

F2FacAgree

week long thanksgiving break makes more sense

The F2 motivators 1, 2, 4 and 6

Thanksgiving week is a good idea, with two weeks following.

The "Motivators" are all correct.

I also like this proposal because it helps with August child care. I am ok with a shorter study/exam period (ours is too long). And students do not come to class for the whole week of Thanksgiving Break already, so why not just admit it and cancel those days.

Move in is on a weekend, which is better for families who face a hardship taking a day off work. F1 would require perhaps two days off work, which would be hard for some families -- typically those of our most vulnerable students. F2 is better in that respect. F2 extends the summer from our current situation, which is good. For some students, a week for Thanksgiving will be good, lessening the pressures of so many people trying to travel out of Ithaca at the same time. For other students, such as international, it may be useless time sitting around with nothing to do, because they cannot leave to go back home even for a week.

More class days after Thanksgiving, longer break, shorter exam period are all improvements.

I like this even more than F1. The M & T of Thanksgiving weeks are always problematic and non-productive for college students, but with school-age children still in classes, can be 2 very helpful days for faculty.

Longer summer, if only by a little.

A week long Thanksgiving break is already taken by many students and some faculty. I think it is preferable to make that official for everyone.

they need the whole Thanksgiving Week off!

Slightly extends summer break, and provides more instruction after Thanksgiving. However, Thanksgiving break 3 weeks before Winter break seems excessive. Results in late ending of Fall semester without greatly extending Summer break.

November break is helpful

The Thanksgiving break represents what already happens by default.

better orientation schedule. Dislike full week thanksgiving

A full week for Thanksgiving is ideal.

Lengthens summer, reduces August childcare issues and provides more instruction days after Thanksgiving

Later start is better

F2 is still better than the current, but not as good as F1. The week long Tday break seems excessive coming so soon to the winter recess. I think this calendar still starts too early in August.

I think this is also a workable solution less optimal than F1. Two final weeks of classes after a full week off in November may be less than productive.

A full week off for Thanksgiving makes a lot of sense, since the Monday and Tuesday before Thanksgiving aren't particularly effective for instruction and it usually has a lot of interruptions. Nearly two weeks of instruction after Thanksgiving and before finals is helpful.

Currently, many students (probably almost half) leave early for Thanksgiving break, which is rather awkward for Instructors.

Longer summer.

This is ben better than F1. A full week at Thanksgivbg would give my students time to rest, AND time to work on assignments.

We absolutely need a full week of Thanksgiving break. My students are never in attendance on the two days before break--it's just wasted time, and unjust to the students who do stick around, but then face limited breaks due to travel. Please enact this plan!

Like F1, the Motivators #6 and #7 are addressed. Also, having more days after Thanksgiving break is essential for student health. I have no opinion on orientation days.

Two weeks of classes after Thanksgiving is easier to make effective use of than one week as far as teaching. A full week off this late in the semester though might be hard to come back from and not feel like just wrapping up the semester. Not as long for summer jobs as in the F1 schedule. This is important for students to earn money and have internship experiences.

F1 gives more time after Thanksgiving break to finish final projects. I prefer F1 because the semester starts later.

Starts later and blocks out thanksgiving. As a Tuesday weekly class teacher I have student stress issues with this day being so important

Better thanksgiving break

Fewer August dates better for staff childcare. Full week off at T'giving is optimal and giving up a couple study days is a good trade for that.

Again, better chunk of time after Thanksgiving.

Longer thanksgiving break.

Lots of students take the Thanksgiving week off anyway, especially if they live at a distance. Furthermore, having whole weeks makes lab scheduling easier. But I would prefer option 1 with the later start date

Thanksgiving break being longer is attractive

Thanksgiving week is never very productive.

Thanksgiving break improved and less stressful for all

Starting later improves on the current schedule, but I prefer F1.

Days before thanksgiving are not usually productive. Students tend to leave early for break.

The 5-day Thanksgiving break is a nice improvement over current Fall and F1 calendars. Not sure an all weekday orientation is an improvement or necessary.

Makes the two semesters (Fall and Winter) more symmetric in terms of having a 5 day break. Tremendously helps instructors teaching in early part of week, since students are either AWOL or not really in the mood for class in the week of Thanksgiving.

Like the 5 day TG break

Easier travel in november

Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week are throw-aways anyway, so why not be explicit and allow that whole week off?

Longer summer, shorter exam period

This improves both the currently ineffective orientation period, and the waste of time between Thanksgiving and end of classes.

