

Academic Calendar Model



October 2024

Reminder: Calendar Model Priorities

- Three 15-week semesters
- 7-week and Fast Track session dates aligned and within the 15-week semesters
- Two weeks of classes after Thanksgiving break
- One week between 7-week A/FT sessions
- 49 days in Fast Track sessions
- Keep days equal between M/W/F accounting for holidays
- Fall start after Labor day
- Winter start before MLK Jr. Day
- 2 weeks between SU and FA terms for orientations

You spoke, we listened:

- Survey – 2,679 responses
 - More than 75% of responses were from students
- Two open forums
- Visits to Faculty, AP, and Student Senates
- Student response boards in the Bonnie and RUE

Academic calendar features, based on feedback:

- Fall semester start before Labor Day
- Spring semester start before MLK Jr. Day
- 14-week summer with a shorter break between 7-week terms to accommodate the earlier fall start
- Thanksgiving full week break without classes
- Classes scheduled through the end of semester instead of final exam block scheduling. The ability to schedule exams in the evening outside normal class schedule time, if needed.
- Sufficient end of term processing time is now built into the fall semester
- Time during winter break for students to work outside the Radford area – the finalized model includes a slightly longer winter break than original models, with an earlier fall start and return mid-January for start of spring
- The calendar now integrates the Fast-Track and Part-of-terms into six terms (Fall A/B, Spring A/B, Summer A/B) with start and end dates concurrent with the semesters, aligning breaks for those who teach in those programs and opening up options for flexible scheduling in the future
- Friday, January 2, 2026 will be a paid day off for employees

QUANTITATIVE RESPONSES



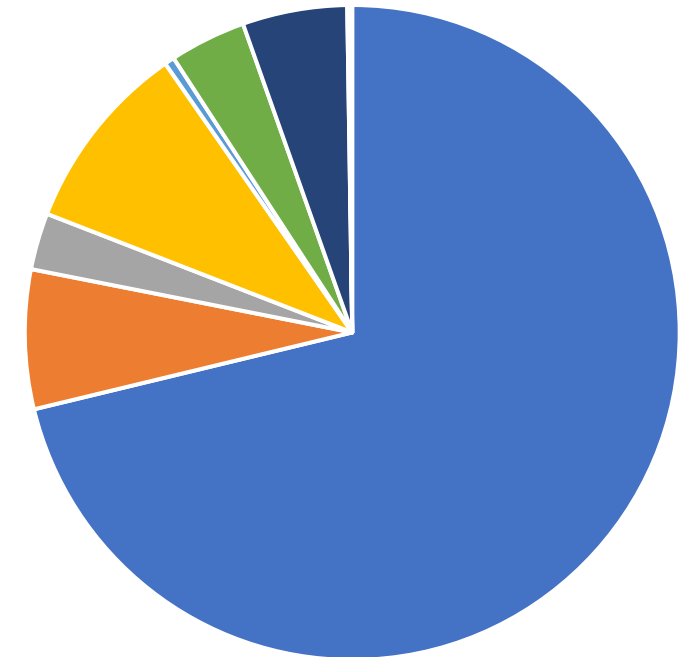
October 2024

Please indicate your current role/status:

	Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Undergraduate Student	2033	75.9	75.9
Graduate Student	162	6.0	81.9
Parent	90	3.4	85.3
T&R Faculty	177	6.6	91.9
Other Faculty	11	0.4	92.3
AP Faculty	80	3.0	95.3
Classified Staff	116	4.3	99.6
Community Member	2	0.1	99.7
Other	8	0.3	100.0
Total	2679	100.0	

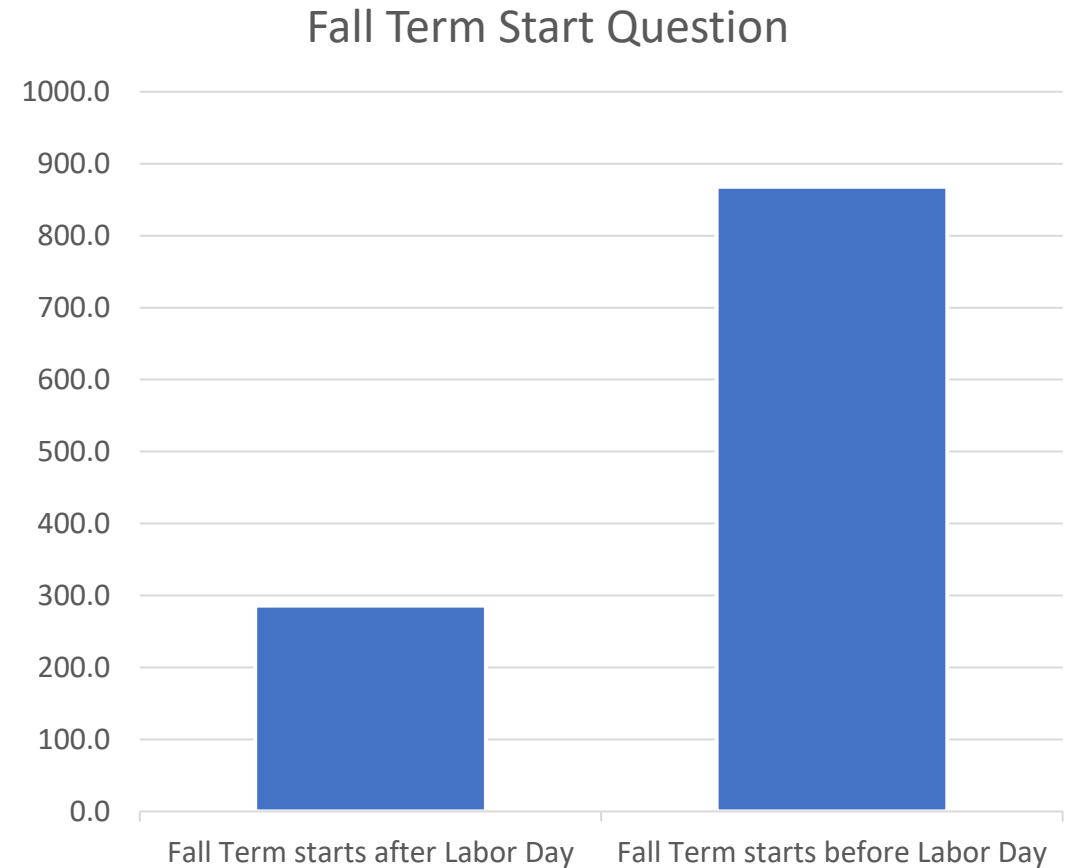
Role/Status:

- Undergraduate Student
- Graduate Student
- Parent
- T&R Faculty
- Other Faculty
- AP Faculty
- Classified Staff
- Community Member
- Other



