

F2GradDisagree

I want exams to end by 12/20 so that I can spend more time around the holidays with my family.

The delay in the exam period significantly increases travel cost for winter break. Air fares usually go up significantly after December 19th. On the other hand, starting a week early in August does not affect travel cost significantly. This is especially important for students from low-income backgrounds, and students who are on financial assistance. Shortening the already-short winter break also makes it very hard for international students to travel back home during winter break, as it takes longer to travel round-trip and to recover from jet lag. Int'l air fares rise even more significantly than domestic fares close to the holiday period.

Same as before.

Addition of days to Thanksgiving break is not useful to students. Yes, we may not be able to relax with only three days, but lengthening the break pushes the exam schedule too far into winter break. I still don't think that the summer is too short. (See comments from F1 framework)

Don't need long for Thanksgiving

Having exams up until December 20th is too late for holiday travel, especially with grading that TAs and instructors still need to do after the exam is finished. A full week for Thanksgiving Break is too long.

I am an international student and I buy my tickets for home well in advance in order to afford them. If the exam period ends on the 22nd, I'd have to schedule tickets for home on the 23rd or even 24th, which would make the tickets even more expensive and the whole process of my getting home would be very stressful for my family.

As an international student, the closer to the holidays the last exam is, the harder it is to get an affordable flight ticket to the home country for holidays.

I don't like shorter exam preparation

Last exam days in December are too late

break starts too close to christmas

As before, no rest day during study period. Making Thanksgiving break longer also holds no obvious purpose. The last week having little instructional value is not necessarily a weakness because cornell classes already cover so much material. Students at this point are already burnt out, so I see no reason to cram in an extra week in.

Fall semester seems LONG Last day of class is still later than the current calendar, even though the F2 starts almost at the same time.

For many of the same reasons I mentioned before. Additionally, I agree that Thanksgiving adds anxiety, but not because of the number of days (i.e. too few) but because things are often due right after the break is done, meaning you can't enjoy it or you are rushing to get things done after, and then the semester is done.

While I do like the extended Thanksgiving break, it is rather pointless since the superlong Christmas break is soon after. Again, adding another week of normal classes before exams doesn't have a ton of value. Weekend orientation allows parents and other working family members to join in some of the events and smooth the transition.

Again, no one wants to take an exam December 22nd. Flights are more expensive close to Christmas.

In this proposed calendar, classes begin the same week. No advantage.

The longer Thanksgiving break will add discontinuity to the fall semester Later December ending makes grading window shorter for TAs and instructors

Mostly the same objections as before. Indifferent about all-weekday orientation versus weekend orientation days. Adding two days to Thanksgiving break is nice but if that's at the expense of a shorter winter break, I don't think that's a good trade.

Same issue with F1 about flights close to Christmas.

Although I like the reduction of the study period which I agree is a bit too long, I don't like the schedule shift further

into December, as travel gets increasingly difficult and expensive in the second and third week of the month. The longer Thanksgiving break would be counter-productive, I think, in that it would put everyone into break-mode a bit too early!

thanksgiving break too long

Starting classes on a Thursday is odd. Again, I am not in favor of pushing the semester back into December. I am in favor of the shorter exam period.

A full week is not necessary for thanksgiving and thanksgiving break helps balance lab schedules after losing MTU earlier in the semester

This revised schedule has the same issue as F1, in that both F1 and F2 increase the number of weekend final exam days from 1, with the current schedule, to 2. This puts pressure on students with families and existing jobs that rely on the traditionally observed work-week schedule.

Similarly, I don't want to have more classes in December

I disagree for the same reasons as in my previous comment: the three extra days in December are, in my opinion, a bad idea.

I don't like the idea of a 5-day Thanksgiving break.

Weeklong break at Thanksgiving so near the end of term would be disruptive to learning.

Having a long Thanksgiving break would make it harder to come back to class and focus.

I will prefer earlier start of winter/Christmas vacation so that people can possibly find cheaper tickets to go home.

It is too disruptive to have a long break right at the end of classes.

Same reason.

I do not feel that Thanksgiving break needs to be extended, and do not like that the latest exams end only three days before Christmas, as plane tickets increase dramatically the closer it gets to the holiday for those students needing to travel outside of New York to get home.

Fall semester feels short enough, so there is no need for an extra long Thanksgiving break

Full week for Thanksgiving is unnecessary; getting out on Dec 22 is too close to Christmas.

I don't think we need a longer Thanksgiving break, especially when there are so few class days after it and before exams.

Makes it difficult for international travelers during winter break

Same reason as before

Thanksgiving break needn't be a week long. However, I do agree with having the all-weekday orientation.

Same reason as F1

orientation is too long and classes go for too long. we don't need a week off for thanksgiving.

