

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
CALENDAR OF RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS AND OBSERVANCES
Center for Religious and Spiritual Life
Academic Year 2022-2023

INTRODUCTION

This calendar is published by the Center for Religious and Spiritual Life as a tool to educate our community about the diverse religious traditions observed by our members and to assist students, faculty, and staff in planning academic or work responsibilities. Sources consulted in the process of compiling the calendar include the Anti-Defamation League's Calendar of Observances and other multifaith references. The calendar has also been reviewed by leaders of various faith communities both on-campus and in Nashville. This is not an exhaustive list of holy days or religious observances. Students, faculty, or staff may encounter requests for accommodation related to holy days not listed on this calendar. We strive to make the Holy Days Calendar as accurate as possible and to describe the holy days, their significance, and the nature of observance correctly. If you find a mistake, please let the Center know by emailing religiouslife@vanderbilt.edu.

We encourage students, faculty, and staff to be proactive in requesting religious accommodations for academic or work responsibilities. Should a request require a formal process for accommodation, that process could take up to two weeks to complete. If an informal conversation about accommodation with a professor, chair or dean, or other supervisor do not resolve the question satisfactorily, the applicable formal policies and processes are described below, though those policies are subject to change. Please consult the relevant offices for the most current policies regarding religious accommodation. Staff at the Center for Spiritual and Religious Life and the Student Center for Social Justice and Identity are also available provide advice and advocacy regarding the accommodation process.

APPLICABLE POLICIES*

For students, from the [Vanderbilt University Student Handbook](#):

Policy Regarding Observance of Religious Holy Days

It is the policy of Vanderbilt to make every reasonable effort to allow members of the University community to observe their religious holy days without academic penalty. Absence from classes or examinations for religious reasons does not relieve students from responsibility for any part of the course work required during the period of absence. Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or any other assignments as a consequence of their religious observance should be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent, preferably at the beginning of the semester. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments should be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty (if they have previously arranged to be absent), unless it can be demonstrated that a makeup opportunity would constitute an unreasonable burden on a member of the faculty. Should disagreement arise over what constitutes an unreasonable burden or any element of this policy, parties involved should consult the department chair, or, in schools without department chairs, the dean of the school.

For faculty, staff, and post-docs, from the [Office of Equal Opportunity and Access](#):

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 requires employers to reasonably accommodate the religious practices of an employee or prospective employee, unless to do so would create an undue hardship upon the employer.

To receive reasonable accommodations for a religious practice at Vanderbilt University employees should submit the [Religious Reasonable Accommodation Request Form](#) to EOA. The submission of this form will begin an interactive process which will include the employee, the employee's supervisor, EOA, and relevant parties as Vanderbilt deems necessary. On average, the process takes at least two weeks to complete.

Reasonable accommodation arrangements are not retroactive. The accommodation will begin once it is approved by EOA. The employee will be notified about the outcome. Requests for accommodations must be renewed annually.

Accommodations are determined on a case-by-case basis. Examples include, but are not limited to, flexible scheduling, voluntary substitutions or swaps, job reassignment, and lateral transfers.

**These policies are included here for convenience. The version of these policies, as published by the relevant offices, is the current policy that is applicable and enforceable for religious accommodations.*

CALENDAR

*Regional custom, group preference, or lunar sighting may cause a variation in this date.

Italic type indicates Vanderbilt University dates for undergraduate schools. Graduate and professional students should consult their own school or departmental calendars and policies for more specific information. All Vanderbilt University dates are subject to change.

FALL SEMESTER 2022

DATE 2022	DAYS	HOLIDAY	RELIGION	SIGNIFICANCE	RECOMMENDED ACCOMMODATION
Aug 1	Monday	Lughnasadh*	Paganism, Wicca	First of three festivals celebrating harvest; also known as <i>Lammas</i>	
Aug 6 Aug 7	sundown Saturday sundown Sunday	Tisha B'Av	Judaism	A day of fasting that mourns the destruction of ancient Temples and Jerusalem, as well as other disasters that have afflicted the Jewish people	Jewish students and employees may be fasting.
Aug 7 Aug 8	sundown Sunday sundown Monday	Ashura	Islam	A day of fasting recalling Moses' exodus from Egypt; for Shi'a Muslims, the end of the Remembrance of Muharram, marking the martyrdom of Hussein at the Battle of Karbala	Muslim students and employees may be fasting.
Aug 11	Thursday	Raksha Bandhan	Hinduism	Festival celebrating family relationships; also called <i>Rakhi</i>	
Aug 13 Aug 15	Saturday Monday	Obon*	Buddhism	Japanese Buddhist observance for the spirits of past ancestors and striving to relieve aching souls from suffering; date varies from region to region; in other regions or practices may also be called <i>Ullambana</i> or observed in July	
Aug 15	Monday	Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Christianity (C)	Commemorates the bodily taking up of Mary, the mother of Jesus, into heaven at the end of her earthly life	
Aug 18 Aug 19	Thursday Friday	Krishna Janmashtami	Hinduism	Principal festival celebrating the birth of the god Krishna	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities on this