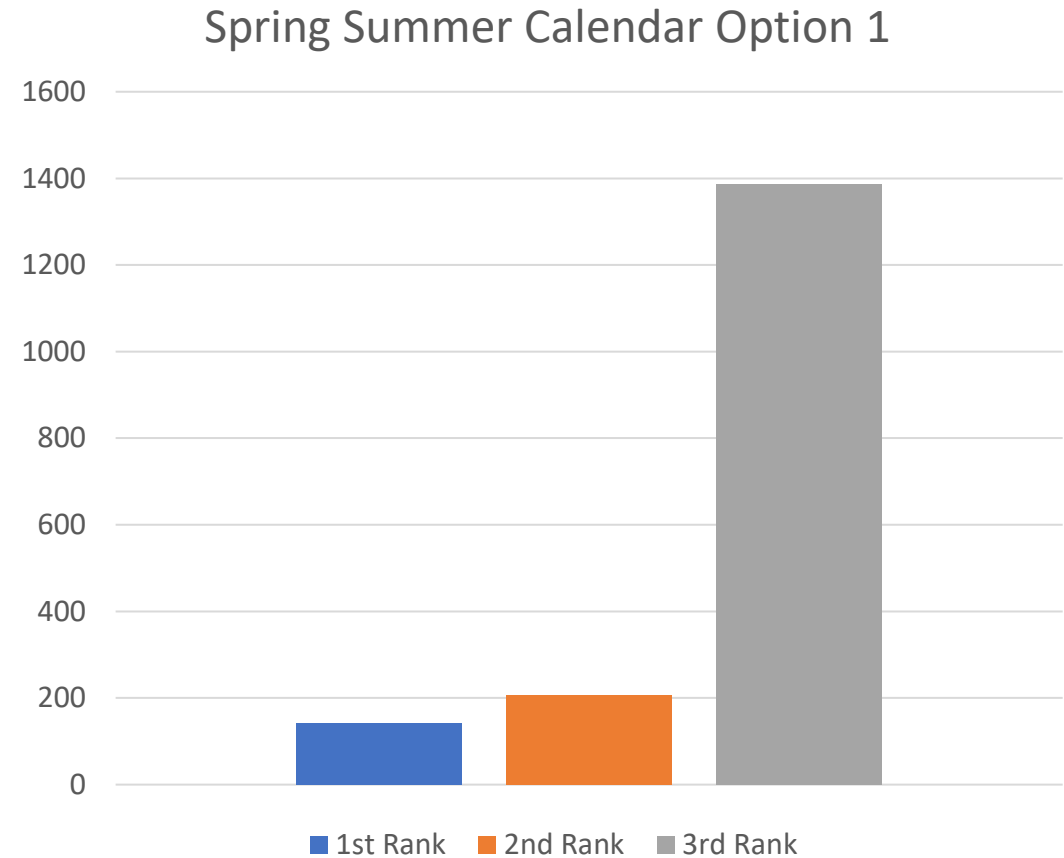
Please choose the option that seems most favorable to you.

	Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Fall Term starts after Labor Day	286	24.8	24.8
Fall Term starts before Labor Day	868	75.2	100
Total	1154	100.0	



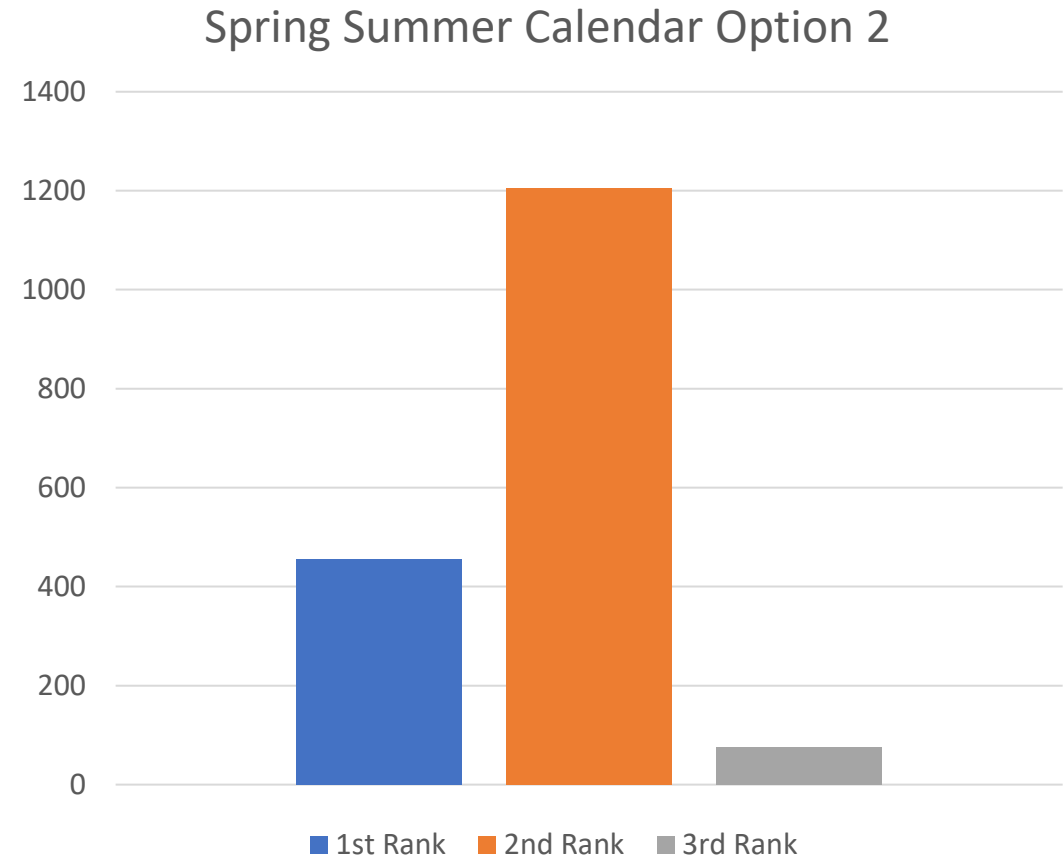
Take a few moments to examine the following academic calendars (Spring & Summer schedules). After you familiarize yourself with each one, please arrange the sample academic calendars in order of most preferred (top) to least preferred (bottom). – **OPTION 1**

	Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
1 st Rank	143	8.2	8.2
2 nd Rank	206	11.9	20.1
3 rd Rank	1387	79.9	100.0
Total	1736	100.0	



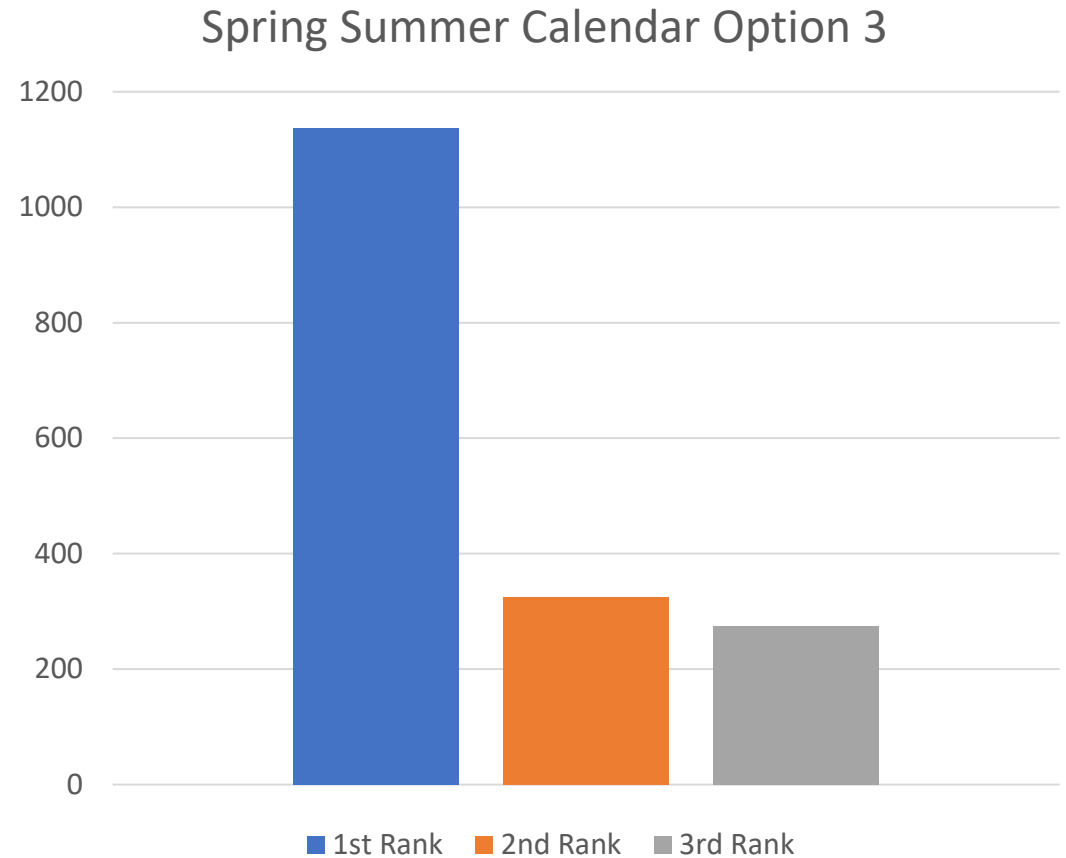
Take a few moments to examine the following academic calendars (Spring & Summer schedules). After you familiarize yourself with each one, please arrange the sample academic calendars in order of most preferred (top) to least preferred (bottom). – **OPTION 2**

	Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
1 st Rank	456	26.3	26.3
2 nd Rank	1205	69.4	95.7
3 rd Rank	75	4.3	100.0
Total	1736	100.0	

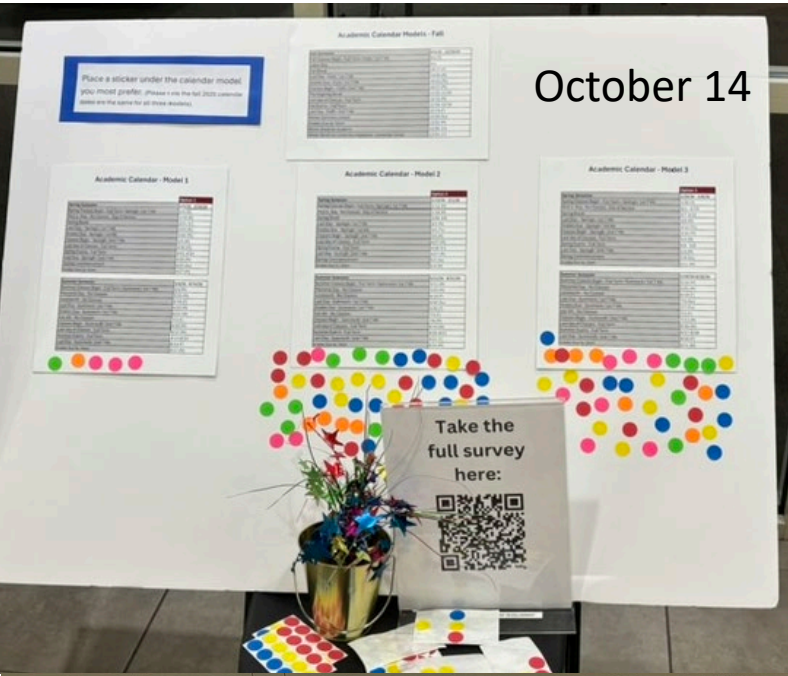


Take a few moments to examine the following academic calendars (Spring & Summer schedules). After you familiarize yourself with each one, please arrange the sample academic calendars in order of most preferred (top) to least preferred (bottom). – **OPTION 3**

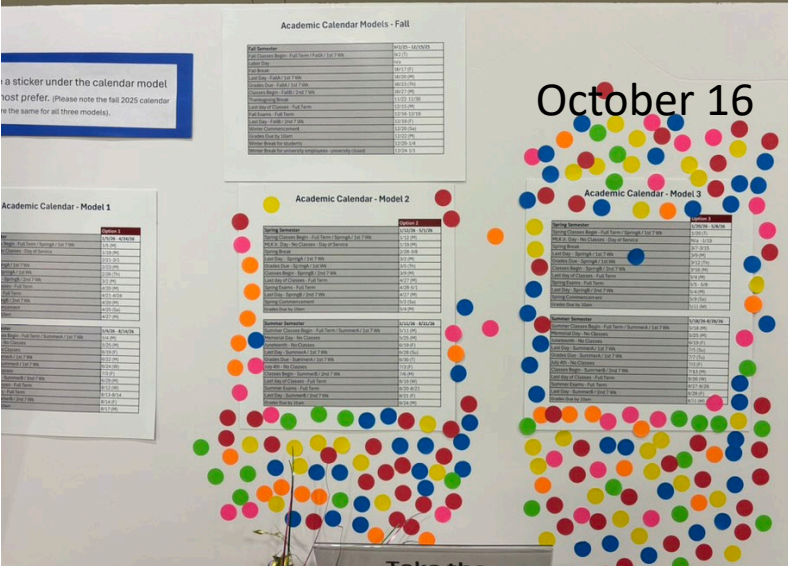
	Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
1 st Rank	1137	65.5	65.5
2 nd Rank	325	18.7	84.2
3 rd Rank	274	15.8	100.0
Total	1736	100.0	



Student Feedback: Spring options



October 14



October 16



October 17

Academic Calendar Models - Fall

Fall Semester	9/2/25 - 12/19/25
Fall Classes Begin - Full Term / FallA / 1st 7 Wk	9/2 (T)
Labor Day	n/a
Fall Break	10/17 (F)
Last Day - FallA / 1st 7 Wk	10/20 (M)
Grades Due - FallA / 1st 7 Wk	10/23 (Th)
Classes Begin - FallB / 2nd 7 Wk	10/27 (M)
Thanksgiving Break	11/22-11/30
Last day of Classes - Full Term	12/15 (M)
Fall Exams - Full Term	12/16-12/19
Last Day - FallB / 2nd 7 Wk	12/19 (F)
Winter Commencement	12/20 (Sa)
Grades Due by 10am	12/22 (M)
Winter Break for students	12/20-1/4
Winter Break for university employees - university closed	12/24-1/1

Place a sticker under the calendar model you most prefer. (Please note the fall 2025 calendar dates are the same for all three models.)

Academic Calendar - Model 1

	Option 1
Spring Semester	1/29/26 - 4/24/26
Spring Classes Begin - Full Term / SpringA / 1st 7 Wk	1/29 (M)
MLK Jr. Day - No Classes - Day of Service	3/19 (M)
Spring Break	2/23-3/1
Last Day - SpringA / 1st 7 Wk	2/23 (M)
Grades Due - SpringA / 1st 7 Wk	2/26 (Th)
Classes Begin - SpringB / 2nd 7 Wk	3/2 (M)
Last day of Classes - Full Term	4/20 (M)
Spring Exams - Full Term	4/21-4/24
Last Day - SpringB / 2nd 7 Wk	4/20 (M)
Spring Commencement	4/25 (Sa)
Grades Due by 10am	4/27 (M)
Summer Semester	5/4/26 - 8/14/26
Summer Classes Begin - Full Term / SummerA / 1st 7 Wk	5/4 (M)
Memorial Day - No Classes	5/25 (M)
Juneteenth - No Classes	6/19 (F)
Last Day - SummerA / 1st 7 Wk	6/22 (M)
Grades Due - SummerA / 1st 7 Wk	6/24 (W)
July 4th - No Classes	7/3 (F)
Classes Begin - SummerB / 2nd 7 Wk	6/29 (M)
Last day of Classes - Full Term	8/13-8/14
Summer Exams - Full Term	8/14 (F)
Last Day - SummerB / 2nd 7 Wk	8/13 (M)
Grades Due by 10am	8/17 (M)

