

S2FacDisagree

Calendar is terrible for working families. At least in the current calendar, February break lines up. Here we have two breaks, neither of which align with iCSD

The spring week long break is too early.

It's silly to have spring break in the winter time.

If you are going to move spring break, the number one factor is unison with Ithaca schools.

Spring break comes too early. A week long break so early in the semester breaks up the rhythm of a class. Let's have our spring break in the Spring, when the weather is nice! Travel in and out of Ithaca can be quite difficult at this time of year.

I think I prefer the longer break later.

I don't like the reversed order of the longer break. The long break should continue to be in April.

shorter break followed by longer break seems like a better distribution of break following the long holiday break of December/January

The late break is creative but strange..... (not a helpful comment, I know)

Earlier break is better, but late graduation is still problematic.

Classes end too late. Summer internships start the week BEFORE Memorial Day. I don't like the earlier spring break.

S2 doesn't do much to address the late exam period and late commencement, and having the full week break so close to winter break is not productive

I think it would be better to have a later week-long break that attempts to overlap with ICSD spring break. There does not need to be such a long time between the last break and the end of the academic year.

Full week break comes too soon: 1) Need for break is lower so soon after semester start; 2) Earlier break more likely to lead to winter travel disruptions.

The Spring break is too early.

dislike early spring break

Don't favor the short April break.

Full week in March is too early for spring break and too late for President's week break. Two days off in April at a random time that is out of alignment with other school's breaks. Graduation still too late in May. The between semester break is still too long.

Students need a real break later then earlier

It makes no sense to have the week long break earlier in the semester- travel would be difficult in the Northeast at that time and it seems like classes would have just gotten started and then students would have a week long break. It makes more sense to have spring break actually in the spring/mid-way through the semester.

Putting a full week break in early March would reduce what is accomplished in classes in the first 60% of the semester. As a result I feel, it would reduce what can be accomplished overall. The current ordering of the breaks takes advantage of the fact that students and teachers have more energy and motivation early on.

Start and end dates are too late. Switching the breaks does not achieve anything useful.

It starts later and we don't need a big break at the start of the semester.

Starts too late in January either way Commencement too late either way Don't need 2 breaks

The later long break is more important psychologically, my intuition suggests. Shortening study/exam further is not a plus.

A longer spring break is more desirable to me than one in March.

Keep later long Spring break, prefer start on Monday

Long break starting March 5 is much too early.

Again, please don't start on a Thursday to have similar days for M/W and T/Th courses. The Feb. break is early, but I thought this was helpful to student mental health? Didn't we have some justification for it at the time?

Second break is not needed.

Don't see the benefit of swapping breaks

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. If Cornell is TRULY dedicated to work/life balance, this should be on the table.

Don't like the early Spring Break, seems out of place with most other schools. Don't know what a Wednesday start buys us. Stay with Tuesday and pull exam/study days back one day.

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

Timing is off. We don't need the long break earlier in semester.

Week off comes too soon in the semester with long period of mostly uninterrupted work (except for short two day break in April). I would rather have spring break last week of March.

Provides a break in March, much better in April!

I think it's better to have the shorter break earlier. School stress has built up less at that point and the weather is worse.

Spring Break is too early in this option: there isn't enough content in the courses to digest before taking this elongated Break.

Worse--no overlapping breaks with ICSD.

None of these breaks aligns with the K-12 school breaks, creating a childcare nightmare that is insensitive to faculty with school-aged children and out of step with Cornell's family friendly mantra.

Glad to keep the Jan break, but it benefits few if anyone to put a 1-week break in early March.

Just shifts days around.

I don't think the spring semester need have two breaks. The old system of a week-long break at nearly the mid-term was ideal.

dont want to have an earlier longer spring break, so dont want to reverse those two breaks

early March long break is too early; we should revert to mid/late March break

This schedule is out-of-sync with most of our peers in that Spring Break comes too early. This is bad for both students and faculty. The first week of March is still cold in most of the continental US, so students looking to get away from Ithaca have restricted opportunities (unless they are wealthy). Many professional meetings are scheduled in the latter half of March/early April specifically to coincide with spring breaks. While our Spring Break does not coincide with every meeting every year, it is great to have an overlap every 2-3 years. This schedule also preserves the Memorial Day graduation, which is much easier on our graduates' families and their travel schedules. I would rank this as #2 out of the 4 possibilities, but behind both the current schedule and option #1.