DATE 2022	DAYS	HOLIDAY	RELIGION	SIGNIFICANCE	RECOMMENDED ACCOMMODATION
					day, since it is likely Hindu students and employees may have had little sleep and may be fasting.
Aug 24		<i>First Day of Classes for Undergraduates</i>			
Aug 24 Aug 31	Wednesday Wednesday	Paryushana	Jainism	Festival of repentance and forgiveness, removing accumulated karma from the previous year and developing control over accumulating new karma; includes rituals and processions	Jain students and employees may be fasting.
Aug 31	Wednesday	Ganesh Chaturthi	Hinduism	Festival celebrating the god Ganesha	
Sep 22	Thursday	Mabon (Fall Equinox)*	Paganism, Wicca	Time of thanksgiving for the fruits of the earth and the need to share them; also known as <i>Harvest Home</i> or the <i>Feast of the Ingathering</i>	
Sep 25 Sep 27	sundown Sunday sundown Tuesday	Rosh Hashanah	Judaism	Beginning of the Jewish new year and the first of the High Holy Days, a ten-day period of penitence and spiritual renewal	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. If planning an evening event, provide food accommodations if requested.
Sep 26 Oct 5	Monday Wednesday	Navratri	Hinduism	Nine-day festival celebrating the triumph of good over evil; festival celebrating the universal mother known as Durga, Devi, or Shakti; marks the start of the fall	
Sep 27 Sep 28	sundown Tuesday sundown Wednesday	Fast of Gedaliah	Judaism	Fast that remembers the assassination of Gedaliah, the righteous Babylonian governor of Judah; his death was the end of Jewish autonomy after the destruction of the First Temple	Jewish students and employees may be fasting.
Oct 4 Oct 5	sundown Tuesday sundown Wednesday	Yom Kippur	Judaism	The “Day of Atonement” marking the end of ten days of penitence that began on Rosh Hashanah	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities on this date. Jewish students and employees may be fasting all day.
Oct 5	Wednesday	Dussehra; Dassera	Hinduism	Festival following Navratri, celebrating the god Rama’s victory over the demon	

DATE 2022	DAYS	HOLIDAY	RELIGION	SIGNIFICANCE	RECOMMENDED ACCOMMODATION
				Ravana; includes readings from <i>Ramayana</i> ; also known as <i>Durga Puja</i>	
Oct 7 Oct 8	sundown Friday sundown Saturday	Mawlid al-Nabi	Islam (Su)	Birthday of the founder of Islam, the Prophet Mohammed; Shi'a Muslims celebrate it five days later than Sunni Muslims; also know as Malid al-Nabi	Sunni Muslim employees may request this day off.
Oct 9 Oct 16	sundown Sunday sundown Sunday	Sukkot	Judaism	The week-long "Festival of Booths" commemorates the 40-year wandering of the Israelite people on the way to the Promised Land	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities on the first two days, which are non-working days.
Oct 12 Oct 13	sundown Wednesday sundown Thursday	Mawlid al-Nabi	Islam (Sh)	Birthday of the founder of Islam, the Prophet Mohammed; Sunni Muslims celebrate it five days earlier than Shi'a Muslims	Shi'a Muslim students and employees may request this day off.
Oct 13 Oct 14		<i>Fall Break for Undergraduates</i>			
Oct 16 Oct 17	sundown Sunday sundown Monday	Shemini Atzeret	Judaism	"The Eighth (Day) of Assembly" observed on the day following Sukkot	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities.
Oct 17 Oct 18	sundown Monday sundown Tuesday	Simchat Torah	Judaism	"Rejoicing in the Torah" celebrates the conclusion of public reading of the Pentateuch and the reading cycle beginning again	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities.
Oct 20	Thursday	Guru-da-Gaddi Guru Granth Sahib	Sikhism	Commemorates Guru Granth Sahib, who is considered the eternal guru who holds the spirit of all Ten Gurus of the Sikhs, and who is a spiritual guide for all Sikhs	
Oct 23	Sunday	Dhanteras	Hinduism	First day of the festival of Diwali; recalls the giving of Ayurveda (a system of medical theory and practice) by the god Dhanvantari for the betterment of	