Academic Calendar - Model 2

	Option 2
Spring Semester	1/12/26 - 5/1/26
Spring Classes Begin - Full Term / SpringA / 1st 7 Wk	1/12 (M)
MLK Jr. Day - No Classes - Day of Service	1/19 (M)
Spring Break	2/28-3/8
Last Day - SpringA / 1st 7 Wk	3/2 (M)
Grades Due - SpringA / 1st 7 Wk	3/5 (Th)
Classes Begin - SpringB / 2nd 7 Wk	3/8 (W)
Last day of Classes - Full Term	4/27 (M)
Spring Exams - Full Term	4/28-5/1
Last Day - SpringB / 2nd 7 Wk	4/27 (M)
Spring Commencement	5/2 (Sa)
Grades Due by 10am	5/4 (M)
Summer Semester	5/11/26 - 8/21/26
Summer Classes Begin - Full Term / SummerA / 1st 7 Wk	5/11 (W)
Memorial Day - No Classes	5/25 (M)
Juneteenth - No Classes	6/19 (F)
Last Day - SummerA / 1st 7 Wk	6/28 (Su)
Grades Due - SummerA / 1st 7 Wk	6/30 (T)
July 4th - No Classes	7/3 (F)
Classes Begin - SummerB / 2nd 7 Wk	7/6 (M)
Last day of Classes - Full Term	8/19 (W)
Summer Exams - Full Term	8/19-8/23
Last Day - SummerB / 2nd 7 Wk	8/21 (F)
Grades Due by 10am	8/24 (M)

Academic Calendar - Model 3

	Option 3
Spring Semester	1/20/26 - 5/8/26
Spring Classes Begin - Full Term / SpringA / 1st 7 Wk	1/20 (T)
MLK Jr. Day - No Classes - Day of Service	N/A - 1/19
Spring Break	3/7-3/15
Last Day - SpringA / 1st 7 Wk	3/9 (M)
Grades Due - SpringA / 1st 7 Wk	3/12 (Th)
Classes Begin - SpringB / 2nd 7 Wk	3/16 (M)
Last day of Classes - Full Term	5/4 (M)
Spring Exams - Full Term	5/5 - 5/8
Last Day - SpringB / 2nd 7 Wk	5/4 (M)
Spring Commencement	5/9 (Sa)
Grades Due by 10am	5/11 (M)
Summer Semester	5/18/26 - 8/28/26
Summer Classes Begin - Full Term / SummerA / 1st 7 Wk	5/18 (M)
Memorial Day - No Classes	5/25 (M)
Juneteenth - No Classes	6/19 (F)
Last Day - SummerA / 1st 7 Wk	7/5 (Su)
Grades Due - SummerA / 1st 7 Wk	7/7 (Tu)
July 4th - No Classes	7/2 (F)
Classes Begin - SummerB / 2nd 7 Wk	7/13 (M)
Last day of Classes - Full Term	8/26 (W)
Summer Exams - Full Term	8/27-8/28
Last Day - SummerB / 2nd 7 Wk	8/25 (F)
Grades Due by 10am	8/31 (M)

Which is your preferred model?
 Model #1

Model #2

Model #3



Academic Calendar - Model 1

Option 1	
Spring Semester	1/24/26 - 4/24/26
Spring Classes Begin - Full Term / Spring/1 1st 7 Wk	1/26 (M)
1st Day - No Classes - Day of Service	2/2 (M)
Spring Break	3/21-31
Last Day - Spring/1 1st 7 Wk	3/23 (W)
Classes Due - Spring/1 1st 7 Wk	3/26 (Th)
Classes Begin - Spring/2nd 7 Wk	3/23 (W)
Last Day of Classes - Full Term	4/20 (M)
Spring Exams - Full Term	4/21-24
Last Day - Spring/ 2nd 7 Wk	4/23 (M)
Spring Commencement	4/25 (Sat)
Classes Due by 10am	4/27 (M)
Summer Semester	5/1/26 - 8/14/26
Summer Classes Begin - Full Term / Summer/1 1st 7 Wk	5/1 (M)
Memorial Day - No Classes	5/25 (M)
Independence - No Classes	6/23 (F)
Last Day - Summer/1 1st 7 Wk	6/22 (M)
Classes Due - Summer/1 1st 7 Wk	6/24 (W)
July 4th - No Classes	7/1 (F)
Classes Begin - Summer/2 2nd 7 Wk	7/20 (M)
Last Day of Classes - Full Term	8/13 (M)
Summer Exams - Full Term	8/13-14
Last Day - Summer/2 2nd 7 Wk	8/14 (T)
Classes Due by 10am	8/17 (M)

Academic Calendar - Model 2

Option 2	
Spring Semester	1/13/26 - 3/13/26
Spring Classes Begin - Full Term / Spring/1 1st 7 Wk	1/13 (M)
1st Day - No Classes - Day of Service	1/19 (M)
Spring Break	2/28-3/6
Last Day - Spring/1 1st 7 Wk	3/2 (M)
Classes Due - Spring/1 1st 7 Wk	3/5 (Th)
Classes Begin - Spring/2nd 7 Wk	3/2 (M)
Last Day of Classes - Full Term	4/27 (M)
Spring Exams - Full Term	4/28-31
Last Day - Spring/ 2nd 7 Wk	4/27 (M)
Spring Commencement	5/2 (Sat)
Classes Due by 10am	5/4 (M)
Summer Semester	5/11/26 - 8/21/26
Summer Classes Begin - Full Term / Summer/1 1st 7 Wk	5/11 (M)
Memorial Day - No Classes	5/26 (M)
Independence - No Classes	6/23 (F)
Last Day - Summer/1 1st 7 Wk	6/28 (Su)
Classes Due - Summer/1 1st 7 Wk	6/30 (T)
July 4th - No Classes	7/1 (F)
Classes Begin - Summer/2 2nd 7 Wk	7/16 (M)
Last Day of Classes - Full Term	8/13 (M)
Summer Exams - Full Term	8/13-14
Last Day - Summer/2 2nd 7 Wk	8/21 (T)
Classes Due by 10am	8/24 (M)

Academic Calendar - Model 3

Option 3	
Spring Semester	1/20/26 - 4/17/26
Spring Classes Begin - Full Term / Spring/1 1st 7 Wk	1/20 (M)
1st Day - No Classes - Day of Service	1/26 (M)
Spring Break	3/27-3/15
Last Day - Spring/1 1st 7 Wk	3/30 (M)
Classes Due - Spring/1 1st 7 Wk	3/12 (Th)
Classes Begin - Spring/2nd 7 Wk	3/12 (Th)
Last Day of Classes - Full Term	4/14 (M)
Spring Exams - Full Term	4/15-18
Last Day - Spring/ 2nd 7 Wk	4/14 (M)
Spring Commencement	4/16 (Sat)
Classes Due by 10am	4/18 (M)
Summer Semester	5/18/26 - 8/28/26
Summer Classes Begin - Full Term / Summer/1 1st 7 Wk	5/18 (M)
Memorial Day - No Classes	5/25 (M)
Independence - No Classes	6/23 (F)
Last Day - Summer/1 1st 7 Wk	6/28 (Su)
Classes Due - Summer/1 1st 7 Wk	6/30 (T)
July 4th - No Classes	7/1 (F)
Classes Begin - Summer/2 2nd 7 Wk	7/13 (F)
Last Day of Classes - Full Term	8/13 (M)
Summer Exams - Full Term	8/13-14
Last Day - Summer/2 2nd 7 Wk	8/27 (Su)
Classes Due by 10am	8/31 (M)

