

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.

2022 - 2023 Religious Holiday Calendar:

Holiday	Date	Weekday	Faith
Ashura	August 7 - 8	Sundown Sunday- Sundown Monday	Islamic
Feast of the Assumption (Holy Day of Obligation)	August 15	Monday	Catholic
Krishna Janmashtami	August 18 - 19	Thursday - Friday	Hindu
Paryushana	August 24 - 31	Wednesday- Wednesday	Jain
Installation of Scriptures of Guru Granth Sahib	September 1	Thursday	Sikh
Onam	August 30 - September 8	Tuesday- Thursday	Hindu
Ganesh Chaturthi	August 31	Wednesday	Hindu
Rosh Hashanah	September 25 - 27	Sundown Sunday- Sundown Tuesday	Jewish
Navratri	September 26 - October 5	Monday- Wednesday	Hindu
Meskal	September 27	Tuesday	Ethiopian Orthodox Christian
Yom Kippur	October 4 - 5	Sundown Tuesday- Sundown Wednesday	Jewish
Dussehra (Dasara)	October 5	Wednesday	Hindu
Mawlid-an-Nabi	October 7 - 8	Sundown Friday- Sundown Saturday	Islamic
Sukkot	October 9 - 16	Sundown Sunday- Sundown Sunday	Jewish
Shemini Atzeret	October 16 - 18	Sundown Sunday- Sundown	Jewish

		Tuesday	
Simchat Torah	October 17 - 18	Sundown Monday- Sundown Tuesday	Jewish
Deepavali (Diwali)	October 24	Monday	Hindu
Bandi Chhor Divas	October 24	Monday	Sikh
Jain (Gajarati) New Year	October 26	Wednesday	Jain
Birth of Báb	October 25 - 26	Sundown Tuesday- Sundown Wednesday	Baha'i
Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	October 26 - 27	Sundown Wednesday- Sundown Thursday	Baha'i
All Saint's Day (Holy Day of Obligation)	November 1	Tuesday	Christian/Catholic
Guru Nanak's Birthday	November 8	Tuesday	Sikh
Day of the Covenant	November 25-26	Sundown Friday- Sundown Saturday	Baha'i
Bodhi Day	December 8	Thursday	Buddhist
Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)	December 8	Thursday	Catholic
Hannukah/Chanukah	December 18 - 26	Sundown Sunday- Sundown Monday	Jewish
The Nativity of Our Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)/Christmas	December 25	Sunday	Catholic/Christian
Epiphany	January 6	Friday	Christian
Feast of the Nativity (Eastern Orthodox Christmas)	January 7	Saturday	Eastern Orthodox Christian
Pongal/Sankranti	January 15	Saturday	Hindu
Timkat	January 19	Thursday	Ethiopian Orthodox Christian
Guru Gobind Singh's Birthday	January 20	Friday	Sikh

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Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese New Year	January 22	Sunday	Confucianism, Daoism, Buddhism/Other/N/A
Maha Shivaratri	February 18	Saturday	Hindu
Ash Wednesday	February 22	Wednesday	Christian/Catholic
Nineteen-Day Fast	March 1 - 19	Sundown Wednesday- Sundown Sunday	Baha'i
Purim	March 6 - 7	Sundown Monday- Sundown Tuesday	Jewish
Holika Dahan	March 7	Tuesday	Hindu
Holika Dahan – Holi	March 8	Wednesday	Hindu
Nowruz (Persian New Year)	March 21 - 22	Afternoon Tuesday- Afternoon Wednesday	N/A/Baha'i/Islamic
Ugadi	March 22	Wednesday	Hindu
Ramadan	March 22 - April 21	Sundown Wednesday- Sundown Friday	Islamic
Ram Navami	March 30	Thursday	Hindu
Palm Sunday	April 2	Sunday	Christian/Catholic
Pesach (Passover) – first two days	April 5 - 6	Sundown Wednesday- Sundown Thursday	Jewish
Hanuman Jayanti	April 6	Thursday	Hindu
Holy Thursday	April 6	Thursday	Christian/Catholic
Good Friday	April 7	Friday	Christian/Catholic
Easter (Western)	April 9	Sunday	Christian/Catholic
Pesach (Passover) – last two days	April 12 - 13	Sundown Wednesday- Sundown Thursday	Jewish
Vaisakhi	April 14	Friday	Sikh
Good Friday (Orthodox)	April 14	Friday	Orthodox Christian
Easter (Orthodox)	April 16	Sunday	Orthodox Christian

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Eid al-Fitr	April 21 - 22	Sundown Friday- Sundown Saturday	Islamic
Birth of Buddha (Wesak)	May 5	Friday	Buddhist
Shavuot	May 25 - 27	Sundown Thursday- Sundown Saturday	Jewish
Eid al-Adha	June 28 - 29	Sundown Wednesday- Sundown Thursday	Islamic
Al-Hijra (Islamic New Year)	July 18 - 19	Sundown Tuesday- Sundown Wednesday	Islamic