DATE 2022	DAYS	HOLIDAY	RELIGION	SIGNIFICANCE	RECOMMENDED ACCOMMODATION
				humanity and ridding the world of disease	
Oct 24	Monday	Diwali*	Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism	Festival of lights, celebrating good over evil, light over darkness, and knowledge over ignorance; for Hindus, associated with the gods Rama and Krishna and the goddess Lakshmi; also known as <i>Deepvali</i>	Hindu, Jain, and Sikh students and employees may request this day off.
Oct 24	Monday	Bandi Chhor Divas	Sikhism	Celebrates the release of the Sixth Guru Har Gobind Sahib from imprisonment; coincides with Diwali	
Oct 26	Wednesday	Birth of the Báb*	Bahá'í	Anniversary of the birth in 1819 of the Báb, prophet-herald of the Bahá'í faith, in Shiráz, Persia	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Bahá'í employees suspend work on this day and will likely request this day off.
Oct 26	Friday	Bhai Dooj	Hinduism	Celebrated during Diwali, this is a holiday similar to Raksha Bandhan, celebrating the relationship between siblings	
Oct 27	Thursday	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh*	Bahá'í	Anniversary of the birth in 1817 of Bahá'u'lláh, prophet-founder of the Bahá'í, in Núr, Persia	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Bahá'í employees suspend work on this day and will likely request this day off.
Oct 31 Nov 1	sundown Monday sundown Tuesday	Samhain*	Paganism, Wicca	A festival of darkness; time to celebrate the lives of ancestors, loved ones, and others who have died; coincides with Halloween and the Day of the Dead	
Nov 1	Tuesday	All Saints Day	Christianity (C, P)	Remembers all known and unknown Christian saints; Orthodox Christianity observes it on the first Sunday after Pentecost	
Nov 8	Tuesday	Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Birthday	Sikhism	Celebration of the birth the First Guru of the Sikhs and the founder of Sikhism	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Sikh employees may request this day off.

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Nov 19 Nov 27		<i>Thanksgiving Break for Undergraduates</i>			
Nov 25	Friday	Day of the Covenant	Bahá'í	Recalls Bahá'u'lláh's appointment of Abdu'l-Baha as successor	
Nov 27 Dec 24	Sunday Saturday	Advent	Christianity	A season of spiritual preparation prior to the observance of the birth of Jesus; in Western Christianity, it begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas; in Orthodox Christianity, the season is longer and begins in mid-November	Orthodox Christian students and employees may be fasting.
Dec 8		<i>Undergraduate Classes End</i>			
Dec 8	Thursday	Bodhi Day	Buddhism	Marks the day that the Buddha experienced enlightenment or spiritual awakening (bodhi); celebrated either in December or the twelfth month of the lunar calendar; also known as <i>Rohatsu</i>	Buddhist students and employees may have had little sleep.
Dec 8	Thursday	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception	Christianity (C)	Recalls the conception of Mary, who would become the mother of Jesus, without original sin	
Dec 9 Dec 17		<i>Reading and Exams for Undergraduates</i>			
Dec 12 Dec 13	sundown Monday sundown Tuesday	19 th of Kislev	Judaism (Chabad)	Commemorates the release of the founder of Chabad Hasidism, Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liadi, from a Russian prison	
Dec 19 Jan 9		<i>Winter Break for Undergraduates</i>			
Dec 19 Dec 27	sundown Monday sundown Tuesday	Chanukah	Judaism	Eight-day "Festival of Lights" celebrating the rededication of the Temple to worship of God in 164 BCE; commemorates the victory of the Maccabees over the Greek king	Academics and work are permitted. Provide food accommodations as requested.

