

**To: UIC Faculty, Staff, and Students**

**From: Patricia Gill  
Associate Chancellor**

**Calendar of University Holidays and Religious Observances Autumn 2007 through Autumn 2012**

In planning ahead for the future academic year, it is helpful to remember the many religious groups that make up our campus community. The UIC Senate Policy on religious holidays (approved May 25, 1988) is stated below:

The faculty of the University of Illinois at Chicago shall make every effort to avoid scheduling examinations or requiring that student projects be turned in or completed on religious holidays. Students who wish to observe their religious holidays shall notify the faculty member by the tenth day of the semester of the date when they will be absent unless the religious holiday is observed on or before the tenth day of the semester. In such cases, the students shall notify the faculty member at least five days in advance of the date when he/she will be absent. The faculty member shall make every reasonable effort to honor the request, not penalize the student for missing the class, and if an examination or project is due during the absence, give the student an exam or assignment equivalent to the one completed by those students in attendance. If the student feels aggrieved, he/she may request remedy through the campus grievance procedure.

A few reminders to guide faculty members in respecting religious observance while maintaining academic needs and standards:

- Outline course obligations, dates, and foreseen calendar of examination as early as possible.
- Instruct students to inform you of any conflicts in accordance with the policy detailed below.
- There may be accommodation requests neither dictated by calendar dates nor foreseen at the beginning of the semester as contemplated by the Senate Policy below. In such cases, students should be informed that they should request an accommodation as soon as they become aware of the need.
- Students should not be required to supply verification of their attendance at religious services in order to qualify for an accommodation.

The list below comprises national holidays recognized by the University as well as religious days of special observance which can include prohibition from work. This list is not exhaustive, nor does the observance of all these days merit or require absence from class.

If you have any further questions or comments please contact Patricia Gill in the Office for Access and Equity at (312) 996-8670 or at [pagill@uic.edu](mailto:pagill@uic.edu)

# Academic Year Calendar of Holidays and Religious Days of Special Observance

## Autumn 2007

### August 27- Instruction Begins

Date	Holiday or Observance	Affiliation	Additional Notes
Sept. 3 no classes	Labor Day	National	University Holiday
Sept. 4	Krishna Jayanthi (Day Lord Krishna was born)	Hindu	
Sept. 13	Beginning of Ramadan	Islamic	Tentative*
Sept. 12 dusk to dusk Sept. 14	Rosh Hashanah (New Year)	Jewish	
Sept. 21 dusk to dusk Sept. 22	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	Jewish	
Sept. 26 dusk to dusk Sept. 28	Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles), first two days	Jewish	Dusk of Sept. 26-27 Primary Obligation
Oct. 3 dusk to dusk Oct. 5	Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah	Jewish	
Oct. 13	Eid al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)	Islamic	Tentative*
Oct. 20	Saraswathi Pooja/Navarathri	Hindu	End of Dussera and the day for worship of Sarawathi, Goodness of Learning
Nov. 9	Diwali (Deepavali)	Hindu, Sikh, Jain	
Nov. 12	Birth of Baha'u'llah	Baha'i	
Nov. 24	Birth of Guru Nanak Dev Sahib	Sikh	
Nov. 22 no classes	Thanksgiving Day	National	University Holiday
Nov. 23	Designated Holiday	University	For all campus units except these noted below as Group B**
Dec. 4 dusk to dusk Dec. 12	Hanukkah (Chanukah)	Jewish	Commemorative, does not require abstinence from work
Dec. 20	Eid al-Adha	Islamic	Tentative*
Dec. 24	Gift Day	University	½ Chancellor's gift; ½ President's gift
Dec. 25 classes not in session	Christmas (Birth of Jesus)	National	University Holiday
Dec. 26	Designated Holiday	University	For all campus units except these noted below as Group B**
Dec. 26 to Jan. 1, classes not in session	Kwanzaa	Interfaith/African-American	

\* Add or subtract one day depending on sightings of the moon and local customs.

\*\* Group B – For employees working in the hospital, clinics, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services, all departments under the Department of Facilities Management and Capital Programs, Environmental Health and Safety,

telecommunication Services, Facility and Space Planning, UIC Police Department, Campus Auxiliary Services, and biologic Resources Laboratory.