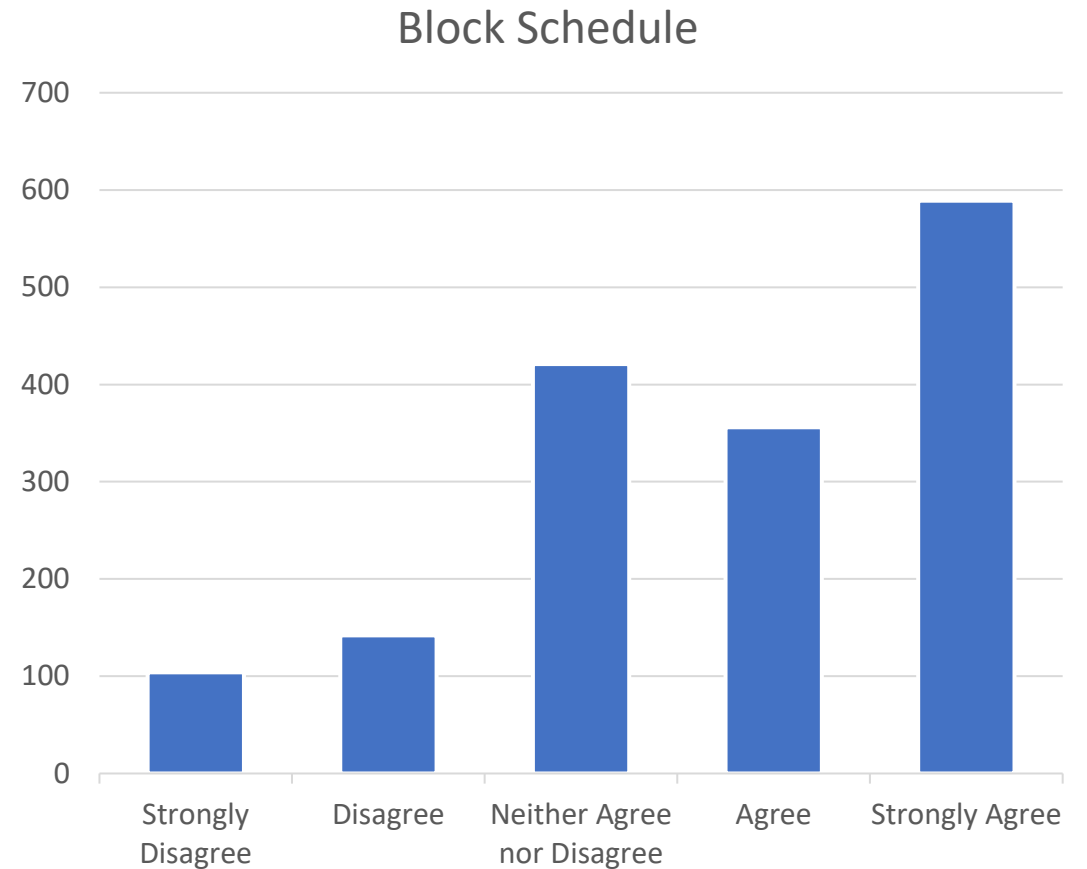
Roanoke Student Feedback: Spring options

October 17

Please indicate your level of agreement/disagreement with the following statements: - **I am in favor of keeping the current final exam schedule (finals occur within a designated time period and follow their own procedure).**

	Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly Disagree	104	6.5	6.5
Disagree	142	8.8	15.3
Neither Agree nor Disagree	421	26.1	41.4
Agree	356	22.1	63.5
Strongly Agree	589	36.5	100.0
Total	1612	100.0	

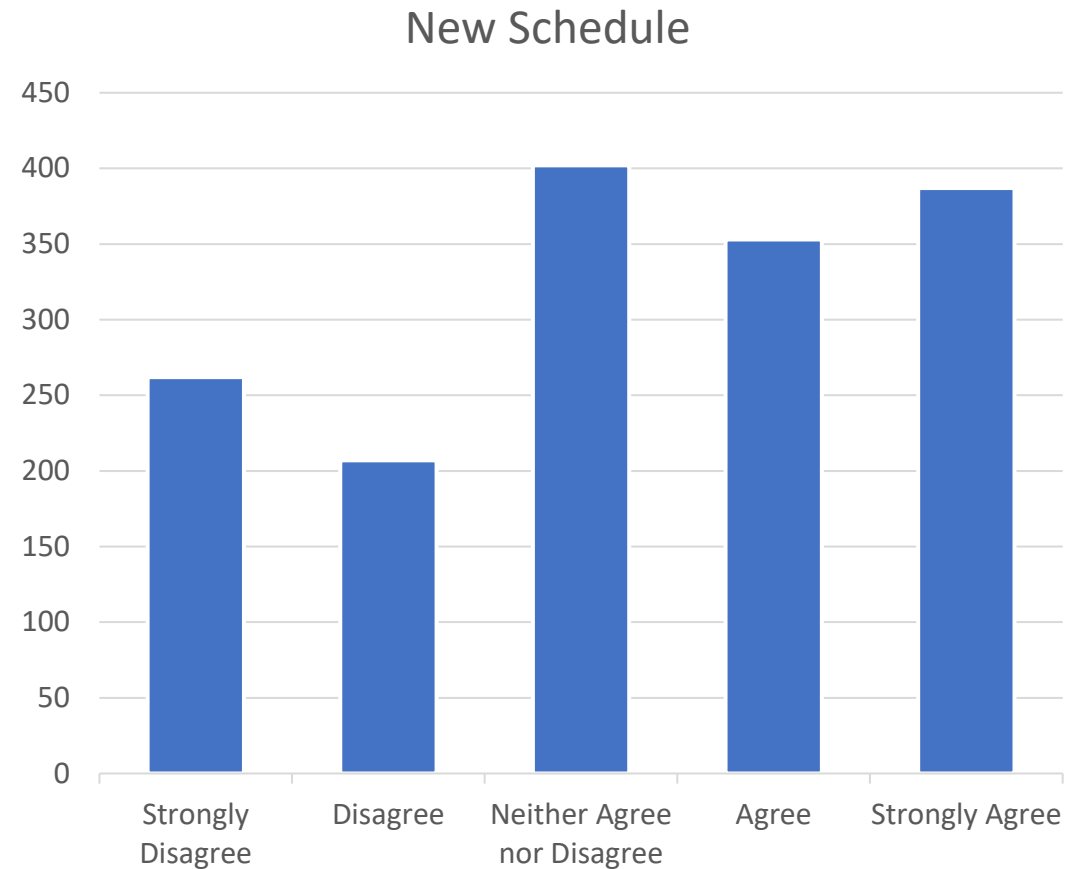
N	Valid	1612
Mean		3.73
Median		4.00
Mode		5
Std. Deviation		1.221
Variance		1.490
Range		4
Minimum		1
Maximum		5