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				Antiochus, who suppressed freedom of worship; also known as <i>Hanukkah</i>	
Dec 21	Wednesday	Yule (Winter Solstice)*	Paganism, Wicca	Marks a turning point in the yearly cycle, as the reduced presence of the sun ends; feasting, gift-giving, and decorating with evergreen are common	
Dec 24 Dec 25	sundown Saturday Sunday	Christmas	Christianity (C, P)	Commemorates the arrival of Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem and the birth of Jesus	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Catholic and Protestant Christian employees will likely request this day off.
Dec 29	Thursday	Guru Gobind Singh Ji's Birthday	Sikhism	Guru Gobind Singh was the Tenth Sikh Guru of Nanak and founder of the Khalsa, the sacred community of Sikhs	

SPRING SEMESTER 2023

DATE 2023	DAYS	HOLIDAY	RELIGION	SIGNIFICANCE	RECOMMENDED ACCOMMODATION
Jan 1	Sunday	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God	Christianity (C)	Celebrates the identity of Mary as the mother of Jesus, the Son of God; derived from the Greek title <i>Theotokos</i> , “Bearer of God”	
Jan 1	Sunday	Gantan-sai	Shintoism	Celebrates the new year; also known as <i>Shogatu</i> or <i>Japanese New Year</i>	Shinto employees may request the day off.
Jan 3	Tuesday	10 th of Tevet	Judaism	A day of fasting that recalls the siege of Jerusalem by the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar in 588 BCE, which led to the destruction of the First Temple and the exile of the Jewish people	Jewish students and employees may be fasting.
Jan 6	Friday	Epiphany	Christianity (C, P, O)	In Catholic and Protestant Christianity, recalls the journey of the Magi to the infant Jesus; also known as <i>Three Kings Day</i> ; in Orthodox Christianity, celebrates the manifestation of Jesus as Christ and the baptism of Jesus by John, also known as <i>Theophany</i>	
Jan 7	Saturday	Mahayana New Year*	Buddhism	Adherents of the Mahayana tradition of Buddhism celebrate the new year on the first full moon in January; observance may vary or extend over several days according to region	
Jan 7	Saturday	Feast of the Nativity; Christmas	Christianity (O)	Celebrates the birth of Jesus	Orthodox Christian employees will likely request this day off.
Jan 9		<i>First Day of Classes for Undergraduates</i>			

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Jan 13	Friday	Maghi	Sikhism	Celebrates 40 Sikh martyrs who deserted and then returned to the tenth guru, Guru Gobind Singh, in order to fight the Mughal Empire	
Jan 15	Sunday	World Religion Day	Bahá'í	Observance of the oneness of religion and the belief that world religion will unify all people	
Jan 15	Saturday	Makar Sankranti,* Pongal	Hinduism	Seasonal celebration marking turning of the sun to the north	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities.
<i>Jan 16</i>		<i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i>			
Jan 22	Sunday	Lunar New Year	Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism	Celebrates the turn of the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar; also known as <i>Spring Festival</i>	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Students and employees who are adherents to these faiths may request to have this day off.
Jan 26	Thursday	Vasant Panchami; Saraswati Puja	Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism	Held 40 days before Holika and Holi, a preparation for spring; nature of observance varies by region; many Hindus celebrate the goddess Sarawati who embodies creating energy and love, and is the goddess of knowledge, language, music, and arts	
Feb 1	Wednesday	Imbolc*	Paganism, Wicca	A time of spring cleaning and anticipation of the new year's life; in Celtic traditions it is dedicated to the goddess Brigid; in other traditions it is a time of rededication or initiation; also known as <i>Imbolg</i>	
Feb 3	Friday	Setsubun	Shintoism	Day before the traditional beginning of spring in Japan; associated with the Lunar New Year; includes rituals to	

