

## S4StaffAgree

see above

February break is necessary.

A short break is needed between return to campus in January and a Spring break.

Much too long of a period for students without a break during a very dreary and bleak time--not a good idea!!

I am not sure that one break will be enough for students. They may need February break.

I prefer the shorter February break with the earlier start time in January.

Having 2 breaks in the spring still seems important.

I think that its important that the students get that additional two day break.

Definitely need more breaks. this would be awful.

I do believe that whether students realize it or not, the 'break' (many students stay on campus and catch up on reading, sleeping, laundry) is in their best interest.

Doesn't the Calendar Committee remember the rash of suicides which prompted the two-break system in the first place? This schedule would stress all students by having too much time between breaks, and would cripple student parents, who would have to find childcare (or skip classes) during the public school April vacation week which would fall just at the end of classes (=peak crunch time). If you adopt this calendar it will send a clear message to ALL students (and faculty) with school-age kids that the University doesn't care about work-life balance. It would probably also lead to Cornell resuming its unfortunate claim to the title of the University with the largest suicide rate.

I think this is the worst of the four options for the spring semester: It moves spring break too early in the semester, thus compromising courses with travel components, and it eliminates the options to do travel experiences (through programs and courses) to far-off places like Myanmar, Thailand, etc. We are supposed to be building up our coursework with an international travel component, not decimating it!

Definitely need February break.

The two breaks are critical

February break is essential!

See comments on S3.

I think the February break is needed to relieve stress.

See my previous comments for S1 and S3. I was a student here and I was fine with only one break. But the above schedule starts too early in January (I wouldn't mind, but apparently faculty do, and likely students) and also ends too early in May. By the way....Commencement on Mother's Day (second weekend of May)????? Let's not give the mothers short-shrift. The most optimal weekend in May is the third weekend. You avoid Mother's Day, and you avoid Memorial Day; plan around that. In every single proposal, do shorten study periods. They are too long. If students need that time to "catch up", it means they've been goofing off all semester and this will force them to have time management skills. Make the last two weeks of classes non-stressful (no major exams or projects/papers unless the paper is the very last requirement - i.e. no finals or take-homes), have a Slope Day/study weekend, and then have finals for a 7 day stretch (which may or may not include a weekend for studying). As an aside, I'm not sure what all the comments are clamoring for internships with Southwest Airlines. There's hundreds of available companies with internships out there, and Southwest Airlines is on a downhill trajectory. I travel weekly on buses, trains, and planes, and frequent travel forums a lot, and I've heard Southwest has gotten too big, is starting to nickel

and dime, has increasingly poor/inconsistent service. Too much has been made of them, and they've had their heyday. Don't plan a semester's schedule out of one company's available internships.

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Runs into Nationals. Weather for graduation will be horrible.

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Not enough breaks and therefore too intense.

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You really need two breaks in the long spring, and spring break is too early.

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best balanced calendar. Allows more time off in Jan than S3, but still accomplishes earlier end to academic year and graduation

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Start of semester is too soon, and the February break IS necessary!

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Moving commencement not likely to work.

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moving the semester ahead is good, but killing off one of the breaks will likely help no one

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I think the students need 2 breaks. Reversing the breaks to me was the best solution, which shifted the first break later, but still gave a short break towards the end.

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Having 2 breaks in the spring semester is important.

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schedule too compact

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I think it's very important that we keep both breaks.

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Lessened breaks may not be the best for students, especially in February, when Ithaca is often at its dreariest!

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The issue with this calendar is that February break goes away completely. That's slightly better than positioning it a week after President's Day weekend. It's good to wrap up the spring semester early.

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To fairly position the spring break it needs to be a week earlier.

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I think the students need the short break earlier in the semester. I agree with moving commencement earlier, but why not compromise, start classes a few days earlier than present, and end semester a week before present. I like the idea of reducing study/exam periods if rooms can be obtained for the exams. This is always a challenge.

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Need more breaks during spring semester.

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Can you be a bit more clear as to why you want to move commencement up? Memorial weekend typically affords the parents a bit of "free" time to enjoy the Ithaca area (buy things at the Cornell bookstore) and in general stimulate the local economy.

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Students DO need a long weekend break somewhere in the schedule. Start date in January seems to make sense though.

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The time between fall and spring semesters is important. If the goal of the university is to have 50% of students have an international experience, many do so in January.

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if 2 breaks are needed, why get rid of one? And Memorial day commencement is good for those who have to travel that day, without penalty to their vacations, if they have one.

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I do not like this plan.

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Much reduced time for Facilities & Grounds to prepare campus for commencement with uncertain weather and springtime conditions. I'm not a student, but one break would be insufficient.

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Students need breaks \_and\_ study time.

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too long period before spring break

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taking away one of the breaks is not a good thing - students need the extra break to de-stress. worst idea of all of them.

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Students need a longer break between semesters. Two breaks during the semester is needed.

I think kids need both breaks.

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Makes winter break too short

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Starts too early in January. Increases energy use and winter weather travel issues. More labor to keep campus roads and sidewalks cleared.

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Eliminates Winter Session.