The November break is longer and not so close to the end of the semester. The end of exams is not changed that much.

August child care days are hard, longer Thanksgiving break is good.

More classes after Thanksgiving will remove the notion that "classes are over after thanksgiving" and that students can tune out. I like that orientation is during the week. It will naturally cause parents to spend the weekend with their kids then leave on Sunday to make a nice break and let the student connect with community here instead of dealing with overzealous parents too.

Same as before, plus Thanksgiving week as the half week in classes before Thanksgiving currently is not well attended as it is.

Later start in August is better for my family in terms of childcare. And having more time after Thanksgiving break will make those days more effective in terms of instruction.

The summer is too short, the study/exam period is long, and August child care days are particularly hard (I do not have children, but I sympathize with this problem.)

Like this better than current but not as much as F1

I agree that it is improvement but F1 was better.

It is better because of classes after Thanksgiving but it is not as good from the start of classes

full week for Thanksgiving

I do like the idea of a full Thanksgiving break. Thanksgiving breaks involve family... plus, faculty assign tons of work! Over a 3 day break, you're unlikely to have students who can do both. So over 5 days, you might get some work and rest for students--which I like. Also, you often have students leave early anyway... so those 2 days we have now for Thanksgiving break are often useless.

Makes August child care easier, but not as good as F1. Nice to have the full week off for Thanksgiving, but not necessary. I would prefer a later start in August.

Really like the longer Thanksgiving break and still having almost a week before the semester ends! Also like starting a couple of days later in the week at the beginning of the semester since it provides more time for orientations for new students.

Later start

Maintains 4 week winter (Dec.-Jan.) break.

Same remarks apply as for F1.

Full week for Thanksgiving break makes more sense - convenience of student travel and less disruptive to instruction.

The current calendar starts and ends too early and multiple disrupted weeks usually result in classes with lab sections being cancelled every incomplete week.

Full week for thanksgiving

not as good as F1 but still better

We should definitely have the Thanksgiving week off.

improves but only marginally so and I don't think taking full week of Thanksgiving off is a good idea.

I think the 3 day Thanksgiving break works OK, and with a full week break, maybe even two weeks of classes will recreate the problem that the week(s) after Thanksgiving is hard to use effectively

Giving students the entire Thanksgiving week is a better reflection of the reality. Many students currently travel before Wednesday. However if the last exam day is Dec. 22nd that makes grading difficult for faculty who use that final day. I imagine it means that faculty would have to submit grades the next day.

Personally I prefer F1, but can see the merit in just having Thanksgiving week off,

The slightly later start helps gain more family time in August when kids are done with camps but school is still out. Travel over thanksgiving is stressful and students are distracted that Monday Tuesday anyway

Thanksgiving break is a full week and there are almost 2 weeks of classes after Thanksgiving.

The longer period of classes following Thanksgiving will make that time more meaningful. I am so glad to see that Thanksgiving is finally a week here!

I think it would put us in better sync with most academic institutions.

I like moving Orientation to the weekdays, but move-in on Sunday might be a problem for some families who have religious obligations or need to be at work on Monday. I like the full week break for Thanksgiving-will be a nice break for students and will allow for more class time when they return.

Like the idea of adding two days to Thanksgiving break.

The weeklong thanksgiving break, with two weeks of class following it, makes more sense for teaching. However, this is not as good as F1. For the class I teach, having this sort of imbalance between the the occurrences of each weekday is frustrating, as I have lectures on Mondays and lab sections Tu-F.

A little longer summer, and it adds class time after Thanksgiving break.

Again, the extended time after the Thanksgiving Break is an improvement. I can see the logic of a full week off at Thanksgiving, but given the choice between this and a later start date to the semester as proposed in F1, I would choose the latter as it is more conducive to faculty research in the summer.

More holiday days in Thanksgiving and more class days after TG.

I like this one the best. A full week at Thanksgiving would be terrific. And there is more teaching time after Thanksgiving.

Better distribution of semester across time. Less rushed end of semester after Thanksgiving.

Both F1 and F2 are fine. A 5 day Thanksgiving break is probably not needed, but lots of students leave early anyway so it makes sense.

It is an improvement, but not by much.

I can't go back and compare to the F1 schedule but I agree with the reasons listed above.

Aug 23 works best as it gives time for students to go home for holidays

Students can manage things better at the end of the semester if study period is spread to the Thanksgiving period and after the semester.

• Orientation days are during the week – more time for students & staff to deal with administrative issues. • When will the placement exams be given?

