



Academic Calendars, 2017-2021

Establishment of the academic calendar for the University of Wisconsin-Madison falls within the authority of the faculty as set forth in Faculty Policies and Procedures. Construction of the academic calendar is subject to various rules and guidelines prescribed by the Board of Regents, the Faculty Senate and State of Wisconsin legislation. Approximately every five years, the Faculty Senate approves a new academic calendar which spans a future five-year period.

The current calendar was adopted by the Faculty Senate in September 2016.

FALL SEMESTER	2017	2018	2019	2020
Faculty contract year begins	Aug 21 (M)	Aug 20 (M)	Aug 19 (M)	Aug 17 (M)
Instruction begins	Sep 6 (W)	Sep 5 (W)	Sep 4 (W)	Sep 2 (W)
Labor Day	Sep 4 (M)	Sep 3 (M)	Sep 2 (M)	Sep 7 (M)
Thanksgiving recess	Nov 23-26	Nov 22-25	Nov 28-Dec 1	Nov 26-29
Last class day	Dec 13 (W)	Dec 12 (W)	Dec 11 (W)	Dec 10 (R)
Study day	Dec 14 (R)	Dec 13 (R)	Dec 12 (R)	Dec 11 (F)
Exams	Dec 15 (F)-Dec 21 (R)	Dec 14 (F)-Dec 20 (R)	Dec 13 (F)-Dec 19 (R)	Dec 12 (S)-Dec 18 (F)
Commencement	Dec 17 (N)	Dec 16 (N)	Dec 15 (N)	Dec 13 (N)
MWF days	42	42	42	41
TR days	27	27	27	28
SPRING SEMESTER	2018	2019	2020	2021¹
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Jan 15 (M)	Jan 21 (M)	Jan 20 (M)	Jan 18 (M)
Instruction begins	Jan 23 (T)	Jan 22 (T)	Jan 21 (T)	Jan 25 (M)
Spring recess	Mar 24-Apr 1	Mar 16-24	Mar 14-22	Apr 2
Classes resume	Apr 2 (M)	Mar 25 (M)	Mar 23 (M)	Apr 5 (M)
Last class day	May 4 (F)	May 3 (F)	May 1 (F)	Apr 30 (F)
Study day	May 5 (S)	May 4 (S)	May 2 (S)	May 1 (S)
Exams	May 6 (N)-May 11 (F)	May 5 (N)-May 10 (F)	May 3 (N)-May 8 (F)	May 2 (N)-May 7 (F)
Commencement: Doctoral & Medical Professional	May 11 (F)	May 10 (F)	May 8 (F)	May 7 (F)
Commencement: Bachelor's, Master's, Law	May 12 (S)	May 11 (S)	May 9 (S)	May 8 (S)
Faculty contract year ends	May 20 (N)	May 19 (N)	May 17 (N)	May 16 (N)
MWF days	41	41	41	41
TR days	28	28	28	28
SUMMER SESSIONS	2018	2019	2020	2021
Memorial Day (observed)	May 28 (M)	May 27 (M)	May 25 (M)	May 31 (M)
3-week session	May 29 (T)-Jun 15 (F)	May 28 (T)-Jun 14 (F)	May 26 (T)-Jun 12 (F)	May 24 (M)-Jun 11 (F)
4-week session	May 21 (M)-Jun 15 (F)	May 20 (M)-Jun 14 (F)	May 18 (M)-Jun 12 (F)	May 17 (M)-Jun 11 (F)
8-week session	Jun 18 (M)-Aug 10 (F)	Jun 17 (M)-Aug 9 (F)	Jun 15 (M)-Aug 7 (F)	Jun 14 (M)-Aug 6 (F)
Independence Day	Jul 4 (W)	Jul 4 (R)	Jul 4 (S)	Jul 5 (M)

¹ Adjusted by the Faculty Senate, September 14, 2020, in Faculty Document 2895, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic



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