

S1FacUnsure

This calendar keeps a spring break that is too late right now and does nothing about the overly long winter break. February Break is unnecessary, so close to the start of the semester, and most would prefer a spring break to correspond more with other universities.

This calendar screws families. Not only does Cornell spring break not line up with ICSD, it also means we don't get a long weekend when city schools have off in February.

A major discussion point surrounding the schedule change has been the difficulty of our breaks not lining up with the Ithaca City School calendar. This proposed change would make this worse rather than better - which imposes a real cost on families - and doesn't seem to address other areas of concern in the schedule (e.g., the long break close to the end of the semester).

This calendar doesn't make significant changes and doesn't seem to address the major issues with the spring semester.

None of s1 makes sense to me - why make things worse?

I think having an early February break is a good idea.

I have kids in the public schools, and displacing the two day holiday to a time that is not mutual doesn't do much for me.

The only advantage is shortening the study/exam period by 2 days. Changing the winter break by one week really has little impact.

Need to move graduation earlier. I don't see how moving the start of classes later or the Feb break later helps anything. What is a senior day??

Changes don't address enough of the problems presented.

Spring Break is too late. You get back from Spring Break, and classes are nearly over. Also, no other colleges are on Spring Break so late in the academic year.

1. Spring break is MUCH too late. Creates all sorts of problems for my academic unit, give the brevity of remaining weeks.

Term still ends too late! Students need to be able to start most summer internships the week BEFORE Memorial Day.

Both S and S1 are bad. The spring break is too late

Moving the february break by 1 week will be very frustrating for faculty with children without significantly improving the timing of breaks or the semester overall.

Really not a significant change - starting earlier in January and ending earlier in May would be better.

Still have to deal with partial weeks which affects instruction of courses with multiple sections.

Why start classes on a Thursday? Don't like the timing of the breaks.

A Wednesday start is still awkward. The later February break is good thought.

Out of alignment with other school breaks (both in Feb and April). Graduation still too late in May. The between semester break is still too long.

Does not really make a difference

I really don't think it changes it that much to be honest. The veterinary school doesn't have a Feb break and spring break is mid March now because of how our semester runs.

Start and end too late. The shift in the February break seems inconsequential.

2 day Feb break is inconsequential, no matter where placed. All other features essentially are identical.

I like the earlier Jan start. I would keep the Feb break with the schools.

While this does address some issues, I wonder if the students will appreciate the oddly placed break.

No need to change.

February break is too early Too many exam days Commencement too late either way

Prefer to start classes on a Monday

Please don't start on a Thursday! For people who teach M/W or T/Th for different sections, this is very difficult. Also why should T/Th classes have an extra day than M/W classes?

February break is unnecessary

Moving more break days away from local school district schedule for no benefit.

One of the main things that Cornell should be looking at is syncing its Spring break with the local K-12. I can't believe that this isn't part of the conversation.

The February break is not too early. Spring break should remain at a standard time of year.

Not coordinated with ICSD; partial week in late January is odd use of time.

it is better to align february break with legal holiday and k-12 breaks.

Better to keep our breaks standard. I agree that the Feb. one is problematic given our start date but it is a good thing relative to the timing of the Spring break.

Delaying Feb break creates child care problems. I disagree that it comes too early; spring break is what comes way too late!!! I have no interest or support for extending senior days. It seems to me a useless university sanction of partying that ends up delaying wrapping up Commencement and the semester.

Moving the February break would be fine but the study period is short. I would prefer to delete the February break.

Having extra childcare days would be very hard on two-career families.

Hardly much of a change compared to S2

Moving the February break off Presidents' Day week is odd for both students and faculty, making it hard for both to coordinate with family and friends. Starting classes on a Thursday instead of Wednesday means that Mon/Weds classes (of which there are many) miss the entire first week, leaving students short-changed. (Teh mentioned S1 Variation may address this problem.)

It improves slightly for students with the first 2-day break delayed by a week, but creates two child care days which is difficult on families. I so much appreciated sharing at least one break in the spring with my kids. I think the trade-off for a break that is one week later is not worth it. Also I like the earlier Wednesday start date because then at least Mon/Wed classes can have one meeting in especially because of the earlier February break. I would change by adding the Wednesday start date back, keeping the February break as is, and also keeping the extra senior day. OR I would consider a new calendar that does not have memorial day graduation!

One word: childcare

This schedule might require families to travel to Ithaca with their students on a Wednesday, the middle of a work week: they would have to take off 2 days. Keeping the first day of classes for Spring at either a Tuesday or Wednesday is preferred. Starting a semester with just two days the first week of classes would not give students enough instruction to dig into their semester.

It is important to me to share a few February break days with my kids. Neither Cornell break would align with ICSD. This is definitely worse for me.

This February break aligns poorly with the week-long February break of the K-12 calendar, which creates a childcare issue that is lessened by the current Spring calendar.

Not much of a change.

I find the new Feb. break very awkward for my courses and I dislike the way it makes spring break much later than is typical for a semester system.

