

THE PRINCIPLES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR

These principles were originally promulgated in April 1975, and amended by the University Council in April 1979; March 1983; and February 1984; and by administrative action in June 1990. The University Council amended the principles in April 1992, and the Faculty Council approved amendments in April 2007 and September 2014.

1. Coordinating Board guidelines shall be followed in establishing the beginning dates, length of session, and ending dates of all sessions.
2. The committee considers a seventy-five day semester (comprising forty-five Monday, Wednesday, and Friday meeting days and thirty Tuesday and Thursday meeting days) to be ideal in length. Realizing the impossibility of achieving this in the fall semester, the committee holds that there shall be a minimum of seventy class days in a semester (forty-two Monday, Wednesday, and Friday meeting days and twenty-eight Tuesday and Thursday meeting days).
3. In the fall, Labor Day will be observed and the four-day Thanksgiving holiday (Wednesday through Saturday) will be observed.
4. In the spring, Martin Luther King Day will be observed.
5. In the spring, the University will recess for one week's vacation beginning the Monday after the eighth week of classes.
6. In the summer, Independence Day (July 4) shall be observed if it falls on a weekday.
7. Long-session semesters should begin on Monday whenever possible. Long-session graduation days should occur on Saturday, except when the fall graduation day would otherwise be on December 25, then Friday, December 24, will be designated graduation day.
8. The following pattern for setting final examination periods in the long session should be observed:

Fall long semester

Monday — Last class day
Tuesday — No-class day
Wednesday — No-class day
Thursday — Exam day #1
Friday — Exam day #2
Saturday — Exam day #3
Sunday — No-class day
Monday — Exam day #4
Tuesday — Exam day #5
Wednesday — Exam day #6
Thursday
Friday
Saturday — Graduation day

Spring long semester

Friday — Last class day
Saturday
Sunday — No-class day
Monday — No-class day
Tuesday — No-class day
Wednesday — Exam day #1
Thursday — Exam day #2
Friday — Exam day #3
Saturday — Exam day #4
Sunday — No-class day
Monday — Exam day #5
Tuesday — Exam day #6
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday — Graduation day

9. There shall be at least one full week between Commencement in the spring and the beginning of the summer session and at least one full week between graduation day in the summer and the beginning of the fall semester.

10. The summer session shall be of eleven weeks duration, comprising two five and one-half week terms (including registration, class days, and examination days). A schedule will also be provided for nine-week and whole-session courses. There will be a minimum of twenty-five class days in the first term and twenty-five class days in the second term. Second-term registration will run concurrent with the first-term final examinations.
11. Two-day periods for examinations shall be provided for all summer terms and sessions.
12. The calendar of the School of Law is established by the School of Law. It must conform to Coordinating Board principles and to the rules of the American Bar Association. In setting its calendar, the School of Law shall also follow the pattern established by the preceding principles as closely as possible.
13. The calendar for the MBA program in the McCombs School of Business is established by the McCombs School of Business. It must conform to Coordinating Board principles. In setting its calendar, the McCombs School of Business shall also follow the pattern established by the preceding principles as closely as possible.¹

¹ Revision approved by the Faculty Council on September 15, 2014; On February 23, 2015, President Powers approved D 11508-11512.