Same as S1 - eliminating the alignment of Cornell and ICSD February breaks. I agree that Spring break is too late, but it can be moved while leaving the February break as it is.

It is important that the breaks align with the local public schools--otherwise faculty with kids can never take a break.

Same objections as to S1.

I travel over spring break, and integrate this travel into classes. I don't think that early spring break would give quite enough time for preparation, although I do prefer this to the first option.

puts a long break too early in the semester

I feel like this version makes spring break too early. I don't really feel that the early Feb break and late Spring break are all that problematic.

See previous comments - the school holidays MUST align for those with children. Very important point.

I like the idea of moving spring break up in the semester, but not that far. 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.

The day care situation gets worse because the February break does not coincide with the school district anymore.

A week-long break early is a waste, because students and teachers are not yet out of steam. Having the long break late is better in courses with a large project component, because it provides a natural end to lecture material, and a beginning for project work.

Gets rid of Feb break - adds another later break - all of which create more days to find childcare for working parents.

Even though spring break is late... more time is needed later in the semester for a mental break than earlier. If we think about spring break as a time to relax, step away, and get some rest--and regain energy, that's better later--so that students (and faculty!) can make it through the end!

Please make sure to align Cornell's February and April breaks with those for the Ithaca School District. It is very burdensome on parents when Cornell's breaks do not coincide with that of their children.

Don't like the reversed order of the breaks.

We need the full week off later in the semester. This week off comes way too soon and creates a long and exhausting stretch of time between the first week in March and the end of the school year is way too long.

I do not agree that it is better "academically" to have the first break be the longer one.

Classes resume too late and April two day break isn't necessary.

These changes are not important to me.

If spring break were after 6 full weeks of instruction maybe it would be worth considering.

I am unsure why an early longer break is better academically, but it seems to have the spring break at a different time than our peers.

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)

This calendar has no hope of working for people with kids in public school, since these breaks are far from theirs.

The spring breaks in S2 are a week too early. People need to have it around the 7th full week of the term for mental health issues.

long break is too early

Dont like spring break as early

The present plan allows students to decompress either after or before mid-terms...

Would prefer not to shorten study period

No need for the 2-day break; waste of time.

Spring break should be later, students need more of a stress relief later in the semester plus weather is better then

Interesting to swap the breaks- not sure if it makes sense. Does not move graduation earlier.

This assume Cornell faculty have no families. Works against gender diversity

We don't really end any earlier, which I thought was one of the goals of this calendar change?

"Spring" break is too early in S2

It would feel like a really long haul after spring break, and the summer remains too short.

The long break is too late

Awkward for families with kids

This calendar positions spring break far too early and an April break is not as of much use as a February one.

spring break is way too early! I also don't see why our semesters are so long. Princeton semesters are 2 weeks shorter, why not ours? It seems like it would solve a bunch of problems with our calendar.

Having a longer break toward the end helps organize things for both students and me.

Semester still runs too late.

Long break early in the semester is unnecessary

Too long of a stretch from the new week-long "winter/spring break" until exam period -- the new shortened spring break is not enough to breath and destress.

A full week break needs to be at the 7 week point. This will kill half semester courses.

The early spring break is not as useful, and is hard to coordinate with work travel for conferences.

Spring break much too early in semester.

Complete disaccord with public school vacations, hard on faculty and staff.

It would be a disaster to have the long Spring break so early. It makes no sense.

Seems silly to have the longer break first.

prefer the break in dark dark February rather than springy April.

prefer to have our spring break at a different time than most colleges

Two breaks is inefficient. Should just have one that breaks semester evenly.

I don't see why this positioning of the breaks is "best academically." Students tend to get busier and more stressed as the semester progresses, so the shorter break should come first and the longer later. I think a better calendar would be the 2-day break 2 weeks later than in the current calendar, and the 5-day break 1 week later.