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				cleansing evil of the prior year and drive away evil spirits for the coming year	
Feb 5 Feb 6	sundown Sunday sundown Monday	Tu B'Shvat	Judaism	Celebrates the fruits and trees of Israel, and the deeper spiritual significance of nature; also known as <i>Rosh Hashanah for the Trees</i>	
Feb 5 Feb 6	sundown Sunday sundown Monday	10 th of Shvat	Judaism (Chabad)	Commemorates the death of the sixth Chabad Rebbe, Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak Schneerson and the acceptance of leadership by the seventh Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson	
Feb 15	Wednesday	Nirvana Day*	Buddhism	Observed by Mahayana adherents as the day the Buddha achieved complete nirvana upon the death of his physical body; date may vary by sect or region	
Feb 17 Feb 18	sundown Friday sundown Saturday	Lailat al-Mi'raj*	Islam	The "Night Journey" of the Prophet Mohammed, commemorating his mystical journey from Mecca to al-Aqsa in Jerusalem and then to heaven; also known as <i>Shab-e-Mi'raj</i> and <i>Miraç Kandili</i>	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Muslim students and employees may have had little sleep.
Feb 18	Saturday	Maha Shivaratri, Shiva Ratri*	Hinduism	The "Great Night of Shiva" is a festival dedicated to the god Shiva; celebrated on the 13 th night or 14 th day of the waning moon in the Hindu calendar	
Feb 22	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday (Lent begins)	Christianity (C, P)	First day of Lent, a 40-day period of spiritual preparation for Easter, excluding Sundays	
Feb 25 Mar 1	Saturday Wednesday	Ayyám-i-Há	Bahá'í	The "Days of Ha" are devoted to spiritual preparation for the fast, celebrating, hospitality, charity, and gift giving. They are celebrated these four days before the last month of the Bahá'í year by inserting days into the	

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				calendar in order to maintain the solar calendar; also called <i>Intercalary Days</i>	
Feb 27	Monday	Clean Monday (Great Lent begins)	Christianity (O)	First day of Great Lent, a 40-day period of spiritual preparation for <i>Pascha</i> (Easter), including Sundays	
Mar 2 Mar 20	Thursday Monday	'Alá'	Bahá'í	Bahá'ís between 15 and 70 years of age do not eat or drink from sunrise to sunset, and set aside time for prayer and meditation; also called the <i>Nineteen Day Fast</i>	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Bahá'í students and employees may be fasting.
Mar 6	Monday	Magha Puja	Buddhism	Commemorates the spontaneous assembly of 1,250 enlightened disciples in the historical Buddha's presence; also known as <i>Sangha Day</i>	
Mar 6	Monday	Ta'anit Ester; Fast of Esther	Judaism	Commemorates the fasting and repentance of Esther (and the entire Jewish community) before she pleaded for the Jewish people before the king of Persia	Jewish students and employees may be fasting.
Mar 6 Mar 7	sundown Monday sundown Tuesday	Purim	Judaism	The "Feast of Lots" marks the salvation of the Jews from extermination in ancient Persia	Purim is not subject to work restrictions, but some sources indicate Jews should not go about ordinary business at Purim in order to respect the festival.
Mar 7	Wednesday	Holi	Hinduism	Festival associated with the defeat of the demoness Holika; celebrated by throwing colored powders and paints	
Mar 7 Mar 8	sundown Tuesday sundown Wednesday	Lailat al-Bara'at	Islam	Marked as the night when one may ask Allah for forgiveness; celebrated by Shi'a Muslims as the birth of Muhammed al-Mahdi	Shi'a Muslim students and employees may have had little sleep.
Mar 8 Mar 10	Wednesday Friday	Hola Mohalla*	Sikhism	A martial arts festival and parade coinciding with Holi; actual celebration date may vary by location	

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Mar 11 Mar 19		Spring Break for Undergraduates			
Mar 20	Monday	Ostara (Spring Equinox)*	Paganism, Wicca	Light and darkness are in balance, with growing light; a time of new beginnings and emerging life; also known as <i>Eostar</i>	
Mar 21	Tuesday	Naw-Rúz, Nowrúz*	Bahá'í, Zoroastrianism	New Year's Day in the Bahá'í tradition; traditional ancient Iranian festival celebrating the first day of spring and the start of the Iranian new year; date may vary by region or sect	
Mar 22 Apr 21	sundown Wednesday sundown Friday	Ramadan*	Islam	A month of fasting commemorating the first revelation of the <i>Qur'an</i> to the Prophet Muhammed	Muslim students and employees will be fasting for an extended time during daylight hours, which may result in less stamina. For evening events, provide food accommodations as requested (Islamic dietary restrictions apply). Further recommendations TBA.
Mar 26	Sunday	Khordad Sal	Zoroastrianism	Celebration of the birth of Zoroaster, the founder of the Zoroastrian religion; specifically celebrated in India and Iran, following the Persian new year, Nowrúz	
Mar 30	Thursday	Rama Navami	Hinduism	Celebrates the birthday of Rama, king of ancient India, hero of the epic <i>Ramayana</i> , and seventh incarnation of Vishnu	
Apr 2	Sunday	Palm Sunday	Christianity (C, P)	Observed the Sunday before Easter to recall the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem	
Apr 4	Tuesday	Mahavir Janma Kalyanak*	Jainism	Celebrates the birth of Mahavir Swami, the 24 th and last Tirthankara of present Avasarpini	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities.
Apr 5 Apr 13	sundown Wednesday	Pesach; Passover	Judaism	Eight-day "Feast of Unleavened Bread," celebrating Israel's deliverance from bondage in Egypt	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Evening of Apr 5, and all day Apr 6 and 7;

