

S1AlumAgree

Later February break is good. Shortening the exam period is not preferable, but extra senior day is nice.

This is OK I guess... not the best improvement but delaying February break by 1 week is nice (if you aren't going to move Spring Break to match up with other schools) since it's currently located too early in the semester. Reducing the exam period is good because it allows more time for summer internships.

Doesn't really seem to make that big of a difference. I'd rather have an earlier spring break than any of these changes.

Pretty much the same apart from finals week starting a day earlier.

There are some good things about this proposal -- moving the February break back a week is a good idea, currently it comes way too early in the semester, an additional senior day will be welcomed by students, and ending classes on a Thursday makes a lot more sense than ending on a Wednesday. That being said, much like F2, classes should not start on a Thursday because it creates a weird "first week" where most of your classes won't meet especially if you have a lab or a discussion session scheduled at the end of the week. Additionally, most students and especially upperclassmen will plan to resume classes the following Monday because of this and to enjoy more time at home.

I would agree if the following changes were made: (1) February break was reduced to 1 day off (3-day weekend), (2) the day taken from the reduced February break would be an additional Senior day, (3) the February break would be moved up a week (aligning with President's Day), and (4) Spring break would be moved up a week so that it wouldn't be quite as late. I like February break, but think it should be a 3-day weekend rather than a 4-day weekend. A 4-day weekend makes students feel they could/should leave campus for a long weekend. In some ways I believe that a 3-day weekend would encourage students to stay on-campus, but give them an extra day to catch up on work and/or take a breather day. I'm unsure about delaying February break (assuming it's a 4-day break). It depends where it falls in relation to the 1st round of prelims. For a 4-day weekend, if I wanted to travel I wouldn't want February break to be before prelims. Delaying the break, could allow students to get away after exams. I'm unsure about a late Spring break. A plus of a late break is that if you want to travel, flights should be cheaper. However, it's unfortunate that students would most likely miss friends at home because other colleges are on break earlier. (Although students could visit friends at other colleges.) The shorter study/exam period seems to align with more other colleges. I have mixed feelings about it. A shorter period means higher stress rates for a shorter period a time. Students have less time to study for each exam, but that is true for everyone. There is a higher probability of exam conflicts or too many exams (3+) in a short period of time (24 hours). I like that it would be the same length and set-up as the Fall semester. I definitely like that Senior days would be longer! In fact, I think it should be a full week, as it used to be. Seniors deserve to celebrate and enjoy an extra day with their friends before heading off into the real world.

One more senior day is good. One fewer study day is bad. There was nothing about Slope Day. Slope is an important thing to consider.

I don't see this change really having a significant impact either way.

I think an idea to consider is breaking up the study days. Instead of having them all in one period, I think breaking one of them out could be helpful as sort of a break day during exam periods. Some people get multiple exams in a row and even though there is a policy to extend the exam if X amount are within a small time frame, it is often inconvenient to do this.

While I think February break is too soon, I dislike the idea of having an unusually placed spring break.

Would the 12 day study/exam period include exams on slope day? I would also argue that our study/exam period is longer because of the vastly larger student body and larger number of majors, so it is not a relevant comparison. A later February break does start to conflict with prelims, but that might be acceptable, as it does seem in the current calendar that as soon as we get back there's a break.

The only change of note is shifting Feb Break one week back. This is fine if you think it comes up too early.

Not sure this would seem any different to students

Good to move February break back one week but not sure about shortening the exam period. It can get very stressful if the exam period is shortened.

Reducing the finals / study period makes student life incredibly difficult. It becomes nearly impossible to space exams out so they do not happen adjacent to each other / on the same day. February Break has always been way too close to the start of the semester. It provides little respite from classes as they have barely started at that point.

For reasons stated earlier, I think a longer study/finals week is better.

Coordination with family and friends for a break is more convenient if the February break falls on Presidents Day.

I like the idea of breaks spaced evenly throughout the semester and we do need more time to prepare dorms for graduation but I like being able to spend time with people at home who have similar time off in February.

No reprieve during exam period, but more time to prepare for commencement. Later February break would also be an improvement.

Shifting a study day to Monday is a plus, but removing an exam day is a minus (creates a more compressed testing schedule). Not clear whether that's a net positive or negative for me.

Delaying the Feb break is a good idea but it would be better to have the spring break closer to those of other schools so that students can visit their friends etc. and become a lot more de-stressed by doing so. Once again, not the biggest fan of reducing the exam period esp. for students taking more classes than average that semester.

February break was too early, but time to commencement does not need to be increased.

