

Faculty Senate Discussion
Pros and Cons of the Three Calendar Options for Accommodating Fall Break

Option 1: Shorten Spring Semester by three class days—end classes on a Tuesday, Wednesday is a reading day, finals begin on Thursday and continue until the following Wednesday

Pros:

Length of summer intersession and summer I-III unaffected.

Full Spring semester currently has more class days than Full Fall semester; this would even them up.

Cons:

Summer Intersession, Summer I-III all begin on a Wednesday rather than a Monday.

The third 5-week Spring session takes a significant hit (3 calendar days in 5 weeks) in contact hours.

Affects more instructors and students than Option 2 or Option 3.

Option 2: Shorten Summer III by three class days

Pros:

Length and timing of Spring semester, Summer Intersession, and Summer I and II unaffected.

Summer Intersession, Summer I-III continue to begin on a Monday.

Affects fewer instructors and students than Option 1.

Cons:

Summer III session takes a significant hit (3 class days in 5 weeks) in contact hours.

Second 7-week classes lose 2 weekdays (3 calendar days) of contact.

Full Summer-term courses lose 2 weekdays (3 calendar days) of contact.

Affects more instructors and students than Option 3.

Option 3: Eliminate Summer Intersession and move up Summer I-III

Pros:

Length and timing of Spring semester unaffected.

Length of Summer I-III unaffected.

Summer I-III continue to begin on a Monday.

Week of July 4th occurs between Summer I and Summer III.

Current intersession courses could be offered as Flex Schedule options.

Affects fewer instructors and students than Options 1 and 2.

Cons:

Second 7-week classes lose 2 weekdays (3 calendar days) of contact.

Full Summer-term courses lose 2 weekdays (3 calendar days) of contact.

SUMMARY OF ACADEMIC CALENDAR OPTIONS FOR FALL BREAK

PROPOSED

1. Implement a two-day fall break—no classes on Thursday and Friday—in week 8 of the fall semester, after midterms in October.
2. Start the fall semester two weekdays earlier—classes begin on fourth Thursday in August, rather than last Monday in August—to replace shift of Thursday and Friday instructional days to fall break.

ISSUE

Kent State operates on a full calendar schedule, see Chart 1 and Table 1. Therefore, the additional two days will affect another part of the calendar.

Chart 1: Breakdown of the current Kent State academic calendar

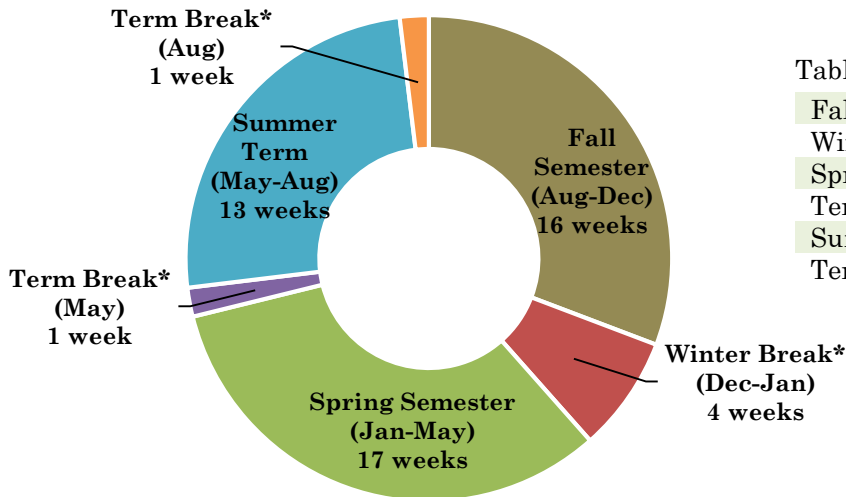


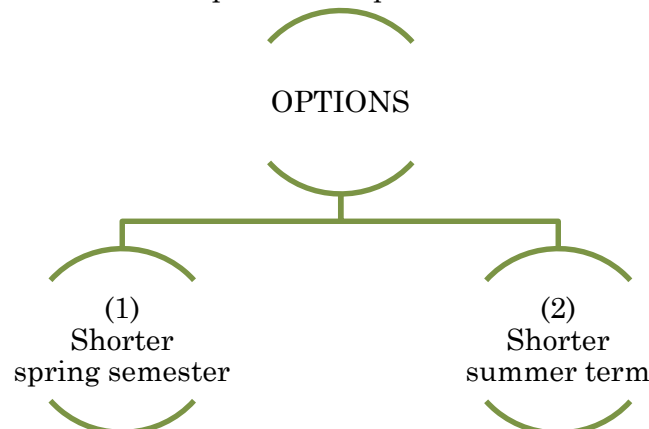
Table 1: Kent State academic calendar

Fall Semester	16
Winter Break	4
Spring Semester	17
Term Break	1
Summer Term	13
Term Break	+ 1
	<u>52 (weeks)</u>

* Actions that occur during term break and winter break include, but are not limited to, graduation clearance, financial aid disbursement, tuition assessment, course deregistration, registration petitions, faculty final grading, grade changes, dismissal review, dismissal appeals, residence hall and grounds maintenance, staff and faculty training and student orientation.