It creates two extra childcare days.

Disaligning the Cornell and ICSD February breaks is a loss to families with school-age children. I don't see why we need to do that.

If breaks are not coordinated with the public schools, then faculty members with kids can never go on break.

Two objections: (1) One break is enough. Breaks really do interrupt the flow and momentum of coverage. (2) The appropriate length of the study/exam period should be judged on the basis of our own pedagogical assessment, rather than following the practices of other institutions.

spring break is too late.

This feels a little random to me. I suspect it could be burdensome for campus professionals with child care issues.

spring break is too late. The February break really does not serve the purpose of reducing stress

The current spring break is too late in the semester to be useful. Two days earlier are simply not a substitute for a significant break closer to mid-semester. It doesn't matter when the two days are.

I think not having the break tied into schools remains a problem. We got one break where they lined up and it was fantastic to be able to travel. I think classes still begin too late in January.

Feb break would be out of sync with area schools

The early Feb break does not bother me, and I prefer having it align with the public school holidays.

Feel very strongly to align school holidays for those with children. There is a need to escape the cold weather in Ithaca at this time and the only opportunity is when the children also have a holiday.

I think that spring break is too late in the semester and I would be fine eliminating the February break, or just leaving it as is over the President's Day holiday. I do not like any calendar switch that makes the semester go further into May. Our students start their internships later than many of their counterparts from other universities.

Spring break is too late. Spring semester ends too late for biologists with late spring/summer field seasons.

I don't really support the February Break, but conditional on it being in the calendar I don't care much when it is. My main complaint is "summer is too short", and this calendar makes it one day shorter.

Because the childcare situation gets worse. The February break at this point coincides with the school break. Changing this will make the spring break and february break non coincide with the school breaks, which becomes a logistical nightmare for parents.

make Feb break misaligned with NYS schools.

Important to have both February and April breaks for Cornell coincide with the breaks for public schoolchildren. It's too burdensome for Cornell faculty/staff with kids to have to figure out child care for them when the breaks for Cornell do not coincide with those for the Ithaca School District.

Postponing Feb. break makes child care difficult and puts us out of sync with other schools.

I disagree with the stated goals.

Classes resume too late and February break isn't necessary.

No significant change. We need to stop coinciding with Memorial Day for commencement.

current Feb break allows staff with kids in local schools to spend at least some time with them. That Feb break is silly early in either option, so at least let people spend time with their kids

Doesn't make enough of a difference: the last exam day is the typical start date for summer internships. This makes the exams on the last two days (Monday and even Sunday) very problematic, for CS students (and students for internship programs)

Since it creates two additional childcare days, the advantage is not obvious.

Current Feb break is in sync with public schools, that should stay. (note that none of the options necessarily fix occasional mismatch with public school spring break)

A two day week at the beginning of spring semester is foolish.

We should not shorten study period. And can we please align University breaks with Ithaca City School District breaks?

February break is a waste of time for everyone.

Those with a Mo-Wed-Fri class schedule will miss an additional class period (Wed). We already lost one (Mon) with the current schedule.

I don't see the advantage of this. If I am understanding correctly, it does nothing to fix the childcare situation. It also makes the winter break a little longer (when it seems it is already too long), and summer a little shorter (when it seems it is already too short).

I like having the Winter Break a little later, but this does not move graduation earlier.

I truly don't see what you gain here and you create hardship for parents with the change of the spring break to a week later.

I hate the current late spring break, and I would like the semester to end earlier. The end game is more or less the same here.

WHY NOT START A WEEK EARLIER?

Childcare in Feb

I would be more in favor of moving spring break one week earlier.

Starting on Wednesday is better because there is a lecture class on Wednesday, so we don't waste Thursday section times.

It's better to have summer break starts earlier than now.

Childcare. 'Nuff said.

This model will make the MW classes meet one fewer day than the TR classes.

Shifting the whole semester by one day doesn't make much of a difference, but moving the February break by a week creates a strain on parents who need to find childcare solutions. It is better to move the spring break to an earlier date instead of the long stretch until it comes in terms of students' stress.

Worse conflict than current system with local school vacations, which makes life unnecessarily difficult for faculty and staff.

Feb break is stupid. Period. I get it that winter in Ithaca + school = misery but the fact that spring break is a week long means that students can have a meaningful break from Cornell, whether they go south to party, travel home or do an externship. Mid-March is also a natural break from an instructional standpoint. Late spring break is also stupid unless it changes annually to coincide with public school breaks.

Four weeks between breaks is too short.

I completely agree that the 2 day February break is too early but moving it a week later only adds childcare issues and what is the point of that? Either start later or don't have the 2 day break. With this calendar if you have kids now you have two Spring semester vacations that don't match up with your kids'. What a bummer!

prefer Feb break coordinating with local icSD break

Still too long to spring break, need to break up the winter months.

Let's move the spring break one week early.

winter break over presidents day is very popular for students.

