

Religious Observances September 2020 – August 2021

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>

2020 (September – December)

Sept 19-20	Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)
Sept 23	Fall Equinox/Mabon (Wiccan)
Sept 28	Yom Kippur (Jewish)
Sept 30	Orange Shirt Day (Canada)
Oct 3-9	Sukkot (Jewish); only Oct 3-4 are no work, no class days.
Oct 10	Shmini Atzeret (Jewish)
Oct 11	Simchat Torah (Jewish)
Oct 17-24	Navaratri (Hindu)
Oct 18	Birth of the Báb (Bahá'í)
Oct 19	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh (Bahá'í)
Oct 20	Installation of Scriptures as Guru Granth (Sikh)
Oct 25	Dasara (Hindu)
Nov 1	Samhain (Wiccan)
Nov 14	Diwali – Deepavali (Hindu-Jain-Sikh)
Nov 24	Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahdur (Sikh)
Nov 30	Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Sahib (Sikh)
Dec 11-18	Hanukkah (Jewish) (While one does not refrain from work, one is expected to light candles each of the 8 days)
Dec 20	Bodhi Day- Rohatsu (Buddhism)
Dec 21	Winter Solstice/ Yule (Wiccan)
Dec 25	Christmas (Christian)

2021 (January – August)

Jan 5	Guru Gobindh Singh birthday (Sikh)
Jan 13	Maghi (Sikh)
Feb 2	Imbolc-Lughnassad (Wiccan)
Feb 8	Nirvana Day (Buddhism)
Feb 14	Stolen Sisters Memorial March (Across North America)
Feb 16	Vasant Panchami (Hindu)
Mar 1-19	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 12	Maha Shivaratri (Hindu)
Mar 20	Naw-Rúz (Bahá'í)
Mar 21	Spring Equinox/Ostara (Wiccan)
Mar 28	Magha Puja Day (Buddhist)
Mar 28- Apr 4	Pesach / Passover (Jewish), an eight day period. The first and last two days are no work, no class days.
Mar 29	Holi (Hindu)
Apr 2	Good Friday (Christian)
Apr 4	Easter Sunday (Christian)
April 13	Hindu New Year (Hindu)
Apr 13-May 11	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 20	First Day of Ridván (Bahá'í)
Apr 28	Ninth Day of Ridván (Bahá'í)
May 1	Twelfth Day of Ridván (Bahá'í)
May 1	Beltane (Wiccan)
May 5	International Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Awareness Day
May 23	Declaration of the Báb (Bahá'í)
May 12 or 13	Eid al-Fitr (Muslim)
May 28	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh (Bahá'í)
May 17-18	Shavu'ot (Jewish)
June 16	Guru Arjan martyrdom (Sikh)
June 21	National Indigenous Peoples Day (Canada)
June 22	Summer Solstice/Litha (Wiccan)
Jul 9	Martyrdom of the Báb (Bahá'í)
Jul 13	Obon- Ulambana (Buddhist)
Jul 19 or 20	Eid al-Adha (Muslim)
Jul 24	Asalha Puja Day (Buddhist)
Aug 1	Lammas/Lughnasadh (Wiccan)
Aug 3	Krishna Janmashtami (Hindu)