OPTIONS

Chart 2: Two options to implement a fall break



ACADEMIC CALENDAR DISCUSSION

Shorter Summer Term With No Intersession

SUMMER 2019				
Monday to Sunday	May 13–May 19	End-of-Term Processing: Mon, May 13 – Sun, May 19		1st 7 Weeks Mon, May 13 – Sat, Jun 29 (6 weeks 6 days*)
	May 20–May 26	Full Term Mon, May 20 – Wed, Aug 14 (12 weeks, 3 days**)		
	May 27–Jun 2		Summer 1 Mon, May 27 – Sun, Jun 30 (5 weeks*)	
	Jun 3–Jun 9			
	Jun 10–Jun 16		Summer 2 Mon, Jun 10 – Sun, Aug 4 (8 weeks*)	
	Jun 17–Jun 23			
	Jun 24–Jun 30			
	Jul 1–Jul 7		Summer 3 Mon, Jul 8 – Sun, Aug 11 (5 weeks)	2nd 7 Weeks Mon, Jul 1 – Wed, Aug 14 (6 weeks 3 days*)
	Jul 8–Jul 14			
	Jul 15–Jul 21			
	Jul 22–Jul 28			
	Jul 29–Aug 4			
	Aug 5–Aug 11			
	Aug 12–Aug 18	End-of-Term Processing: Thu, Aug 15 – Wed, Aug 21		
	Aug 19–Aug 25	Fall Semester: starts Thu, Aug 22		

* Duration includes 1 holiday

** Duration includes 2 holidays

Considerations

- Removal of summer intersession allows Summer 1 and Summer 3 to be moved earlier to keep instructional days intact.
- Removal of summer intersession allows for a processing break between Summer 1 and Summer 3 courses.
- Removal of summer intersession does not affect the 7-Week courses, which still will lose 2 weekdays (3 calendar days) of instructional time.
- Removal of summer intersession does not affect Full-Term courses, which still will lose 2 weekdays (3 calendar days) of instructional time.

OPTION 1: SHORTER SPRING SEMESTER

- ACTIONS:**
- The two days are shifted out of the spring semester
 - Spring classes end five days earlier (Tuesday, rather than Sunday)
 - Reading day (Wednesday) is added classes end and exams start
 - Spring final exams start Thursday and end the following Wednesday
 - Summer term shifts forward four days earlier, with classes starting Thursday, rather than Monday (summer length does not change)
- PROS:**
- Shorter spring aligns fall and spring class days and semester lengths
 - Shorter spring does not affect faculty contract, midterms and term breaks
 - Majority (60%) of Kent State’s 30 comparable universities have 14 weeks of fall class time (13.6-14.4 weeks); half of the 30 universities have 14 weeks of spring class time (13.7-14.4 weeks)
- CONS:**
- Shorter spring may affect spring scheduling
 - Spring classes end one day before final exams start (add a reading day?)
 - Remembrance Day will fall during final exam week in many years
 - Summer classes will start/end in the middle of the week
- QUESTIONS:**
- How will a shorter spring affect students, classes and university overall?
 - How will one or two days between term end and commencement day affect students and university overall (e.g., housing, dining, commencement)?
 - How will starting summer term earlier affect students, classes and university?

Table 2: Option 1 Comparison

Current Without Fall Break		Option 1 With Fall Break and Shorter Spring		What stays the same. What has changed.				
				Length	Current Option 1			
May 2019		May 2019 Reading Day		Term break M-F	5-10 days 5-10 days			
S	M	T	W	R	F	S	Fall M-F classes ¹	70 days 70 days
			1	2	3	4	Fall M-Sun classes¹	98 days 100 days
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Fall holidays	2 days 2 days
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Fall breaks	5 days 7 days
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Fall final exams	7 days 7 days
26	27	28	29	30	31		Fall class weeks¹	14 weeks 14 wks 2d
							Fall semester	16 weeks 16 wks 4d
							Term break M-F	3-5 days 3-5 days
							Holiday schedule M-Sun	9-11 days 9-11 days
							Term break M-F	7-10 days 7-10 days
							Winter break	4 weeks 4 weeks
							Spring M-F classes¹	74 days 71 days
							Spring M-Sun classes¹	104 days 99 days
							Spring holidays	1 day 1 day
							Spring break	7 days 7 days
							Spring reading day	0 day 1 day
							Spring final exams	7 days 7 days
							Spring class weeks¹	14 wks 6d 14 wks 1d
							Spring semester	17 weeks 16 wks 3d
							Term break M-F	5 days 5 days
							Summer M-F classes ¹	63 days 63 days
							Summer M-Sun classes¹	88 days 89 days
							Summer holidays	2 days 2 days
							Summer class weeks¹	12 wks 4d 12 wks 5d

