

Advisory Poll for the Academic Calendar under Semesters

May 6, 2009

All Regular Chapter Members of [AAUP-WSU](#) will be offered an opportunity to express their preferences among the following four types of calendar for the semester-based academic year:

- [I. Semesters with 15 weeks of instruction; no break in fall](#)
- [II. Semesters with 15 weeks of instruction; includes break in fall](#)
- [III. Semesters with 14 weeks of instruction; no break in fall](#)
- [IV. Semesters with 14 weeks of instruction; includes break in fall](#)

For each of these four calendar types, we have provided one sample calendar to illustrate one way that each calendar type could actually be implemented. The sample calendars are online at

<http://www.wright.edu/admin/aaup/calendars/>

Also, links are embedded in this document to take you to the respective sample calendars.

Hints for Reading the sample calendars

The type (I, II, III, or IV) of calendar is shown at the top of the page.

Classes, final exams, between-term breaks, and in-term breaks are color-coded as shown at the top of the page.

Holiday abbreviations are as follows:

Labor Day.....Lab
Veterans Day.....Vet
Thanksgiving.....Thk
Martin Luther King Day.....MLK
Memorial DayMem
Independence DayInd

Each calendar covers one academic year, Fall Semester 2013 through Summer Term 2014. Wright State's first fall semester (presumably fall 2012) may entail adjustments required by the last summer of classes taught on the quarter system; *no such adjustments are shown on any of the sample calendars.*

Labels for month and year are shown with the week that includes the first day of the month in question. For example, the first week shown on all four sample calendars runs Sunday, *July 28*, 2013 through Saturday, *August 3*, 2013, and looks like this:

Aug 2013	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
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Common Features of all four sample calendars:

- (a) summer terms lasting 12 weeks. Presumably, some summer classes would run all 12 weeks, others the first 6 weeks, others the last 6 weeks, etc.
- (b) breaks during fall semester for Labor Day (1 day), Veterans Day (1 day), and Thanksgiving (3 days, though nothing would prohibit shortening the Thanksgiving break to 2 days, namely Thanksgiving Day and the day following). The Veterans Day break occurs on a weekday that varies from year to year, as is true for the Independence Day break in summer.
- (c) a full one-week break near the middle of the spring semester
- (d) a one-week final exam period at the end of fall semester, and likewise for spring semester
- (e) no final exam period for summer
- (f) no December intersession

About sample [Calendar I -- Semesters with 15 weeks of instruction; no break in fall](#)

This sample calendar has almost exactly fifteen weeks of class time for both fall and spring semesters (not counting final exam weeks) and has no fall break other than those specified in Common Features (b).

Notice that the between-term breaks are arranged in a 1-2-3 fashion, i.e.,

- 1 week between spring semester and summer term
- 2 weeks between summer term and fall semester
- 3 weeks between fall and spring semesters

for 6 weeks in total. However, this 1-2-3 arrangement has alternatives that could be adopted just as well (e.g., 2-2-2 or 1-1-4). If you vote for calendar I, any of these various arrangements for the 6 weeks total could actually occur.

About sample [Calendar II -- Semesters with 15 weeks of instruction; includes break in fall](#)

Like Calendar I, this sample calendar has almost exactly fifteen weeks of class time for both fall and spring semesters (not counting final exam weeks), but it has an additional two-day break (four days counting the weekend) near the middle of the fall semester; thus fall classes begin earlier, shortening the break between summer term and fall semester.

The between-term breaks amount to 5½ weeks in total and are shown in a 1-1½-3 fashion, but as in Calendar I, various alternatives could actually be adopted.

About sample [Calendar III -- Semesters with 14 weeks of instruction; no break in fall](#)

This sample calendar has almost exactly 14 weeks of class time for both fall and spring semesters (not counting final exam weeks) and has no fall break other than those specified in Common Features (b). In comparison to 15-weeks semesters, a typical class would have to last slightly longer so as to provide the same total instructional time (e.g., 55 minutes rather than 50).

The between-term breaks amount to 8 weeks in total and are shown in a 3-2-3 fashion:

- 3 unallocated weeks between spring semester and summer term, about which see below
- 2 weeks of break between summer term and fall semester
- 3 weeks of break between fall and spring semesters.

As in Calendar I, arrangements other than 3-2-3 could actually be adopted.

In this sample Calendar III, the 3 unallocated weeks shown between spring semester and summer term could be used for one or more of three purposes: an intersession, a break, an earlier start for ordinary summer classes (i.e., a summer term lasting more than 12 weeks).

About sample [Calendar IV -- Semesters with 14 weeks of instruction; includes break in fall](#)

Like Calendar III, this sample calendar has almost exactly 14 weeks of class time for both fall and spring semesters (not counting final exam weeks), and again classes would have to last slightly longer than they would in 15-week semesters. However, this calendar has an additional two-day break (four days counting the weekend) near the middle of the fall semester; thus fall classes begin earlier, shortening the break between summer term and fall semester.

The between-term breaks amount to 7½ weeks in total and are shown in a 3-1½-3 fashion:

- 3 unallocated weeks between spring semester and summer term, about which see below
- 1½ weeks of break between summer term and fall semester
- 3 weeks of break between fall and spring semesters.

As in Calendar I, arrangements other than 3-1½-3 could actually be adopted.

In this Sample Calendar IV, the 3 unallocated weeks shown between spring semester and summer term could be used for one or more of three purposes: an intersession, a break, an earlier start for ordinary summer classes (i.e., a summer term lasting more than 12 weeks) – just as is the case for sample Calendar III.