

Office of the Senate Secretariat

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The Senate of Acadia University acknowledges that we are located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People.

Dear Member of Senate:

I advise you that a virtual **Special Emergency Meeting of the Senate** of Acadia University using Microsoft Teams will occur from **4:00-6:00 pm on Wednesday, March 2, 2022.**

The agenda follows:

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Motion that Senate approves the Modified Calendar Dates for date range March 3 to May 8 for the 2021-2022 academic year. ([attached, pages 2-3](#))
3. Motion: Whereas the initial authorization of a mixed delivery model, such that Acadia courses would, at the discretion of faculty, occur in virtual, face-to-face/on campus, or blended format, using either synchronous or asynchronous delivery, was by way of a motion which carried in Senate in the meeting of June 15 2020* (in favor of which motion the mover, Dale Keefe, expressed his confidence that 'faculty had the students' best interests in mind'), that Senate, therefore, reaffirm its endorsement of a mixed delivery model for the remainder of the 2021-2022 academic year. (Moved by Vernon Provencal, Seconded by Holger Teismann.) (*Letter to Chair of Senate circulated separately.*)
4. Follow-up report request: January 2022 motion "Whereas other universities are supplying suitable masks to faculty and students to ensure the optimal resistance to the spread of Covid as an air-born disease, that the Provost administer the same policy at Acadia University." (*Letter to Chair of Senate circulated separately.*)
5. Adjournment

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED
Rosie Hare
Recording Secretary to Senate

Motion that Senate approves the Modified Calendar Dates for date range March 3 to May 8 for the 2021-2022 academic year.

TIE committee proposed dates for restarting and completing the academic term
March 2, 2022

Modified Calendar Dates:

- March 3 (Th): Classes resume
- March 16 (W): Faculty to provide revised exam dates/requirements to Registrar’s Office
- March 25 (F): Instructors to inform students of course standing (5 days before “W” date)
- March 30 (W): Exam schedule to be posted
- April 1 (F): Last day to withdraw from Winter term courses and receive a “W”
- April 6 (W): Last day for Tests/Major assignments (Tests not to be held in the last 3 hours of classes)
- April 13 (W): Last day of classes
- April 14 (Th): Study Day
- April 15 (F): Good Friday holiday
- April 16 (Sa) – 25 (M): Examination period (April 17th Easter Sunday Holiday)
- April 21 (Th): Deadline for approved honours theses for Spring graduands
- April 29 (F): Last day to submit final Master’s theses
- May 4 (W): All grades due
- May 5 (Th): Faculty meeting to approve Spring graduands
- May 6 (F): Senate meeting to approve Spring graduands
- May 8 (Su), 9 (M): Convocation

Compressed Term Mar 3-April 13 th (9 weeks)								
Classes Restart	Last Day to Withdraw	Classes End	Study Day(s)	Exams Begin	Exams End	Last grades due	Senate	Mondays – 10 Tuesdays – 9 Wednesdays – 9 Thursdays – 9 Fridays – 9
Mar 3 (Th)	Apr. 1 (F)	Apr. 13 (W)	Apr. 14, 15 (Th, Fr)	Apr. 16 (S)	Apr. 25th (M)	May 4th (W)	May 6 th (Fr)	
Summer 2022								
Classes Start	Classes Start	Last Day to Add	Last Day to Withdraw	Classes End/Final Exams				
Spring (6 week)	May 9 (M)	May 18 (W)	May 26 (Th)	June 17 (F)				
Spring 1 (3 week)	May 9 (M)	May 11 (W)	May 18 (W)	May 27 (F)				
Spring 2 (3 week)	May 30 (M)	June 1 (W)	June 8 (W)	June 17 (F)				
Summer (6 week)	June 20 (M)	June 29 (W)	July 7 (Th)	July 29 (F)				
Summer 1 (3 week)	June 20 (M)	June 22 (W)	June 29 (W)	July 8 (F)				
Summer 2 (3 week)	July 11 (M)	July 13 (W)	July 20 (W)	July 29 (F)				
Key Dates 2022								
Good Friday: Friday, April 15, 2022. No classes or exams scheduled.								
Convocation: Sunday May 8 th , Monday May 9 th								

Notes:

- This scenario finishes classes and exams (for students) prior to Summer classes, thus retaining the normal start. There is no change to the Summer 2022 schedule above.
- This scenario has fewer instances of days than normally required by Senate.
- 9 Exam days (including Sunday 24th but not Easter Sunday 17th)
- Convocation is retained at same time. This has extremely tight turnarounds for grades, final checks, program.
- TIE is aware that there may be exceptional cases needed for alternative academic dates, such as programs where additional criteria must be met for professional or accreditation requirements (e.g. Education, Psychology). TIE recommends that Senate permit such Departments to implement alternate schedules as necessary so that these students can meet these requirements.
- Although not related to dates, Senate may wish to consider suggesting: "in order to minimize disruption, all Faculty consider alternative means of evaluation"

Rationale:

- The proposal adds 3 instruction days, evening out the number of M, T, W, Th, F instruction days.
- Students have commitments by May 1 (leases end, co-op and other jobs start), so having exams finished well before April 30 is desirable.
- Moving convocation would inconvenience many people. Families book accommodations and make plans more than a year in advance.
- Other scenarios were considered in which more instruction days were added to the end of the term, for example adding 7 days. Such proposals are inconsistent with keeping the original convocation date, and would have exams end right before the end of the month
- "W" deadline:
 - "Five days before the last day to withdraw from a course without penalty, instructors are to inform their students of their course standing so that students can seek advice from their advisors if they feel it necessary. "
 - Similar to Covid-19 accommodations, the "W" deadline near the end of term allows students more flexibility to decide under uncertain circumstances.