We need a long break before the end of the semester and all the end of semester projects become due. Our students need that break (I think).

Full week off when weather is still cold. 12 degrees today.

See comments for S1. I really do think it is a good idea to start classes on a Monday, i.e. 3 days earlier. With global warming we are not paying that much to heat dorms and class rooms at the end of January and the holiday break is already too long. Some of the Colleges start earlier.

Why would this be better "academically"?

Increased mismatch with ICSD

the spring break should be a week long, students expect that

Semester is still too long. Spring Break is still too early. People are staggering to the end of a school year that began in August and would like to get to the end of it. I would eliminate the 2-day break, end classes earlier, and extend Study Period and Senior Days.

I worry that the shorter break later in the semester would turn into a 2nd week-long break.

5 day break is too early--and could possibly interrupt students leaving or returning to campus due to weather. It's too early in the semester to relieve the stress of the spring semester. Desperately needs to be later. The two day break works best earlier.

breaks do not overlap with Ithaca School District breaks.

Long winter break does not align with local school district breaks. Winter break is too long

Does not match school break days

I prefer the spring break later; the early spring break is very likely to mean major weather during travel times

Semester is too long and the spring break is placed too early.

Too disruptive. Many students are just getting going/hitting their stride. The break is too early. Better to begin the semester earlier.

I would rather just eliminate the February break and put Spring Break in the middle of the semester.

Reversing the order of the two breaks would be catastrophic! Many of us go to conferences during the standard spring break time and this new calendar would mean that we would have to miss teaching.

Don't see the benefits of changing the break times as being large enough to warrant the change.

This break schedule is much more disruptive/ less agreeable from the perspective of the discipline of political sciences's conference schedule - will be disruptive to the entire gov dept.

Worse childcare conflict for faculty. It's hard to tell about swapping the breaks.

There is no improvement I can see

Spring break is too early, before midterms

students need a longer break later in the semester. semester ends too late.

Prefer Feb Presidents day break period and April rather than March for longer break

Need to be consistent with local schools.

Spring break too early

Not clear it coincides better with public school breaks.

I prefer the S1 proposal. Early March is not a great time for a longer break.

Much too early for spring break

Again, hardship to have no breaks that align with the elementary schools

breaks are better aligned with holiday periods with local schools, etc.

Both instructors and students are more exhausted later in the semester. I think that it's better to have the larger break at that later point. Another reason is that a break in April is also more pleasant for everyone to enjoy the starting spring in Ithaca or where the students are at home.

This puts Cornell entirely out of step with ICSD breaks.

Can't really say why, but for some reason I would prefer to have the full week spring break in April rather than March.

I don't like any of the two proposed changes for the spring semester. I actually think we should start a bit earlier in January and end the semester earlier in the actual spring.

spring break way too early

No need to reverse breaks

I just do not see the need for two spring breaks - it is a very bad idea in terms of the disruption of the instructional flow. We are forced to have the Thanksgiving break due to the national holiday schedule, but there is no need to repeat this unfortunate circumstance in the spring when external factors do not require it

The mismatch between the early break and the local school break is bad.

Feb break silly; if students or faculty need a break after a few weeks, they should be on leave. finishing term in late May not a good idea for students who have internships, etc. 10-11 day more than enough for study/ exams.

don't like the flipped breaks, shorter study period is good

Not sure if 2 breaks is a given. The main idea of the two breaks was to eliminate student stress and the bad publicity that Cornell received for suicides. A break in mid-April will have no impact on those two objectives.

For me, coordinating with K-12 breaks has a lot of value. This schedule is far from that.

Extra childcare is a huge no-no for me.

just wierd

Having a week long break where it has been placed in this model doesn't take into account the typically terrible weather in Ithaca then. Many people could be stranded instead of taking a break.

I want a week long spring break in the spring, not the winter. Shortening the study/exam period is always a good idea though and could be done independently of anything else

Same as S1 -- NO NEED FOR FEB BREAK!! April is way too late for spring break. End earlier in May!

I don't see the point in having a week-long break in February when we have such an incredibly long winter break - they've just been back in school for a little over a month and we need a week off?

Students want a real spring break