

Student Enrollment, Student Services  
3104 Maggie Benston Centre

TEL 778.782.5350  
FAX 778.782.45732

[joah@sfu.ca](mailto:joah@sfu.ca)

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**MEMORANDUM**

ATTENTION	Senate	DATE	December 14, 2011
FROM	Jo Hinchliffe, Assistant Registrar Secretary, Senate Calendar Committee	PAGES	1/2
RE:	Academic Dates 2012-2015		

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At its meeting of 9 December 2011 the Calendar committee reviewed, for approval by Senate, the schedule of dates for future semesters commencing Fall 2012 and finishing Summer of 2015. This includes revisions to the previously approved schedule to accommodate the new B.C. Government Family Day statutory holiday. The committee is proposing to move the Reading Break a week later in February to include Family Day.

The committee also reviewed a concern with regard to the difficulties experienced by lab courses, particularly in the sciences, when term starts in the middle of the week. We have taken into account the various factors including teaching requirements, orientation requirements, statutory holidays and believe we have developed a schedule that accommodates all concerns.

SFU has a three-term in-take system, which challenges the university when it comes to orienting new students at the beginning of each term, and also evaluating students' academic standing or graduation eligibility at the end of each term. In order to provide students with the best academic and university experience, the following principles have been adopted in determining the optimal academic calendar of dates.

Principles

1. Each semester has 63 teaching days. (Senate Paper 03-56)
2. Exams may be scheduled on Sunday if required. (Senate Paper 05-127)
3. There is a week long Reading break in February of each year starting in 2011 (Senate Paper 08-70)
4. All instructors submit grades on-line by the deadline date to allow for quicker end-of-term evaluations.
5. Orientation for new students is a vital component for student retention, development and creating a positive university experience.

**Motion:**

“That Senate approve a Schedule of Academic Dates 2012-2015.”

Reminder: if Senate approves this schedule, it will require that the May Senate meetings be moved to the Tuesday following the May long weekend.

Specifically the dates are: May 22 2012, May 21 2013, May 20 2014, May 19 2015.

<b>2012-2013</b>	<b>2013-2014</b>	<b>2014-2015</b>
28-31 August Orientation	29-30 August Orientation	28-29 August Orientation
3 September Labour Day	2 September Labour Day	1 September Labour Day
<b>4 September Classes start</b>	<b>3 September Classes start</b>	<b>2 September Classes start</b>
<b>4-5 October Convocation</b>	<b>10-11 October Convocation</b>	<b>9-10 October convocation</b>
8 October Thanksgiving	14 October Thanksgiving	13 October Thanksgiving
12 November Remembrance Day Statutory Holiday	11 November Remembrance Day	11 November Remembrance Day
<b>3 December Last day of classes</b>	<b>2 December Last day of classes</b>	<b>1 December Last Day of classes</b>
<b>5-16 December Exams</b>	<b>4-17 December exams</b>	<b>3-15 December exams</b>
1 January New Year's Day Statutory Holiday	1 January New Year's Day	1 January New Year's Day
<b>3-4 January Orientation</b>	<b>2-3 January Orientation</b>	<b>2-3 January Orientation</b>
<b>7 January Classes start</b>	<b>6 January Classes start</b>	<b>6 January Classes start</b>
<b>18 February Family Day<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>17 February Family Day</b>	<b>16 February Family Day</b>
<b>19-22 February Reading Break</b>	<b>18-21 February Reading Break</b>	<b>17-20 February Reading Break</b>
<b>29 March - 1 April Easter</b>	<b>9 April Last day of classes</b>	<b>3-6 April Easter</b>
<b>12 April Last day of classes</b>	<b>11-24 April Exams</b>	<b>13 April Last day of classes</b>
<b>14-24 April Exams</b>	<b>18-19 April Easter</b>	<b>15-25 April Exams</b>
<b>2-3 May Orientation</b>	<b>8-9 May Orientation</b>	<b>7-8 May Orientation</b>
<b>6 May Classes start</b>	<b>6 May Classes start</b>	<b>11 May Classes start</b>
20 May Victoria Day	19 May Victoria Day	18 May Victoria Day
11-14 June Convocation	10-13 June Convocation	9-12 June Convocation
1 July Canada Day	1 July Canada Day	1 July Canada Day
5 August B.C. Day	4 August B.C. Day	3 August B.C. Day
2 August Last day of classes	4 August Last day of classes	10 August Last day of classes
<b>6-16 August Exams</b>	<b>6-16 August Exams</b>	<b>12-22 August Exams</b>

<sup>1</sup> New B.C. Government Statutory Holiday effective February 2013.