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	sundown Thursday				evening of Apr 11 and all day Apr 12 and 13 are non-work days. Provide food accommodations as requested.
Apr 6	Thursday	Theravada New Year*	Buddhism	Adherents of the Theravada tradition of Buddhism celebrate the new year on the first full moon in April	
Apr 6	Thursday	Maundy Thursday	Christianity (C, P)	Celebrated the Thursday before Easter, commemorates the Last Supper, at which Jesus and his followers were together for the last time before his crucifixion; also known as <i>Holy Thursday</i>	
Apr 7	Friday	Good Friday	Christianity (C, P)	Commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus on the Friday before Easter	Some Christian students and employees may be fasting.
Apr 8	sundown Saturday	Easter Vigil	Christianity (C, P)	Celebrates the resurrection of Jesus; may also be the time of initiation for new Christians	
Apr 9	Sunday	Easter	Christianity (C, P)	Celebrates the resurrection of Jesus	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Catholic and Protestant Christian employees may request this day off.
Apr 9	Sunday	Palm Sunday	Christianity (O)	Observed the Sunday before Pascha to recall the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Orthodox Christian employees may request this day off.
Apr 14	Friday	Holy Friday	Christianity (O)	Commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus on the Friday before Pascha	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Orthodox Christians may be fasting.
Apr 14	Friday	Vaisakhi	Sikhism	Celebrates the founding of the Sikh community as the Khalsa (community of the initiated); also called <i>Baisakhi</i>	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Sikh students and employees may request this day off.
Apr 16	Sunday	Pascha; Easter	Christianity (O)	Celebrates the resurrection of Jesus	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities.

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					Orthodox Christian employees may request this day off.
Apr 17 Apr 18	sundown Monday sundown Tuesday	Lailat al-Qadr*	Islam	The “Night of Power” when the <i>Qur’an</i> was revealed to the Prophet Mohammed; date of observance may vary depending on tradition	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Muslim students and employees may have had little sleep.
Apr 17 Apr 18	sundown Monday sundown Tuesday	Yom HaShoah	Judaism	“Holocaust Remembrance Day” memorializes the martyrdom of six million Jews who died in the Nazi Holocaust	Academics and work are permitted. Provide food accommodations as requested.
Apr 21 Apr 22	sundown Friday sundown Saturday	Eid al-Fitr (end of Ramadan)*	Islam	The “Feast of Breaking the Fast” marks the end of Ramadan, the holy month of fasting	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Muslim students and employees may request this day off.
Apr 21 May 2	Friday Tuesday	Ridván	Bahá’í	The “Most Great Festival” which commemorates the 12 days when Bahá’u’lláh, the prophet-founder of the Bahá’í faith, resided in a garden called Ridván (paradise) and publicly proclaimed his mission as God’s messenger for this age	The 1 st day (Apr 20), 9 th day (Apr 28), and 12 th day (May 1) are work restricted. Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities on these days. Bahá’í students and employees may request these days off.
Apr 24		<i>Classes End for Undergraduates</i>			
Apr 25 May 5		<i>Exams and Reading Days for Undergraduates</i>			
May 1	Monday	Beltane	Paganism, Wicca	Celebrates the fullness of life, youthfulness, and the greening of the world; halfway between the spring equinox and the summer solstice, marks the beginning of summer; also known as <i>May Eve</i>	
May 5	Friday	Buddha Day*	Buddhism	Marks the birth, spiritual awakening, and death of the historical Buddha;	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities.

