

Religious Observances

September 2021 – August 2022

The university has a legal obligation to take reasonable measures to accommodate employees and students who request time off for religious observances for which a day of observance is not provided by statute. If you need an accommodation for a religious or spiritual observance, it is important to provide reasonable advance notice of your intended absence.

***Bold indicates high holy days.** University community members please consider alternate days when planning significant events.

You can also find more information of all religious or spiritual celebrations in the **Interfaith Calendar** <https://www.interfaith-calendar.org/>

For descriptions of these holidays, please visit: <https://www.interfaith-calendar.org/calendardefinitions.htm>

2021 (September – December)

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Sept 7-8 | Rosh Hashanah (Jewish) |
| Sept 16 | Yom Kippur (Jewish) |
| Sept 21-27 | Sukkot (Jewish); only Sept 21-22 are no class, no work days. |
| Sept 22 | Fall Equinox/Mabon (Wiccan) |
| Sept 28 | Shmini Atzeret (Jewish) |
| Sept 29 | Simhat Torah (Jewish) |
| Sept 30 | Orange Shirt Day (Canada) |
| Oct 7-14 | Navaratri (Hindu) |
| Nov 6 | Birth of the Báb (Bahá'í) |
| Nov 7 | Birth of Bahá'u'lláh (Bahá'í) |
| Oct 15 | Dasara (Hindu) |
| Oct 20 | Installation of Sri Guru Granth (Sikh) |
| Oct 31 | Samhain (Wiccan) |
| Nov 4 | Diwali – Deepavali (Hindu-Jain-Sikh) |
| Nov 19 | Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Sahib (Sikh) |
| Nov 24 | Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahdur (Sikh) |
| Nov 29-Dec 6 | Hanukkah (Jewish) (While one does not refrain from work, one is expected to light candles each of the 8 days) |
| Dec 8 | Bodhi Day- Rohatsu (Buddhism) |
| Dec 21 | Winter Solstice/ Yule (Wiccan) |
| Dec 25 | Christmas (Christian) |

2022 (January – August)

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Jan 5 | Guru Gobindh Singh birthday (Sikh) |
| Jan 13 | Maghi (Sikh) |
| Feb 2 | Imbolc-Lughnassad (Wiccan) |
| Feb 15 | Nirvana Day (Buddhism) |
| Feb 5 | Vasant Panchami (Hindu) |
| Mar 1 | Maha Shivaratri (Hindu) |
| Mar 2-20 | Period of the Fast (Bahá'í) (although an observant would not be expected to refrain from work, it is 19 days of fasting from sunrise to sunset ending with Naw-Rúz) |
| Mar 18 | Holi (Hindu) |
| Mar 21 | Naw-Rúz (Bahá'í) |
| Mar 21 | Spring Equinox/Ostara (Wiccan) |
| Mar 30 | Magha Puja Day (Buddhist) |
| Apr 2 | Hindu New Year (Hindu) |
| Apr 3-May 2 | Ramadan (Muslim) (although an observant would not be expected to refrain from work, it is a month of fasting throughout daylight hours ending with Eid al-Fitr) |
| Apr 14 | Baisakhi- Vaisakhi (Sikh) |
| Apr 15 | Good Friday (Christian) |
| Apr 16- Apr 23 | Pesach / Passover (Jewish), an eight day period. The first and last two days are no work, no class days. |
| Apr 17 | Easter Sunday (Christian) |
| Apr 21 | First Day of Ridván (Bahá'í) |
| Apr 29 | Ninth Day of Ridván (Bahá'í) |
| May 1 | Beltane (Wiccan) |
| May 2 | Twelfth Day of Ridván (Bahá'í) |
| May 3 | Eid al-Fitr (Muslim) |
| May 24 | Declaration of the Báb (Bahá'í) |
| May 29 | Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh (Bahá'í) |
| June 5-6 | Shavu'ot (Jewish) |
| June 16 | Guru Arjan martyrdom (Sikh) |
| June 21 | Summer Solstice/Litha (Wiccan) |
| June 22 | National Indigenous Peoples Day (Canada) |
| Jul 10 | Martyrdom of the Báb (Bahá'í) |
| Jul 10 | Eid al-Adha (Muslim) |
| Jul 13 | Obon- Ulambana (Buddhist) |
| Jul 26 | Asalha Puja Day (Buddhist) |
| Aug 1 | Lammas/Lughnasadh (Wiccan) |
| Aug 19 | Krishna Janmashtami (Hindu) |