

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
Senate Committee on University Priorities
Memorandum

S.08-8

*As amended by
Senate 7 Jan 08*

TO: Senate

FROM: John Waterhouse
Chair, SCUP
Vice President, Academic

RE: SFU Class/Exam Schedule for
the 2010 Olympics
(SCUP 07-75)

DATE: December 11, 2007

At its December 5, 2007 meeting SCUP reviewed and approved the proposed Class/Exam Schedule for the Spring and Summer terms in 2010 due to the impact of the 2010 Olympics.

Motion 1

That Senate approve _____ the proposed
Class/Exam Schedule for the 2010 Olympics.

Motion 2

That Senate requests the Calendar Committee conduct an assessment of the feasibility of extending the annual Reading Break to a full week on a regular basis.

encl.

c: K. Ross

PROPOSAL TO SENATE
SFU Class/Exam Schedule for the 2010 Olympics

This proposal outlines a plan for a two week break in classes during the spring term to accommodate the 2010 Olympics.

Why is this being proposed?

Given the significant dependence on public transit for accessing our campuses, it has been determined that it will be very difficult to maintain service at our present levels during the games as indicated by correspondence from Translink. Students will experience difficulty being able to get to classes on time or decide not to attend out of frustration. By taking a break in classes during this time, it is anticipated that SFU will help alleviate traffic congestion throughout the lower mainland. It is also anticipated that many faculty and staff will want to take vacation at this time thus challenging our ability to maintain support services at normal levels. A potential side benefit will be that it can provide an opportunity for students (without taking the whole term off), faculty, and staff to volunteer and/or participate actively throughout the games. VANOC has agreed to hire over 500 co-op students during this time.

UBC has already approved an extension of their reading break thus creating a class schedule similar to what is being proposed here.

Proposed Class and Exam Schedule

In order to accommodate this class/exam schedule, it would require adjustments to both the spring and summer terms. The table below provides the dates using our current practice for creating the class and exam schedule along with a proposed '2010' class and exam schedule.

Current dates (unapproved)	Proposed '2010' Dates
1 January New Year's Day	1 January New Year's Day
4 January Classes start	4 January Classes start
1 April Last day of classes	15-26 Olympics Break (February)
6 April Exams start	2-5 April Easter Break
2-5 April Easter Break	16 April Last day of classes
17 April Exams finish	19 April Exams start
	28 April Exams finish
3 May Classes start	12 May Classes start
17 May Victoria Day	17 May Victoria Day
1 July Canada Day	1 July Canada Day
2 August B.C. Day	2 August B.C. Day

4 August Last day of classes	11 August Last day of classes
6 August Exams start	13 August Exams start
17 August Exams finish	21 August Exams finish

Notes:

- The proposed schedule is based on spreading the time savings required over two terms: Spring 2010 and Summer 2010 allowing for more flexibility in each term.
- The Fall term is a late start with classes starting on September 7, 2010
- It is anticipated that an improved exam scheduling software package will be in use by 2010, which will provide for more efficient exam scheduling.
- By 2010 on-line grading will be the practice and there will be few if any grades manually entered by SS staff. This would cut the lead time required before evaluation considerably.