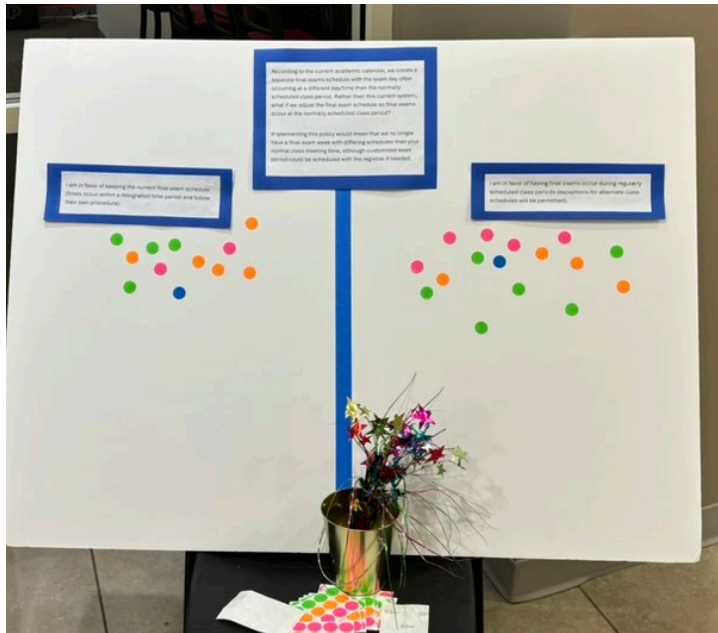
Please indicate your level of agreement/disagreement with the following statements: - **I am in favor of having final exams occur during regularly scheduled class periods (exceptions for alternate class schedules will be permitted).**

	Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly Disagree	262	16.3	16.3
Disagree	207	12.8	29.1
Neither Agree nor Disagree	402	25.0	54.1
Agree	353	21.9	76.0
Strongly Agree	387	24.0	100.0
Total	1611	100.0	

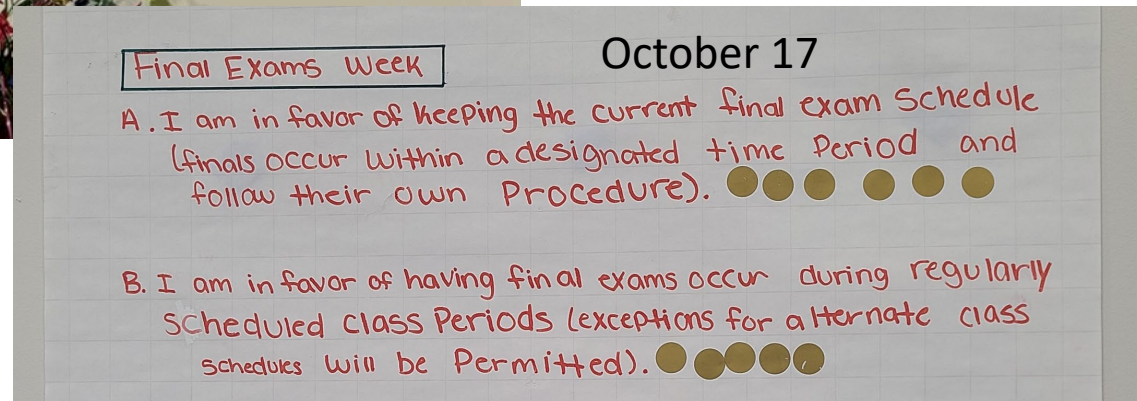
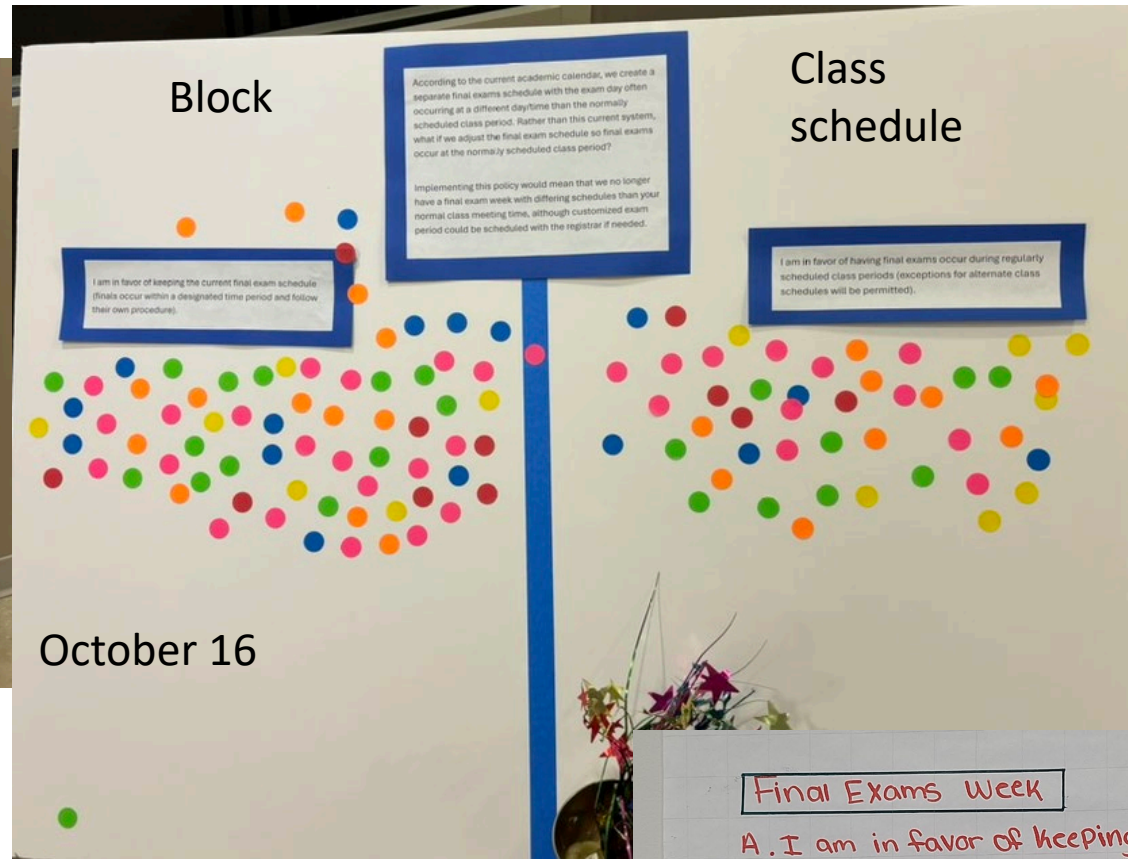
N	Valid	1611
Mean		3.25
Median		3.00
Mode		3
Std. Deviation		1.378
Variance		1.900
Range		4
Minimum		1
Maximum		5