**Spring 2008**

**January 14- Instruction Begins**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Holiday or Observance</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
Jan. 1 classes not in session	New Year's Day	National	University Holiday
Jan. 7	Orthodox Christmas	Christian Orthodox	
Jan. 19	Ashura	Islamic, Shia branch	Tentative*
Jan. 21 no classes	Martin Luther King Day	National	University Holiday
Mar. 6	Shivrathi Day	Hindu	Day for worship of Lord Shiva
Mar. 20 dusk to dusk Mar. 21	Purim	Jewish	
Mar. 21	Good Friday	Christian	
Mar. 23	Easter	Christian	
Apr. 19 dusk to dusk Apr. 21	Passover (Pesach), first two days	Jewish	Apr. 19 dusk to dusk 21, Apr. 26 dusk to dusk 27 Primary Obligation
Apr.25 dusk to dusk Apr. 27	Passover (Pesach), last two days	Jewish	
Apr. 25	Orthodox Good Friday	Christian Orthodox	
Apr. 27	Orthodox Easter	Christian Orthodox	

**Summer 2008**

**May 27- Instruction Begins (summer school)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Holiday or Observance</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
May 20	Visakha Puja	Buddhist	
May 26 classes not in session	Memorial Day	National	University Holiday
Jun. 8 dusk to dusk Jun 10	Shavuot	Jewish	
Jul. 4 no classes	Independence Day	National	University Holiday

**Autumn 2008**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Holiday or Observance</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
Sept. 1 no classes	Labor Day	National	University Holiday
Sept. 2	Beginning of Ramadan	Islamic	Tentative*
Sept. 29 dusk to dusk Oct. 1	Rosh Hashanah (New Year)	Jewish	
Oct. 2	Edi al-Fitr, (End of Ramadan)	Islamic	Tentative*
Oct. 8 dusk to dusk Oct. 9	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	Jewish	
Oct. 13 dusk to dusk Oct. 15	Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles), first two days	Jewish	
Oct. 20 dusk to dusk Oct. 22	Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah	Jewish	
Oct. 28	Diwali (Deepavali)	Hindu, Sikh, Jain	
Nov. 12	Birth of Baha'u'llah	Baha'i	
Nov. 13	Birth of Guru Nanak Dev Sahib	Sikh	
Nov. 27 no classes	Thanksgiving Day	National	University Holiday
Nov. 28	Designated Holiday	University	For all campus units except these noted below as Group B**
Dec. 8 dusk to dusk Dec. 10	Eid al-Adha	Islamic	Tentative*
Dec. 21 dusk to dusk Dec. 29	Hanukkah (Chanukah)	Jewish	Commemorative, does not require abstinence from work
Dec. 25 classes not in session	Christmas (Birth of Jesus)	National Christian	University Holiday
Dec. 26	Designated Holiday	University	For all campus units except these noted below as Group B**
Dec. 26-Jan. 1 classes not in session	Kwanzaa	Interfaith/African-American	

\* Add or subtract one day depending on sightings of the moon and local customs.

\*\* Group B – For employees working in the hospital, clinics, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services, all departments under the Department of Facilities Management and Capital Programs, Environmental Health and Safety, telecommunication Services, Facility and Space Planning, UIC Police Department, Campus Auxiliary Services, and biologic Resources Laboratory.

**Spring 2009**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Holiday or Observance</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
Jan. 1 classes not in session	New Year's Day	National	University Holiday
Jan.7	Orthodox Christmas	Christian Orthodox	
Jan. 7	Ashura	Islamic, Shia branch	Tentative*
Jan. 19 no classes	Martin Luther King Day	National	University Holiday
Mar. 9 dusk to dusk Mar. 10	Purim	Jewish	
Apr. 8 dusk to dusk Apr. 10	Passover (Pesach), first two days	Jewish	
Apr. 13 dusk to dusk Apr. 16	Passover (Pesach), last two days	Jewish	
Apr. 10	Good Friday	Christian	
Apr. 12	Easter	Christian	
Apr. 17	Orthodox Good Friday	Christian Orthodox	
Apr. 19	Orthodox Easter	Christian Orthodox	

**Summer 2009**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Holiday or Observance</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
May 9	Visakha Puja	Buddhist	
May 25 classes not in session	Memorial Day	National	University Holiday
May 28 dusk to dusk 30	Shavot	Jewish	
Jul. 4 no classes	Independence Day	National	University Holiday Observed on July 3

**NOTE: Due to the fact that many religious holidays are based on the lunar calendar, we cannot say with accuracy that it will fall on a certain date. Therefore, the calendar for academic years 2009-11 will be updated as soon as we confirm the dates of various religious days.**

