in December that the new calendar is proposing.

Because it starts later but ends at the same place. But three days at Thanksgiving is still a little short.

I like the later start, but we need a longer Thanksgiving break.

Although I appreciate having a shorter finals period, I do not like finals getting even closer to the Christmas holiday. It is already very difficult for faculty to participate in cultural traditions and norms (gifts, family travel, etc.), especially given potentially bad winter weather plus grading creeping several days after the last final.

Study and exam period look too compact, students will not like this. I might prefer the variation - labor day is useless.

With the above calendar, I would be in favor of the variation so that a 12 day exam period with a reduction in the fall break days. But all depends on the spring variations too. I am not in favor of having spring classes start early in January, which I heard is afoot. How will faculty prepare new classes and conduct research, especially abroad in areas like South Asia where December/January are the best months weather-wise to work there.

This does not seem to address any issues that I have with the current calendar

Semester ends too close to holidays in the new calendar.

Doesn't solve the orientation problem.

Orientation still over weekend. Students will still travel on Mon, Tues of Thanksgiving and the semester ends too late. Late end to semester will make travel home for international grad students more expensive and less options.

While I appreciate the idea of lengthening the summer, I am concerned about going later in the fall. My sense is that our semester is longer than others. I wish we could be bold and shorten the semester by a week, but my concern is that colleagues wouldn't be able to trim content, and would pack even more into the time, which would contribute negatively to student mental health.

Grading last exams/final project on Dec. 23 will be a challenge.

The summer is too long -- for those with children, it is better to align school holidays. A longer break over Christmas / New Year period is preferred.

I am concerned that if longer classes in December are combined with an earlier start of classes in January, the needed break in December to write papers and grants will disappear making this time very un-productive

I like delay in August start date, but doesn't address Thanksgiving break issues.

It is good to have more class days following Thanksgiving break - otherwise, the last week feels sort of silly. However, I think we need to move Thanksgiving break to a full week though. Most of our students leave early at any rate, so why not just make it official?

The exam period goes late into December; for those who have other travel plans.

exam study period is too short, not too long

Can live with either outcome.

A slightly later start and a later finish improve the current fall calendar. Having the last exam on Dec. 22 might make grading exams in time difficult though, given that many TAs will travel over the holidays. Holding class on Labor Day seems a no-go!

It depends on when the following spring semester starts.

On the one hand, I like the fact that the added post-Thanksgiving instruction days will help enable us to continue some meaningful, valuable instruction. On the other hand, I think having a 1-day break so soon after the beginning of the semester (after students have already spent a long summer away from campus) reduces the week of instructions. I would prefer that we eliminate the Labor Day break altogether and add a third day to the Fall Break (though not to the same week but to the week before, Fri.--[Sat., Sun.]--Mon.--Tue., resuming instruction on Wednesday).

1) Part of the rationale is to free up August days that are rough for daycare (a good plan) but are the December 19-22 days going to have the same problem? 2) Will ending on December 22 give enough time for grading before final grades are due?

I totally understand the issues of the August childcare days so I'm inclined to agree with starting a little later. But the idea that a final exam could be on December 22 seems very difficult if you are expecting faculty to get that graded right away, when kids are also out of school. The pre-Christmas holiday stress is bad enough; to have to get an exam graded in a couple days seems even worse. And I suspect students wouldn't be so happy to have just 2 days before Christmas to get home and get prepared for the holiday. (FYI, I am Jewish so this doesn't affect me but I think it sounds like it could be very difficult for people).

I like the idea, but Dec 22 is very late. I think the 2 day fall break is great. I do like the shorter exam period in the F1 framework.

I do like starting later in the Fall, and I am OK with decreasing the number of study days. However, I think it would be better to decrease the study period differently; instead of 4 contiguous study days and using a Sunday as an exam day, change it to 3 contiguous study days at the beginning and retain the study day on the Sunday.

I would prefer to administer exams on weekdays only and exclude Saturdays as well as Sundays.

On the one hand, I would like the teaching to end on December 1, as it does now. On the other hand, I also think there is merit in reducing the exam week. So I'd like to keep the calendar as is, but reduce the exam and study period so that everyone finishes earlier. Regarding the last point about August Child care days being particularly difficult...perhaps the university can be more pro-active and organize a series of special summer camps in partnership with local organizations such as the nature center etc.....to take care of the child care problem.

Does not say if it creates synchronization with public school calendar

I don't like the suggested variations of 1-day fall break or class on labor day. If those are excluded then I think F1 is better than current

I agree with most of the F1 motivators but I do not think that the current Thanksgiving break works. However, I would support this only if the spring start date is NOT moved to an earlier date in January. The winter break should NOT be substantially shortened.

Shortens winter break

post thanksgiving period not so short/abrupt. Start date a bit later. Orientation still problematic - too short, mostly on weekend. Would also need to consider when course enroll starts and when opportunities for advising would occur before classes start.

The summer is too short. Move August days to December. Don't start classes on a Tuesday. 2 day break is disruptive to schedule. 1 day break is worse!

fall break should continue as is; good to have shorter exam period; starting earlier in Aug. is NOT a good idea; the few days after Thanksgiving are indeed difficult for students.