

University Religious Holiday Policy

The Faculty Senate has set guidelines pertaining to the observation of religious holidays. These have become university policy and are as follows:

1. Students must notify faculty during the first week of the semester as early as possible, but no later than three weeks prior to the absence, of their intention to be absent from class on their day(s) of religious observance. If the holiday falls in the first three weeks of class, the student must inform the faculty within the first week of the semester that they are enrolled in the course.
2. To the greatest extent possible, faculty must continue to extend to these students the courtesy of absence without penalty on such occasions, including permission to make up examinations.
3. Faculty who intend to observe a religious holiday must arrange at the beginning of the semester to reschedule missed classes or to make other provisions for their course- related activities.
4. Prior to each semester, the administration must circulate to faculty a schedule of religious holidays most frequently observed by GW students.
5. Student members of all religious groups are entitled to the same courtesies and accommodations.
6. The administration conveys this policy to students by including it in the Schedule of Classes and other places deemed appropriate.

Final Examination Conflict Policy

1. There must be written regulation affirming the University policy to have one final examination rescheduled if a student has three or more final examinations scheduled on the same day.
2. To the greatest extent possible and without interfering with the integrity of the exam, students who are observing a religious holiday during the final examination period shall be allowed to have any examination rescheduled that conflicts with their day(s) of religious observance. In the case that a student is observing a religious holiday that coincides with the entirety of the examination period, the student shall be allowed to reschedule necessary examinations to alternative days/times to eliminate the need to take more than one final examination in a given day.
3. The rescheduling must take place at least three weeks prior to the last day of classes and, whenever possible, the make-up examination be rescheduled during the examination period.

4. The rescheduling must be achieved in consultation with the instructors involved and, whenever possible, the student selects which examination to reschedule.

2021 - 2022 Religious Holiday Calendar:

Holiday	Date	Weekday	Faith
Eid al-Adha	July 19 - July 20	Monday - Tuesday	Islamic
Al-Hijra (Islamic New Year)	August 9 - August 10	Monday - Tuesday	Islamic
Onam	August 12 - August 23	Thursday - Monday	Hindu
Assumption of the Blessed Mother (Holy Day of Obligation)	August 15	Sunday	Catholic
Ashura	August 18 - August 19	Wednesday - Thursday	Islamic
Krishna Janmashtami	August 30	Monday	Hindu
Paryushana	September 4 - September 11	Saturday - Saturday	Jain
Rosh Hashanah	September 6 - September 8	Monday - Wednesday	Jewish
Ganesh Chaturthi	September 10	Friday	Hindu
Das Lakshan	September 11 - September 20	Saturday - Monday	Jain
Yom Kippur	September 15 - September 16	Wednesday - Thursday	Jewish
Sukkot	September 20 - September 27	Monday - Monday	Jewish
Meskal	September 27	Monday	Ethiopian Orthodox Christian
Shemini Atzeret	September 27 - September 29	Monday - Wednesday	Jewish
Simchat Torah	September 28 - September 29	Tuesday - Wednesday	Jewish
Navratri	October 7 - October 15	Thursday - Friday	Hindu

Dussehra (Dasara)	October 15	Friday	Hindu
Mawlid-an-Nabi	October 18 - October 19	Monday - Tuesday	Islamic
Installation of Scriptures of Guru Granth Sahib	October 20	Wednesday	Sikh
All Saint's Day (Catholic Holy Day of Obligation)	November 1	Monday	Christian / Catholic
Deepavali (Diwali)	November 4	Thursday	Hindu / Jain
Bandi Chhor Divas	November 4	Thursday	Sikh
Jain New Year	November 5	Friday	Jain
Birth of Báb	November 6	Saturday	Baha'i
Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	November 7	Sunday	Baha'i
Guru Nanak's Birthday	November 19	Friday	Sikh
Day of the Covenant	November 24 - November 25	Wednesday - Thursday	Baha'i
Hanukkah/Chanukah	November 28 - December 6	Sunday - Monday	Jewish
Bodhi Day	December 8	Wednesday	Buddhist
Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)	December 8	Wednesday	Catholic
The Nativity of Our Lord (Holy Day of Obligation) / Christmas	December 25th	Saturday	Christian / Catholic
Epiphany	January 6	Thursday	Christian
Feast of the Nativity (Russian Orthodox Christmas)	January 7	Friday	Eastern Orthodox Christian
Guru Gobind Singh's Birthday	January 9	Sunday	Sikh
Pongal/Sankranti	January 14	Friday	Hindu
Timkat	January 19	Wednesday	Ethiopian Orthodox Christian
Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese New Year	February 1	Tuesday	N/A
Maha Shivaratri	March 1	Tuesday	Hindu

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Ash Wednesday	March 2	Wednesday	Christian / Catholic
Nineteen-Day Fast	March 2 - March 20	Wednesday - Sunday	Baha'i
Purim	March 16 - March 17	Wednesday - Thursday	Jewish
Holika Dahan	March 17	Thursday	Hindu
Holika Dahan - Holi	March 18	Friday	Hindu
Nowruz (Persian New Year)	March 21 - March 22	Monday - Tuesday	N/A
Ugadi	April 1	Friday	Hindu
Ramadan	April 2 - May 2	Saturday - Monday	Islamic
Palm Sunday	April 10	Sunday	Christian / Catholic
Ram Navami	April 10	Sunday	Hindu
Holy Thursday	April 14	Thursday	Christian / Catholic
Vaisakhi	April 14	Thursday	Sikh
Mahavir Janma Kalyanak (Birth of Mahavir)	April 14	Thursday	Jain
Good Friday	April 15	Friday	Christian / Catholic
Good Friday (Orthodox)	April 15	Friday	Orthodox Christian
Pesach (Passover) - first two days	April 15 - April 16	Friday - Saturday	Jewish
Hanuman Jayanti	April 16	Saturday	Hindu
Easter (Western)	April 17	Sunday	Christian / Catholic
Pesach (passover) - last two days	April 22 - April 23	Friday - Saturday	Jewish
Easter (Orthodox)	April 24	Sunday	Orthodox Christian
Eid al-Fitr	May 2 - May 3	Monday - Tuesday	Islamic
Birth of Buddha (Wesak)	May 16	Monday	Buddhist
Shavuot	June 4 - June 6	Saturday - Monday	Jewish