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I strongly dislike this option though the breaks are placed fine. To decrease the amount of time between semesters by 13 or 17 days is hugely disrespectful to staff. I, too, would like a longer summer, but not at the expense of a stressful end of semester then thrust into the holidays then thrust in to an insanely compressed schedule between semesters. I think this is a bad idea and everyone will be the worse for it (the ripple effect). Plus, it makes an assumption that faculty will also be absolutely ready for classes as soon as the new year hits and this is simply not the case. It is important to remember we need to focus on employee well-being, too, not just student well-being.

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Summer break is long enough, winter break shouldn't be shortened to make summer even longer.

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I think the students can use the two breaks, even if one of them is short and they don't try to go home, but just have a few days to catch up, take it easy, etc.

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Hate the earlier start date

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S4 waits too long until first real break, and there is only one.

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The February break is valuable time for students to reenergize during the semester. I also like the January term starting at a later date.

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This has same issue as previous framework - memorial day issue. And 2 breaks are good for the students. It has a positive mental impact - a mental break/boost for the students. And even for graduate students who stay and work - it is still a boon.

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need two breaks. period.

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A short break on March is ideal. Moving commencement is not the best idea.

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Feb break is necessary.

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The lack of a break between the start of the semester and the spring break is off-putting.

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I think February break is important.

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Don't like early grad date. It's good for parents and family to have the long weekend to come to Ithaca for graduation without having to take vacation days. Weather is also more likely to be questionable (rainy, cold, etc.) then at the end of May.

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It's an improvement on S3, but still impacts the ability to hold Winter Session courses. Removing the shorter break period seems to go against the whole reason it was put in there - to help ease stress in the student population.

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See comments on S3

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bad idea to change commencement

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See response to previous -- shortening the winter break causes multiple problems. Also getting out so early in April/May, summer jobs and summer apartment rentals (at home or in Ithaca) are not yet available.

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I think the students need the mid-winter break.

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Do not remove February break

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Two breaks are better than one.

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February break is necessary

the removal of February break may be a mistake. Students, faculty and staff need a breather and its winter. As an alumnae, I remember when there was no fall break and the year students took to the streets to demand a fall break. History doesn't have to repeat itself-think well of what we all need during the "winter turn into spring" semester. People need a break!

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One spring break makes for a long semester

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Memorial Day Weekend more convenient for graduation - not all families have "time-off" flexibility

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The winter break is too short, not enough time to decompress

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Best option yet. Agree with all 5 over the S4 motivators above.

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February break was just deemed as necessary. It shouldn't be removed. It would be too long without a break.

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Again, BUILDING MAINTENENCE TIME.

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Too intense. Feels too much of a step backward after recognizing the value of two breaks. I worry this would have a deep, adverse effect on student mental health and wellness.

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Doesn't allow for any brief breaks -- 2 solid months of instruction on both sides of spring break

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Commencement on Memorial Day weekend has worked for students and families for years.

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Need winter break time.

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students are still beginning to early. they needs to start a week later.....the one break isn't going to be good for student mental health.

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How important is the February break to students well being?

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Winter break far too short. Graduation will be colder, possibly worse weather. I do like the 8/6 week split with spring break in the middle -- didn't Cornell do that in the past?

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8 weeks before break and 6 weeks after without even a 1 or 2 day break is too long and will exacerbate stress. It does shorten the winter break and move the commencement earlier, which is good.

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I think the Feb break is necessary for students - they get burnt out. So does staff...

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February break is mandatory for mental health. Ithaca is a brutal adjustment for many.

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again, what about the January short term?

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Winter break is too short for larger maintenance projects.

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Cornell is an intense place. Need to let kids have a breather (or two).

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I think 2 breaks are necessary, and I disagree with moving Commencement up 2 weeks. I'd rather see classes start a few days later in January, put February break back in, and shift Commencement back to Memorial Day weekend.

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2 breaks in spring semester are better.

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Energy/cost concerns at the beginning of the semester. Students have less time in nice weather, so it's harder mentally (isn't it?)

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I think February break is a real morale booster, even if the weather sucks....er, is cold and snowy.

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Graduation is earlier which is good but students need a couple of day break S3 is the best option.

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Moving Commencement two weeks earlier would require us to eliminate valuable courses that are taught (and can only be offered) during the intersession.

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Earlier classes, and no February Break makes no sense at all.

same reasons as S3. also, for the love of pete please don't get rid of february break

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OMG A FULL WEEK IN MARCH AND NOTHING NOTHING NOTHING FROM JANUARY TO MARCH AND FROM MARCH TO MAY? ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL ME?

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seems really intense, especially for engineering students.

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no feb break

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Having two breaks seems important.

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February break should be retained.

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February break is important for system implementations

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Better to have two breaks and a longer overall semester.

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The breaks are necessary.

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winter break is too short.

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Two breaks is necessary.

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I like the two breaks.

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need 2 breaks

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Term will start too early in Jan. which will create problems with starting the new term smoothly. Students should have two breaks during the term so getting rid of the two day break is not a good idea.

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Unfortunately, there is not enough time for a 3 week winter session or for us to get ready for the new semester. I do like the idea of just having the one break in the middle of the semester. Not sure if graduation would work on Mother's day weekend, but willing to try it. I would like to see commencement and convocation combined so that it is one event.

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No break alignment with ICSD.

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i think feb break is nice for students