Classes should start earlier, on the Monday. Leave the Winter break where it is. Spring break could be where it is, or a week earlier. By starting classes earlier (on Monday), 3 consecutive study days could start on Tuesday, with exams beginning Fri/Sat and the second Sunday could remain as a study day. Retain 7 exam days.

Delaying the February break is a bad idea for families. A really bad idea.

February Break is a mistake. No one needs the break, and it plays havoc with scheduling labs and discussion sections. Also, this schedule has an extra Wednesday and Friday and two extra Thursdays. Why should a graduate course that meets on a Thursday have two more sessions than one that meets on a Monday? Why can you not even out the weeks, and place Spring Break back in March?

Increased mismatch with ICSD

start is very late

If there is any utility of this change, it seems marginal. Yes Feb break does come early, but the need for 2 extra child care days seems like a burden that outweighs the benefit. I see more utility in moving the start of the semester to an earlier date, but that would likely shift graduation day too. Frankly, I'd prefer an earlier graduation, but to some the traditional day is sacrosanct.

creates child care hassle without significantly improving anything

Spring Break is too late. End of semester is too late. Do we really need a February Break? We lived without one for years, and during almost everyone of those years, there were no suicides. Based on anecdotal evidence only, I find students to be tenser and more likely to breakdown at the end of a longer semester with a break that comes late and does not overlap with anyone else's break. Perhaps the university could study the effects on students of the long school year, and delayed Spring Break.

classes end later

Moving February break away from Ithaca City School districts and adding two childcare days is not a good idea.

Get rid of Feb. break. Makes no sense. Better to start semester later or end earlier

Two breaks are too many. Eliminate the Feb. break and place the week-long spring break closer to the middle of the semester.

I don't see a benefit to a calendar where spring breaks are so off kilter with other schools, do not fall at the midway point the way that spring breaks should, and don't align with the ICSD calendar either. This seems worse than what we currently have.

Big benefit of current Feb break is to faculty for childcare days. don't see how this change helps that much.

Spring break too late. Evenness of CDS too monotonous.

Doesn't this add an extra T/R class?

The early Feb break is essential to surviving that particularly grey and cold month in Ithaca.

There is no improvement I can see

Feb break is still too early and does not make sense.

Feb break change is a burden for those with children

Need to be consistent with local schools.

unusual breaks that do not align with school breaks

Spring break comes too late, tho Feb break is better later for the calendar, tho it still might be too early.

Want spring break and February breaks to coincide with the school districts.

Moving the February break means no coordination between Cornell and ICSD schedules.

Break placements are terrible

It's hard not to have any overlap with elementary school spring breaks. Also, the winter break is already very long.

Although it would be good to shorten the study/exam period, I do not think classes should begin with a two-day week, in which most courses would meet only once during that first week.

This plan is a small change and it puts us out of step with ICSD school break.

I am not convinced it is important to have 2 breaks, and especially not when one of them comes in April, which is too late in the semester. I would rather see a longer spring break in March.

The change is minimal; the advantages are dubious. Why change just for the sake of change?

The change is minor and already end too late in May.

The overlap of the current February break with the school February break is the only thing that makes sense in the current calendar. It is hell to have children and never be able to leave this godforsaken spot, since they're always in school when we're free.

A mild improvement to move the Feb break but essentially solves nothing and creates child-care problems.

the February break is totally unnecessary and extremely disruptive to instruction - it should be done away with entirely - we should go back to the spring schedule as it was before this terrible idea of a February break was instituted

Terrible idea to delay February break and so create childcare days. The gains are negligible compared to the harm.

It's very bad to ignore the local school calendar. This is not just about finding a sitter; it's about acknowledging the enormous challenges facing faculty and staff with kids.

Childcare

Feb break unnecessary; better to end term a few days earlier. I want 10-11 day for study/exams

late spring break winter break

I think moving the February break away from the national/grade school holiday is a poor option.

Aligning the Feb. break with the Ithaca school district is desirable.

Does not address problem of long break being too late in the semester, which is a big issue.

Extra childcare is a huge no-no for me.

I prefer having the February break aligned with the ICSD break.

Moving the Feb break off presidents weekend is inconvenient for any staff/faculty with children. Spring semester will still feel very long and drawn out.

Winter break is too long. Don't start classes on a Thursday. Two day break is disruptive to schedule.

won't work for families, though shorter exam period is good

This is nuts. My kids are out of the house now, but struggling with child care was a big challenge when they were younger, and it was infuriating that so little effort was made to coordinate holiday schedules between the Ithaca school system and Cornell.

February break is unnecessary anyway, and particularly so if you move the spring break back to where it always used to be (3rd week in March). Semester under S1 goes too late into May.

For those who don't offer final exams, there is virtually no change from the current calendar -- certainly not enough of one to constitute an improvement.

I don't really understand the rationale behind a spring break being so late. If it's supposed to provide time for students to relax, it doesn't make much sense to me to organize it in April, less than five weeks before the last class.