School lets out late, no need for week-long thanksgiving break, reduced exam period is bad.

Why make Thanksgiving break so long? It's not even in the middle of the semester. I think the semester should be made more compact with appropriate short breaks scattered within.

The last day of Fall is too late

Later classes in December again make travel more difficult and more expensive for those who go far west.

A longer Thanksgiving Break does not improve the front end or back end of the calendar.

Makes holiday travel more expensive and inconvenient

it doesn't make too much difference in term of longer summer and the long thanksgiving break doesn't help in keeping focus on the upcoming exams and duties

While more instruction days after Thanksgiving makes sense, the week-long Thanksgiving Break would be too long. Students who are anxious about final exams will now have more time without structure to be anxious; students who are not anxious are likely to skip classes and take the full week anyway.

Semester beginning on a Thursday is a waste of week.

It doesn't make sense to have such a long thanksgiving break so close to winter break.

Again, classes get out too close to Christmas.

The semester ends too late.

Longer Thanksgiving Break would be too much of an interruption to the semester flow with not enough instruction after to justify. Also, exams going that close to Christmas will make December travel VERY expensive. It's already expensive to travel in and out of Ithaca.

I think a week off during thanksgiving is detrimental for the remaining portion of the semester. Having that long of a break practically immediately proceeding the final exams is mentally difficult. I also don't think that moving the start of the semester back two days effectively addresses point 1 (summer is too short) or point 7 (august child care is hard). I much prefer the F1 framework.

don't care very much if the monday/tuesday of thanksgiving are part of the break or not. not sure if anyone cares, really...

Recognition needs to be after exams. We don't need a full week off for Thanksgiving.

Finals are way too close to Christmas and it gets harder to get home that late in the season!!

Like F1, it seems like this is unnecessarily making the semester end later than it could. Most schools don't start that late.

Exam dates are too late for international students to home. Fares are significantly higher by this time

Don't like starting on Thursday, or two full weeks of class after Thanksgiving.

Again, I like my early break for Christmas

Too much off time, better to just get the semester over with.

Dec 22 is too close to the holidays.

Exam/study period still too long. Full week over Thanksgiving will be filled with assignments anyways.

The week-long Thanksgiving break is not really worth it—the Winter break comes so soon afterwards, there is no real benefit to having it. I like the idea of moving the two august days to Dec., though.

Don't need such a long Thanksgiving break - I live far away, and won't make it home for the break, so I'd rather have more time at Christmas.

We're not all U.S. citizens, thus Thanksgiving break has no meaning for many if not most international students and scholars. I would prefer a longer summer and shorter winter break, not a longer Thanksgiving break so close to the winter break.

A week off for Thanksgiving is meaningless so close to winter break. This calendar lengthens the semester overall with no additional class time.

It's a good idea to extend the Thanksgiving break a little because it's always such a pain to do anything around that time. I also think it's a good idea to reduced the study/exam period, but I strongly disagree to moving the end of the semester closer to the holidays. This makes it a lot more expensive for students to leave Ithaca and to go back home both in the US and abroad.

Having an exam on the 22nd would be miserable. It means you would not be able to travel home until the 23rd or 24th. A lot of people like to relax and celebrate Christmas Eve together. There are no major holidays in early August. Also, shortening the study period is silly.

Would rather start earlier than end later.

Orientation day is not useful. Having it over the weekend is enough. Too many days for Thanksgiving

Same problem as F1

same reason - end of semester break is too short.

The F2 calendar ends too late.

As I mentioned previously, starting the semester in the middle of the week can be tricky for lab courses. Thanksgiving break does not need to be extended, particularly because it is so close to the end of the semester.

The Thanksgiving break is too long. this creates a 9 day break in late classes right before finals.

While I agree that adding time to Thanksgiving Break is an improvement, I believe that the semester should end sooner than December 22.

I prefer the current calendar.

A week off for Thanksgiving is too long

Ending the semester with finals as late as the 22nd is unfair to the people who need to grade exams. In general, I don't think you should make semester longer. Again I'd suggest reducing study days to 3 days and start classes 2 days later.

A week off for thanksgiving is too long, considering we would have winter break shortly after. As someone who lives on the west coast, I would rather have a longer winter break than a longer thanksgiving break.

A whole week off for Thanksgiving? Really?

I want to finish fall semester as soon as possible

It takes time of winter break

This takes away a research week in December without adding one in August.

I like the shorter time between exams and Christmas, and the later start in August, but Monday and Tuesday classes get shortchanged in F2.

The orientation period is going to be hard on 1Ls. They need time to do their reading and bond.

Thanksgiving break is unnecessarily long. People will leave campus early, regardless of how much time is given for break. I also think orientation should span the weekend.

A full week at Thanksgiving is unnecessary.