Student Feedback: Exam block scheduling

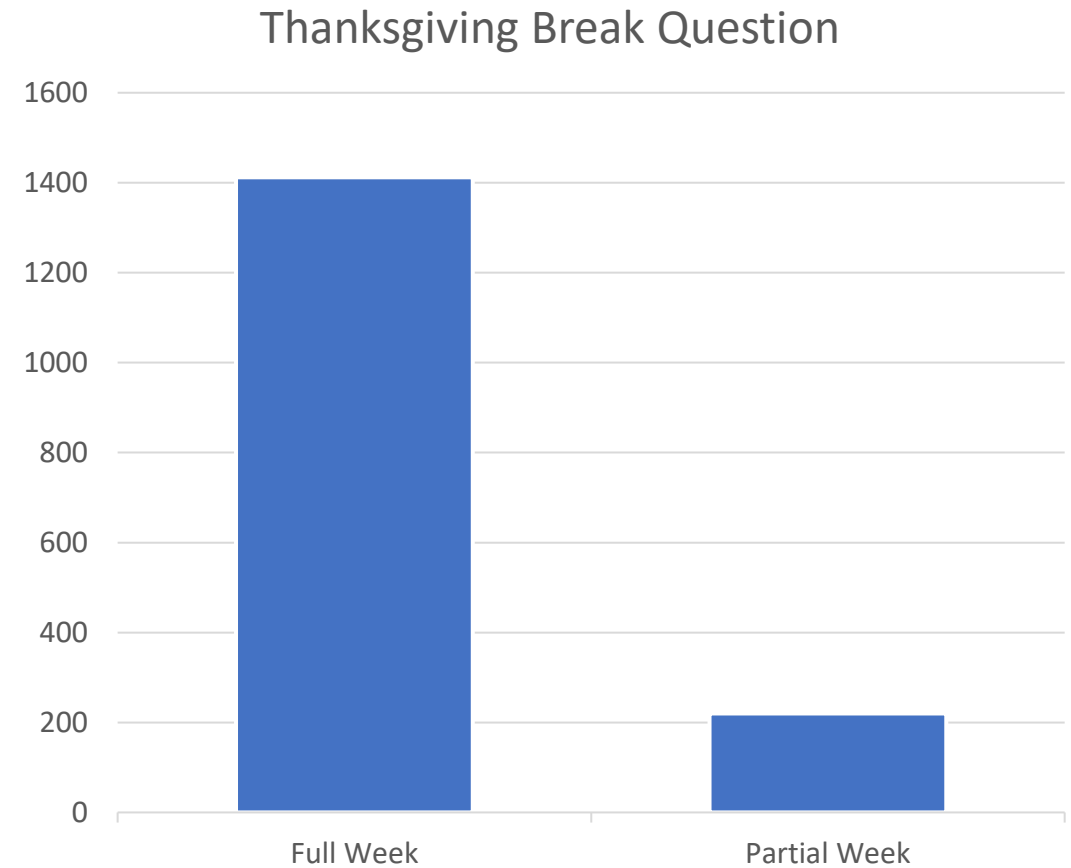


October 14



Some Virginia schools hold classes at the beginning of Thanksgiving week, while others have a full week break at Thanksgiving. Please choose the option that seems most favorable to you.

	Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Thanksgiving break is a full Monday-Friday break, classes are held through Monday of the last week of the semester, and finals occur Tuesday - Friday.	1412	86.5	86.5
Hold classes on Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week, with finals held Monday - Thursday of finals week.	220	13.5	100.0
Total	1632	100.0	



Student Feedback: Thanksgiving

Some Virginia schools hold classes at the beginning of Thanksgiving week, while others have a full week break at Thanksgiving. Please choose the options that seems most favorable to you.

Thanksgiving break is a full Monday-Friday break, classes are held through Monday of the last week of the semester, and finals occur Tuesday-Friday.

Hold classes on Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week, with finals held Monday-Thursday of finals week.

October 14

Some Virginia schools hold classes at the beginning of Thanksgiving week, while others have a full week break at Thanksgiving. Please choose the options that seems most favorable to you.

Thanksgiving break is a full Monday-Friday break, classes are held through Monday of the last week of the semester, and finals occur Tuesday-Friday.

Hold classes on Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week, with finals held Monday-Thursday of finals week.

October 16

Some Virginia schools hold classes at the beginning of Thanksgiving week, while others have a full week break at Thanksgiving. Please choose the options that seems most favorable to you.

Thanksgiving break is a full Monday-Friday break, classes are held through Monday of the last week of the semester, and finals occur Tuesday-Friday.

Hold classes on Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week, with finals held Monday-Thursday of finals week.

October 17

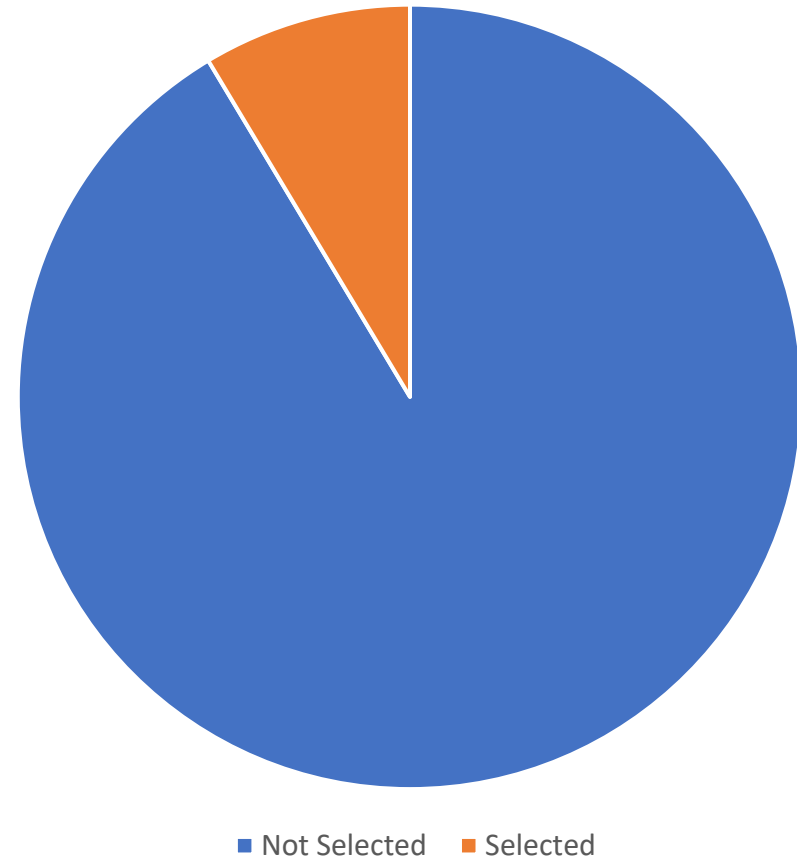
Thanksgiving Break

- A. Thanksgiving break is a full Monday - Friday break, classes are held Monday of the last week of the semester, and finals occur Tuesday-Friday.
 - B. Hold classes on Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week, with finals held Monday-Thursday of finals week
-

Do you normally work for pay over the course of the academic year? (select all that apply)

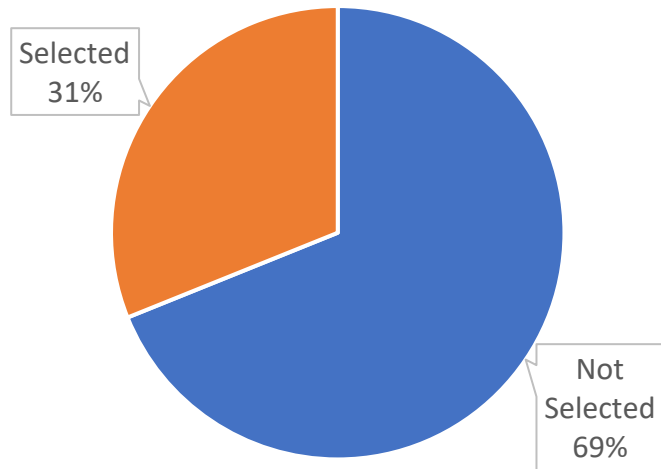
No

	Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Not Selected	2006	91.4	91.4
Selected	189	8.6	100.0
Total	2195	100.0	