We need those two weeks after Thanksgiving to make sure what we've taught students will actually stick.

Full Thanksgiving week off is more convenient for scheduling student travel;

the full week break for thanksgiving is very much preferred.

Yes, but they are minor. The early start is not worth the full week for Thanksgiving. However, the lengthened interval between Thanksgiving and finals makes those days worth more instructionally.

Longer Thanksgiving break gives students who live on the west coast time to travel home and back

I have long felt that having two days of class Thanksgiving week is very difficult. Many students don't attend and if they do they are not engaged. For students who live farther away giving them a whole week makes travel home possible.

summer us too short

better summer than current but not as good as F1. no need for full weekday orientation

Students are away at Thanksgiving anyway.

Only a slight improvement (F1 is much better). The full week Thanksgiving break with 9 class days after it is more conducive to learning, and makes it less likely that students will skip classes to leave earlier than the break begins. Thanksgiving is much better. Almost all students go home (I never did myself) and travel out and back at that time is hard. Having a whole week is good.

Extended Thanksgiving break.

fewer study/exam days, later start

Later start is good, though I would prefer even later in August or early September. The full week off at Thanksgiving is a good idea. Also good to have orientation on weekdays only. Shorter exam period is fine.

summer is key research period; longer Thanksgiving break allows for short research trip

A week for T'day may be nice for students.

Week-long Thanksgiving break.

Later start. Week-long Thanksgiving break is nice.

Again, the latest we can start in August, the better

I agree with the assumptions for the changes

Matches my child's school calendar giving us more summer time together as a family

While both F1 and F2 are preferable to the current Fall Calendar, I prefer F1 as it does most to address the concerns regarding the current schedule

Orientation period neater. Uneven WB could be compensated with "renaming" first 2 days, or 2 of the 3 days after Fall break.

Many students skip Thanksgiving week already. This allows students from further away to go home for the holiday.

A lot of students don't show up during Thanksgiving week anyway

Summer is too short now: this is better but not as good as F1.

reducing august childcare days and weekday orientation.

Good, but not as good as F1.

A full week for Thanksgiving break makes much more sense and any days that can be added to the summer break in August helps, especially given the local schools are not in session. This format is my preferred of the three options (no change, F1 or F2).

It's better than the current Fall calendar, but I prefer F1. No need for a full week for Thanksgiving break.

I like the longer thanksgiving break as many students take it anyway, which creates a challenge.

I agree with most of the motivators, and I like the idea of a week-long break at Thanksgiving, with 9 days of classes afterwards.

Better than F1 option

F2 is the fall calendar I prefer. Starting marginally later in August helps. The full week of vacation at Thanksgiving plus the 9 class days following is the best end-of-term arrangement: it removes the 2 worthless days (M, T) in Thanksgiving week and adds academic value to the period immediately following the break.

Satisfies motivators

Moves start of classes later.

I agree with all of the motivators.

I see similar effects as is the F1 framework, though perhaps this model will work just a little less well to achieve them.

It is not as good as F1. Still, having extra days after November makes that time useful. As it stands, the semester is virtually done in mid-November. Also, this shift aligns Cornell's calendar more closely to primary and secondary schools, making it more compatible with the family lives of students, faculty, and staff.

full week for thanksgiving break

In addition to having a solid block of classes after Thanksgiving (see my response to question #1), I think having a full week off for the holiday would give students a very necessary breather and chance to reorient and catch up for the end of the semester.

Original Fall calendar makes days after Thanksgiving useless to assign any meaningful project.

Orientation over weekend maximizes class time.

For the same reasons as F1 (but I prefer F1).

August child care days are hard and this keeps the normal fall break which I think is important to student mental health. Plus classes held over Thanksgiving week are difficult and not well attended. A shorter exam/study period is fine, and I think going until December 20 is not unreasonable.

Moving orientation to 3 weekdays with move in day on Sunday (perhaps could even be Saturday?). More staff and faculty would be on hand for advising/welcoming new students (i.e. building care, office staff, etc). Full week for Thanksgiving is more realistic given student behavior and desire to be with families/travel. Shortened exam period will reduce long 'layovers' between exams.

for all the F1 and F2 motivators, but less good than F1 since it only starts two days later.

It's a huge advantage to have a week long Thanksgiving break given how hard it is for students to go in and out of town over Thanksgiving. Some students don't go home (e.g., international students). They would need to be "protected" with housing options.

Simply having off Thanksgiving week makes sense; the reality is that a large number of students are taking it already and just skipping classes, so it is better to just build the vacation into the schedule.