**Autumn 2009**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Holiday or Observance</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
Aug. 22	Beginning of Ramadan	Islamic	Tentative*
Sept. 7 no classes	Labor Day	National	University Holiday
Sept. 18 dusk to dusk Sept. 19	Rosh Hashanah (New Year)	Jewish	
Sept. 21	Eid al-Fitr, (End of Ramadan)	Islamic	Tentative*
Sept. 27 dusk to dusk Sept. 28	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	Jewish	
Oct. 3 dusk to dusk Oct. 5	Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles), first two days	Jewish	
Oct. 9 dusk to dusk Oct. 11	Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah	Jewish	
Nov. 12	Birth of Baha'u'llah	Baha'i	
Nov. 26 no classes	Thanksgiving Day	National	University Holiday
Nov. 27	Designated Holiday	University	For all campus units except these noted below as Group B**
Nov. 28 dusk	Eid al-Adha	Islamic	Tentative*
Dec. 12-19	Hanukkah(Chanukah)	Jewish	Commemorative, does not require abstinence from work
Dec. 25 classes not in session	Christmas(Birth of Jesus)	Christian	University Holiday
Dec. 26	Designated Holiday	University	For all campus units except these noted below as Group B**
Dec. 26-Jan. 1	Kwanzaa	Interfaith/African-American	
Dec. 27	Ashura	Islamic, Shia branch	Tentative*

\* Add or subtract one day depending on sightings of the moon and local customs.

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**Spring 2010**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Holiday or Observance</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
Jan. 1 classes not in session	New Year's Day	National	University Holiday
Jan. 7	Orthodox Christmas	Christian Orthodox	
Jan. 18 no classes	Martin Luther King Day	National	University Holiday
Feb. 28 dusk to dusk Mar. 1	Purim	Jewish	
Mar. 29 dusk to dusk Mar. 31	Passover (Pesach), first two days	Jewish	
Apr. 4 dusk to dusk Apr. 6	Passover (Pesach), last two days	Jewish	
Apr. 2	Good Friday	Christian	
Apr. 2	Orthodox Good Friday	Christian Orthodox	
Apr. 4	Easter	Christian	
Apr. 4	Orthodox Easter	Christian Orthodox	

**Summer 2010**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Holiday or Observance</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
May 19 dusk to dusk May 20	Shavuot	Jewish	
May 31 classes not in session	Memorial Day	National	University Holiday
May 27	Visakha Puja	Buddhist	
Jul. 4 no classes	Independence Day	National	University Holiday Observed July 5

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## Autumn 2010

Dates	Holiday or Observance	Affiliation	Additional Notes
August 12	Beginning of Ramadan	Islamic	
August 23	Instruction Begins		
Sept. 5	Lailat al Qadr	Islamic	
Sept. 6 no classes	Labor Day	National	University Holiday
Sept. 8 dusk to Sept. 9	Rosh Hashanah (New Year)	Jewish	
Sept. 10	Eid al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)	Islamic	
Sept. 17 dusk to dusk Sept. 18	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	Jewish	
Sept. 22 dusk to dusk Sept. 24	Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles)	Jewish	Primary obligation days
Sept. 29 dusk to dusk Oct. 1	Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah	Jewish	
Nov. 12	Birth of Baha'u'llah	Baha'i	
Nov. 16 dusk to dusk Nov. 17	Eid al-Adha	Islamic	Tentative*
Nov. 25 no classes	Thanksgiving Day	National	University Holiday
Nov. 26	Designated Holiday	University	For all campus units except these noted below as Group B**
Dec. 1 dusk – Dec. 9 dusk	Hanukkah (Chanukah)	Jewish	Commemorative, does not require abstinence from work
Dec. 3	Semester Ends		
Dec. 15 dusk to Dec. 16 dusk	Ashura	Islamic, Shia branch	Tentative*
Dec. 25 classes not in session	Christmas (Birth of Jesus)	Christian	University Holiday
Dec. 26	Designated Holiday	University	For all campus units except these noted below as Group B**
Dec. 26-Jan. 1	Kwanzaa	Interfaith/African-American	(Classes not in session)

\* Add or subtract one day depending on sightings of the moon and local customs.

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### Spring 2011

Dates	Holiday or Observance	Affiliation	Additional Notes
Jan. 1 classes not in session	New Year's Day	National	University Holiday
Jan. 7	Orthodox Christmas	Christian Orthodox	
Jan. 10	Instruction begins		
Jan. 17 no classes	Martin Luther King Day	National	University Holiday
Feb. 26 (Celebrated: Feb. 14 dusk to dusk Feb. 15)	Mawlid-al-Nabi (Mohammad's birthday)	Islamic	
Mar. 19 dusk to dusk Mar. 21	Purim	Jewish	
Mar. 21-Mar. 25	No classes	Spring Vacation	
Apr. 18 dusk to dusk Apr. 21	Passover (Pesach), first two days	Jewish	Primary obligation days
Apr. 22	Good Friday	Christian	
Apr. 24	Easter	Christian/ Christian Orthodox	
Apr. 24 dusk to Apr. 25 dusk	Passover (Pesach), last two days	Jewish	Primary obligation days
Apr. 29	Semester Ends		