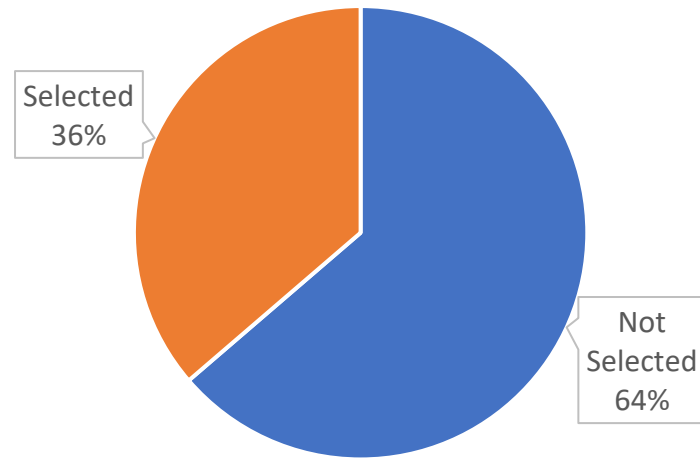
Student Work Periods

Work During Fall/Spring



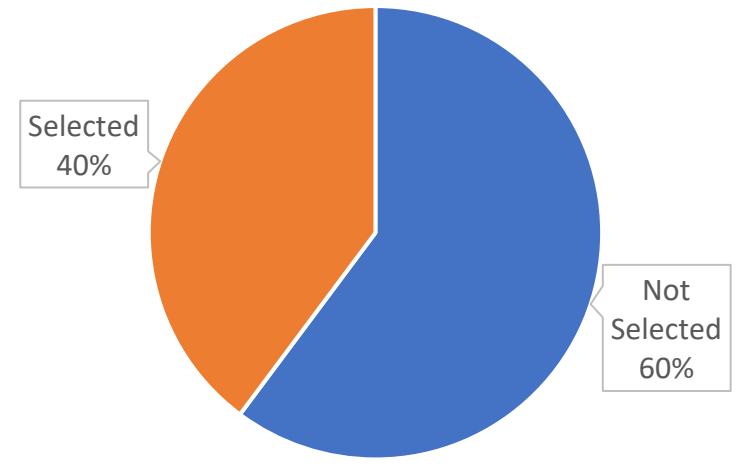
■ Not Selected ■ Selected

Work During Winter Break



■ Not Selected ■ Selected

Work During Summer



■ Not Selected ■ Selected

QUALITATIVE RESPONSES



October 2024

Fall Calendar Opportunities & Challenges

Students (1374 respondents)

Faculty (165 respondents)

Classified Staff (58 respondents)

AP Faculty (44 respondents)

Parents (36 respondents)

Summary

Responses indicate substantial opposition to the proposed calendar changes, with most respondents perceiving more challenges than benefits. These changes are perceived to impose significant challenges that could impact well-being, academic success, institutional alignment, and operational effectiveness. Key concerns include risks to mental health, logistical strain on faculty and staff, potential negative impacts on student retention, and diminished academic alignment with external institutions. Across all groups, there was limited positive feedback about the proposed changes.

1. Negative impact on mental health & well-being
2. Scheduling and calendar misalignment
3. Shortened winter break inadequate & family constraints
4. Impacts on student retention
5. Logistical and operational challenges

Additional Feedback

Students (754 respondents)

Faculty (102 respondents)

AP Faculty (34 respondents)

Classified Staff (33 respondents)

Parents (18 respondents)

Summary

Responses reflect a largely negative reaction to the proposed academic calendar changes. The overarching concerns center around the potential impact on mental health, academic quality, financial stability, and alignment with institutional values, with all groups emphasizing a need for more thorough and inclusive decision-making processes. Comments suggested the need for flexibility and input-driven adjustments, indicating that any changes should prioritize student wellness, financial needs, and alignment with academic goals. The collective responses suggest a shared desire for stability, consultation, and the preservation of academic and personal well-being.

1. Impact on well-being and mental health
2. Concerns over break length and scheduling
3. Desire for increased transparency and consultation
4. Potential impacts on academic quality and retention
5. Preference for traditional calendar stability

Finalized Academic Calendar Model



October 2024

3-Year Academic Calendar Draft

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
Fall Semester	8/25/25 - 12/12/25	8/24/26-12/11/26	8/23/27-12/10/27
Fall Classes Begin - Full Term / FallA / 1st 7 Wk	8/25 (M)	8/24 (M)	8/23 (M)
Labor Day - No Classes	9/1 (M)	9/7 (M)	9/6 (M)
Fall Break	10/17 (F)	10/9 (F)	10/8 (F)
Last Day - FallA / 1st 7 Wk	10/13 (M)	10/12 (M)	10/11 (M)
Grades Due - FallA / 1st 7 Wk	10/16 (Th)	10/15 (Th)	10/14 (Th)
Classes Begin - FallB / 2nd 7 Wk	10/20 (M)	10/19 (M)	10/18(M)
Thanksgiving Break	11/22-11/30	11/21 - 11/29	11/20-11/28
Last day of Classes and exams - Full Term	12/12 (F)	12/11 (F)	12/10 (F)
Last Day - FallB / 2nd 7 Wk	12/12 (F)	12/11 (F)	12/10 (F)
Winter Commencement - Undergraduate	12/13 (Sa)	12/12 (Sa)	12/11 (Sa)
Grades Due by 10am	12/15 (M)	12/14 (M)	12/13 (M)
Spring Semester	1/12/26 - 5/1/26	1/11/27-4/30/27	1/10/28-4/28/28
Spring Classes Begin - Full Term / SpringA / 1st 7 Wk	1/12 (M)	1/11 (M)	1/10 (M)
MLK Jr. Day - No Classes - Day of Service	1/19 (M)	1/18 (M)	1/17 (M)
Spring Break	2/28-3/8	2/27-3/7	2/26-3/5
Last Day - SpringA / 1st 7 Wk	3/2 (M)	3/1 (M)	2/28 (M)
Grades Due - SpringA / 1st Wk	3/5 (Th)	3/4 (Th)	3/2 (Th)
Classes Begin - SpringB / 2nd 7 Wk	3/9 (M)	3/8 (M)	3/6 (M)
Last Day - SpringB / 2nd 7 Wk	4/27 (M)	4/26 (M)	4/24 (M)
Last day of Classes and Exams- Full Term	5/1 (F)	4/30 (F)	4/28 (F)
Spring Commencement - Undergraduate	5/2 (Sa)	5/1 (Sa)	4/29 (Sa)
Grades Due by 10am	5/4 (M)	5/3 (M)	5/1 (M)
Summer Semester	5/11/26 - 8/14/26	5/10/27 - 8/13/27	5/8/28-8/11/28
Summer Classes Begin - Full Term / SummerA / 1st 7 Wk	5/11 (M)	5/10 (M)	5/8 (M)
Memorial Day - No Classes	5/25 (M)	5/31 (M)	5/29 (M)
Juneteenth - No Classes	6/19 (F)	6/18 (F)	6/19 (M)
Last Day - SummerA / 1st 7 Wk	6/26 (F)	6/25 (F)	6/23 (F)
Grades Due - SummerA / 1st 7 Wk	6/29 (M)	6/28 (M)	6/26 (M)
Classes Begin - SummerB / 2nd 7 Wk	6/29 (M)	6/28 (M)	6/26 (M)
July 4th - No Classes	7/3 (F)	7/5 (M)	7/4 (T)
Last day of Classes and exams- Full Term	8/14 (F)	8/13 (F)	8/11 (F)
Last Day - SummerB / 2nd 7 Wk	8/14 (F)	8/13 (F)	8/11 (F)
Grades Due by 10am	8/17 (M)	8/16 (M)	8/14 (M)

*Please Note - holidays for future academic years are estimated and subject to change when the university holiday schedule is published.



October 2024