Semesters should start on Monday preferably, but Tuesday if not possible. This is because of the need to coordinate TA recitation lesson plans that are presented over the course of the week. Under this plan, a new recitation lesson plan starts on every Thursday. Which means, some cohort of students sees material from "last week" in recitation and some cohort sees material from "this week" for any given M-F period.

December 22 is too late to travel for family gatherings and holidays.

Same reason as previous one. Also nobody needs a too long thxgiv break since we just use it for finishing final projects!!

I really don't like this one. First off I want to be done before Dec 22nd to try to avoid crazy Christmas travel. I don't think the summer is too long. Also having a whole week off for Thanksgiving seems excessive, and then you go right into the rush of the end of the school year. I think that would be a hard transition. And if you think people would do

work over that break you'd be wrong.

Too long for thanksgiving

Would rather have more class days in August than December

The end date so close to a major religious and cultural holiday (Christmas, Dec 24th) places great stress on graduate students who both celebrate this holiday- often by traveling since traveling for other family holidays like Thanksgiving is impossible from Cornell given the shortness of the break- and who are responsible for grading finals. This is an improvement over F1 given the extended Thanksgiving break, but does not solve the problem create for the large proportion of graduate students who are not local to the Cornell or New York area.

Adding to thanksgiving isn't necessary

Would rather have breaks on the backend then during the semester. It interrupts study flow and is the holidays during the semester are often loaded with work anyhow.

again, i like having more time for exams

exam date too late

see comments for F1

i think a full week off for thanksgiving right before gearing up for finals is unhelpful. especially for people who have to stay on campus. I do like the shortened exam period

Study weeks should not be shortened.

Again, we are drawing too close to Christmas. Per my prior comment, the Law School utilizes the entire exam period thus this is a poor choice for Law Students.

Cuts into December break

A 5-day Thanksgiving break isn't necessary.

I still don't want to leave later.

An entire week for Thanksgiving is excessive.

Thanksgiving week vacation too long. would rather get out further in advance of xmas

The longer Thanksgiving break is unnecessary and may prove counter-productive in retaining a student's academic focus. Foreign students, unable to leave campus during this break, would realize little benefit. As mentioned previously, the revision here does not improve the structural problems inherent with the current schedule. Indeed, it may worsen those problems. The F2 option would compress exams into fewer days, permitting less time for pre-exam study and preparation.

I still don't think the latest finals day should be so late as December 22nd. Having a more compressed study/exam period will make it even more stressful for those taking predominantly courses with final exams vs. papers/projects. Having exams scheduled on weekend days and without any study day break in the middle of finals period is also extra stressful and I believe many would feel even more bitter and burned out by being required to take finals on the weekend (potentially both days) without an opportunity to recharge and also prepare for more finals they have the following week. Having the Fall Recognition day during finals period could create conflicts and, therefore, stress for those seniors who still have finals either on that same day or the two days after they have been recognized as graduated. For the variation to make the study/final period 12 days, I would definitely move orientation one day earlier and start classes one day earlier in August. For those students who are not doing orientation (pretty much everyone besides incoming Freshmen and a handful of transfers), having the first week of classes be just two days

long and then the weekend would feel like a waste of the week. The weekend before orientation will provide plenty of time for new students and their families to travel and move in and then families would have Sunday still to travel back home in time to go to work on Monday, as well. I would still hold classes on Labor day because that 3-day weekend becomes especially not valuable since it is so soon after classes have begun; so, it hasn't been long enough for people to really need a break, and it's not long enough of a break to be able to travel anywhere. Additionally, for students taking a class that only meets once a week on Mondays, having Labor Day Monday off so early in the semester gives those students less class sessions to attend in which to decide if they want to take that class before the add/drop deadline. Also, in F2, there would be 3 Mondays of classes missed, compared to 2 Tuesdays, and only 1 Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. In order to make the Summer Break longer, I would instead take off days at the end of Winter Break in January, because having the latest finals day on December 22nd is getting very close to the Christmas holiday (the only constant holiday on the Gregorian calendar we are using; unfortunately, most of the other holidays celebrated around this time vary widely in dates, I understand this cannot be well addressed [I'm Jewish, too]). Having finals end so close to the holiday poses additional stress and issues for those students traveling further distances. By the end of a 5-week Winter break though, I believe most students are "ready" to go back to class, and it is well enough after the holidays by mid-/end-January. I think the full-week Thanksgiving break is a good idea and would allow more students to be able to travel for the break.

Thanksgiving break is already too long, especially with Fall break being so close to those dates. There is no need to have it longer

Thanksgiving is too long. Having that many days off so close to finals is not helpful and is just an opportunity to forget more and get more behind.

the thanksgiving break is too long

Same as previous question

I like the full week fall break

Again, I'd rather finish earlier in Dec than start later in Aug.