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				date may vary by region or sect; also known as <i>Visakha Puja</i> or <i>Vesak</i>	Buddhist students and employees will likely request to have this day off.
May 8		<i>Maymester Begins</i>			
May 8 May 9	sundown Monday sundown Tuesday	Lag B'Omer	Judaism	Celebrates the end of a divine-sent plague and Roman occupation during Rabbi Akiva's lifetime	
May 12		<i>Commencement</i>			
May 24	Wednesday	Declaration of the Báb	Bahá'í	Commemorates the day in 1844 when the Báb, the prophet-herald of the Bahá'í faith, announced that he was the herald for the new messenger of God	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Bahá'í students and employees suspend work on this day and will likely request to have this day off.
May 25 May 27	sundown Thursday sundown Saturday	Shavout	Judaism	The "Feast of Weeks," celebrating the covenant established at Sinai between God and Israel, and the revelation of the Ten Commandments	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. These are non-work days and Jewish students and employees may request these days off. Jewish students and employees may have had little sleep.
May 26	Friday	Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord	Christianity (C)	Celebrated 40 days after Easter, commemorates the ascension of Jesus into heaven	
May 28	Sunday	Pentecost	Christianity (C, P)	The seventh Sunday after Easter, commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit on followers of Jesus; marks the birth of the Christian church; also known as <i>Whitsunday</i>	
May 29	Monday	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh	Bahá'í	Observance of the death in exile of Bahá'u'lláh, the prophet-founder of the Bahá'í faith	
June 4	Sunday	Pentecost	Christianity (O)	The seventh Sunday after Pascha, commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit on followers of Jesus;	

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				marks the birth of the Christian church	
June 6		<i>First-Half and Full-Term Summer Classes Begin</i>			
June 21	Wednesday	World Humanist Day	Humanism, Materialism, Secularism	Promotes awareness of Humanism as a philosophical life stance and means to effect change in the world	
June 21	Wednesday	Litha (Summer Solstice)*	Paganism, Wicca	Marks the middle of the summer, when the sun is at its greatest strength	
June 27 June 28	sundown Tuesday sundown Wednesday	Waqfa Arafat*	Islam	Second day of the Hajj pilgrimage, recalling the Prophet Mohammed giving his Farewell Sermon; adherents not on the Hajj repent of their sins	Muslim students and employees may be fasting.
June 28 June 29	sundown Wednesday sundown Thursday	Eid al-Adha*	Islam	Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son in obedience to God's command; marks the end of the annual Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca)	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities on this date.
July 3	Monday	Asalha Puja	Buddhism	Recalls the Buddha's first discourse following his spiritual enlightenment; also known as <i>Dharma Day</i>	
July 3	Monday	Guru Purnima	Hinduism Jainism	Dedicated to all spiritual and academic gurus who share their wisdom; also called <i>Vyasa Purnima</i> , as celebration of Veda Vyasa who wrote the Mahabharata and compiled the Vedas; revived by Mahatma Gandhi to honor his spiritual guru, Shrimad Rajchandra; many Indians, regardless of faith tradition, may celebrate by thanking teachers	
July 6	Thursday	17 th of Tammuz	Judaism	Commemorating the breach of the walls of Jerusalem before the	Jewish students and employees may be fasting.

DATE 2023	DAYS	HOLIDAY	RELIGION	SIGNIFICANCE	RECOMMENDED ACCOMMODATION
				destruction of the Second Temple in 70 CE	
July 10	Monday	Martyrdom of the Báb	Bahá'í	Marks the execution of the Báb, the prophet-herald of the Bahá'í faith, in 1850	Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities. Bahá'í students and employees will likely request this day off.
July 18 July 19	sundown Tuesday sundown Wednesday	Islamic New Year*	Islam	Month marks the beginning of the Islamic liturgical year; this first day, al-Hijra, recalls the migration of Mohammed and his followers from Mecca to Medina in 622 CE; also marks the beginning of the ten-day Shi'a Muslim Remembrance of Muharram, recalling the martyrdom of Hussein, the son of Ali and grandson of Mohammed	
July 24	Monday	Pioneer Day	Latter-day Saints	Commemorates the entry of Brigham Young and the first group of Mormon pioneers into the Salt Lake Valley of Utah in 1847	
July 26 July 27	sundown Wednesday sundown Thursday	Tisha B'Av	Judaism	A day of fasting that mourns the destruction of ancient Temples and Jerusalem, as well as other disasters that have afflicted the Jewish people	Jewish students and employees may be fasting.
July 27 July 28	sundown Thursday sundown Friday	Ashura	Islam	A day of fasting recalling Moses' exodus from Egypt; for Shi'a Muslims, the end of the Remembrance of Muharram, marking the martyrdom of Hussein at the Battle of Karbala	Muslim students and employees may be fasting.