### Summer 2011

Dates	Holiday or Observance	Affiliation	Additional Notes
May 17	Visakha Puja	Buddhist	
May 16	Instruction Begins		
May 30 (classes not in session)	Memorial Day	National	University Holiday
Jun. 1	8 week instruction begins		
Jun. 7 dusk to dusk Jun. 9	Shavuot	Jewish	Tentative*
Jun. 9	4 week session ends		
Jul. 4 no classes	Independence Day	National	University Holiday
Aug. 3	8 week session ends		

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**Autumn 2011**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Holiday or Observance</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
Sept. 24	Beginning of Ramadan	Islamic	Tentative*
Sept. 29 dusk to dusk Sept. 30	Rosh Hashanah (New Year)	Jewish	
Oct. 8 dusk to dusk Oct. 9	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	Jewish	
Oct. 13 dusk to Oct. 15	Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles), first two days	Jewish	
Oct. 20 dusk to dusk Oct. 21	Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah	Jewish	
Oct. 24	Eid-al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)	Islamic	Tentative*
Oct. 26	Diwali (Deepavali)	Hindu, Sikh, Jain	
Nov. 6 dusk to dusk Nov. 7	Eid-al-Adha	Islamic	Tentative*
Nov. 12	Birth of Baha'u'llah	Baha'i	
Nov. 24	<b>Thanksgiving Day</b>	National	<b>University Holiday</b>
Nov. 25 no classes	<b>Designated Holiday</b>	University	For all campus units except these noted below as Group B**
Dec. 4	Ashura	Islamic, Shia branch	Tentative*
Dec. 20 dusk to dusk Dec. 28	Hanukkah (Chanukah)	Jewish	Commemorative, does not require abstinence from work
Dec. 25 classes not in session	<b>Christmas (Birth of Jesus)</b>	National/ Christian	<b>University Holiday</b>
Dec. 26	<b>Designated Holiday</b>	University	For all campus units except these noted below as Group B**
Dec. 26 to Jan.1	Kwanzaa	Interfaith/African-American	

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**Spring 2012**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Holiday or Observance</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
Jan. 1 classes not in session	New Year's Day	National	University Holiday Observed on January 2
Jan. 7	Orthodox Christmas	Christian Orthodox	
Jan. 16 no classes	Martin Luther King Day	National	University Holiday
Mar. 7 dusk to dusk Mar. 8	Purim	Jewish	
Apr. 6	Good Friday	Christian	
Apr. 6 dusk to Apr. 8	Passover (Pesach), first two days	Jewish	
Apr. 8	Easter	Christian	
Apr. 12 dusk to dusk Apr. 14	Passover (Pesach), last two days	Jewish	
Apr. 15	Orthodox Easter	Christian Orthodox	

**Summer 2012**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Holiday or Observance</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
May 26 dusk to dusk May 28	Shavuot	Jewish	
May 28 classes not in session	Memorial Day	National	University Holiday
Jul. 4	Independence Day	National	University Holiday
Jul. 20	Beginning of Ramadan	Islamic	Tentative*
Aug. 20	Eid-al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)	Islamic	Tentative*

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**Autumn 2012**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Holiday or Observance</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
Sept. 3 no classes	Labor Day	National	University Holiday
Sept. 16 dusk to Sept. 18	Rosh Hashanah (New Year)	Jewish	
Sept. 26 dusk to dusk Sept. 27	Yom Kippur	Jewish	
Sept. 30 dusk to dusk Oct. 2	Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles), first two days	Jewish	Primary obligation days
Oct. 7 dusk to dusk Oct. 9	Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah	Jewish	
Nov. 12	Birth of Baha'u'llah	Baha'i	
Nov. 13	Diwali (Deepavali)	Hindu, Sikh, Jain	
Nov. 22 no classes	Thanksgiving Day	National	University Holiday
Nov. 23	Designated Holiday	University	For all campus units except these noted below as Group B**
Nov. 24	Ashura	Islamic, Shia branch	Tentative*
Dec. 8 dusk to Dec. 16	Hanukkah (Chanukah)	Jewish	Commemorative, does not require abstinence from work
Dec. 25 classes not in session	Christmas (Birth of Jesus)	National/Christian	University Holiday
Dec. 26 to Jan. 1	Kwanzaa	Interfaith/African-American	

\* Add or subtract one day depending on sightings of the moon and local customs.

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