February break, by and large by my experience, hasn't been accommodated in syllabi. Classes offered in the fall and spring will have to shuffle assignments around, causing either what feels like a useless first few weeks or a very rushed first few weeks. I'm all for breaks, but I'm not sure if moving it back a week is the preferable option.

I agree with pushing the February break by one week, but disagree with reducing the study/exam period.

I mostly think this calendar is fine, but I strongly disagree that the study and exam periods should be shorter. I think they should be kept at their current lengths for the reasons I mention in my response to F1.

1. Spring break is still too late 2. I agree with February break being early, but if having it early means bringing spring break earlier then I would keep the break early 3. It is OK to have an extra senior day 4. Don't end exams too close to Memorial day because many internships start the day after Memorial Day.

I recall struggling through the spring semester to get to spring break, and by pushing it back a week further I feel that is even worse for students.

I think its a good idea to have a later February break. However, again, I am not sure about the shorter exam/study period - it sounds like it would create a more stressful environment. However, if it is way above average in length as compared to peer universities, I say its ok to reduce it.

I think both calendars are ok

I really like moving February break a week later, but I don't like shortening the exam period for the same reason given on F1

This is only an improvement if slope day is on Friday

I like the idea of moving February break back and agree that it is too early in the semester currently. I also like the idea of a longer senior week. However I disagree with the plan to have seven straight days of exams. Study days should not be cut out from the middle of exam week. Perhaps add a study day in and cut the extra day for senior week.

I like moving the February break but not shortening the exam period. That gives less time to prepare for individual exams.

I don't have an opinion, these two schedules seem pretty similar to me.

Too similar for me to find reasons to be swayed towards one or the other.

Improvements on Exam Dates: 2 study days, 3 exam days, 2 study days, 4 exam days. So there is time in between to adequately prepare depending on how exams are scheduled. I don't know if this is possible but have: Feb 20 Break

(1 day, so 3 day weekend), March Spring Break March 19-25, April 17 Break (1 day off, so 3 day weekend)? Or something similar? This gives students equally spaced out breaks and needed rest.

I like that the February break was moved later because it was too early. I also felt that Senior days were too short to be able to catch up with everyone before the graduation. I don't like the shortened study/exam time.

They are about the same

Some improvements. the Feb break is too early, no one needs a long weekend so close to the beginning of classes, there is no benefit. It is certainly important to have 2 breaks. I detailed my problem with the exam period previously, the problem is not length but flexibility, it doesn't matter how long it is if you have 5 exams in 2 days anyway. Currently it's excessively long, but mostly because exams are not spread out enough. Additionally we should not be comparing ourselves to peers in this way. if our exam period works great, if not let's fix it, we should not be changing it for the sake of change because other schools don't match up to our schedule. Those are general complaints in terms of this (s1) specifically the exam period seems improved except the lack of study day in the middle, it would be better to have 3 before and one during than 4 during. The one senior day is a great addition, currently most seniors used the exam period as that because of its length, but some were left out because of late exams.

I like the idea of a longer senior week, but I do not like the idea of losing the study time for finals, as that was very important for my success. I prefer the variation to S1 over the original S1.

Moving back Feb. Break is good, but I don't like the addition of a class day/removal of a study day.

Cutting senior week to senior days was AWFUL. It crammed all the big events into three days and by the time graduation started, everyone was sick or exhausted. Adding another day is great. Also the Feb break was too early, so that's a great addition. That said, I'm still concerned around cutting study periods. If anything, senior week should just extend into study periods.

Can't see how this would make a large effect on students

I don't see why class needs to start a day later or why there needs to be an extra senior day

neutral about this change

Look very similar.

Neutral

The difference in these calendars is negligible.

The removal of the extra study day is a concern. It is nice for students to have a guaranteed break between exams during exam week. Helps reduce stress and promote mental health. The delay of february break is nice because it would break up the schedule a bit more. That being said it is important to teachers to accommodate this by not having midterms the week immediately back from break which as a huge stressor for me during my undergraduate days.

I like pushing the feb break by a week (it felt too close to the beginning of the semester and nobody really NEEDED a break at that point), but I don't like how late the semester ends. This could create conflicts with internships and summer opportunities, since many universities finish by mid may.

This one doesn't seem to change much for the better

I agree that the February break is too early, however if you add on an extra day at the end of the semester, is slope day being moved to that Friday?

Really don't see much of an important difference.

I don't see a huge difference between the two.

No real preference between these two

The value in Cornell's spring break aligning with another college or university doesn't seem particularly relevant.