Class	Commencement
Final Exams	Term Break

1. Length does not include holidays and/or class break(s)

OPTION 2: SHORTER SUMMER TERM

- ACTIONS:**
- The two days are shifted out of the summer term
 - Summer term ends three days earlier (Wednesday, rather than Saturday)
 - Summer III (5 weeks) will be one weekday shorter than Summer I (5 weeks); and 2nd 7-week classes will be two weekdays shorter than 1st 7-week classes

- PROS:**
- Shorter summer does not affect fall and spring and term breaks
 - Shorter summer does not affect faculty contract, midterms, Remembrance Day
 - Majority (43%) of Kent State’s 30 comparable universities have 12-week summer term (27% have 13-week summer term, 20% have 11-week summer term and 10% have 14-week summer term)

- CONS:**
- Shorter summer will affect scheduling and part-of-term classes
 - Summer classes will end in in the middle of the week

- QUESTIONS:**
- How will a shorter summer affect students, classes and university overall?
 - How will two days between end of term and commencement day affect the students and university overall?

Table 3: Option 2 Comparison

Current Without Fall Break							Option 2 With Fall Break and Shorter Summer						
August 2019							August 2019						
S	M	T	W	R	F	S	S	M	T	W	R	F	S
				1	2	3					1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Class
 Commencement
 Term Break

What stays the same. **What has changed.**

Length	Current	Option 2
Term break M-F	5-10 days	5-10 days
Fall M-F classes ¹	70 days	70 days
Fall M-Sun classes¹	98 days	100 days
Fall holidays	2 days	2 days
Fall breaks	5 days	7 days
Fall final exams	7 days	7 days
Fall class weeks¹	14 weeks	14 wks 2d
Fall semester	16 weeks	16 wks 4d
Term break M-F	3-5 days	3-5 days
Holiday schedule M-Sun	9-11 days	9-11 days
Term break M-F	7-10 days	7-10 days
Winter break	4 weeks	4 weeks
Spring M-F classes ¹	74 days	74 days
Spring M-Sun classes ¹	104 days	104 days
Spring holidays	1 day	1 day
Spring break	7 days	7 days
Spring final exams	7 days	7 days
Spring class weeks ¹	14 wks 6d	14 wks 6d
Spring semester	17 weeks	17 weeks
Term break M-F	5 days	5 days
Summer M-F classes¹	63 days	61 days
Summer M-Sun classes¹	88 days	85 days
Summer holidays	2 days	2 days
Summer class weeks¹	12 wks 4d	12 wks 1d
Term break M-F	5-10 days	5-10 days

Summer Part of Term		
Length	Current	Option 2
Interession M-F classes ¹	14 days	14 days
Interession M-Sun classes ¹	18 days	18 days
Interession class weeks ¹	2 wks 4d	2 wks 4d
Summer I M-F classes ¹	24 days	24 days
Summer I M-Sun classes ¹	33 days	33 days
Summer I class weeks ¹	4 wks 5d	4 wks 5d
Summer 2 M-F classes ¹	39 days	39 days
Summer 2 M-Sun classes ¹	54 days	54 days
Summer 2 class weeks ¹	7 wks 5d	7 wks 5d
Summer 3 M-F classes¹	25 days	23 days
Summer 3 M-Sun classes¹	34 days	31 days
Summer 3 class weeks¹	4 wks 6d	4 wks 3d
First 7 weeks M-F classes ¹	34 days	34 days
First 7 weeks M-Sun classes ¹	47 days	47 days
Last 7 week M-F classes¹	34 days	32 days
Last 7 week M-Sun classes¹	47 days	44 days

1. Length does not include holidays and/or class break(s)

CAMPUS (All)

Column Labels						
	Spring 2017		Summer 2017		Fall 2017	
Part of Term	Sum of INST	Sum of STUDENT	Sum of INST	Sum of STUDENT	Sum of INST	Sum of STUDENT
Full Term	3150	41790	170	699	3288	42947
First 5 Weeks	14	405			24	338
Second 5 Weeks	13	178			12	145
Third 5 Weeks	30	592			25	485
Flexibly Scheduled	210	2456	341	3134	198	2665
First Half Semester	114	2791			160	3978
Second Half Semester	145	2526			172	3736
Intersession			142	1736		
Summer 1-5 Weeks			454	5911		
Summer 2-8 Weeks			421	3921		
Summer 3-5 Weeks			404	4411		
First 7 Weeks	114	1880	70	863	92	1387
Second 7 Weeks	125	1821	64	697	103	1341
Campus	KC					

Column Labels						
	Spring 2017		Summer 2017		Fall 2017	
Location	Sum of INST	Sum of STUDENT	Sum of INST	Sum of STUDENT	Sum of INST	Sum of STUDENT
Study Abroad	48	359	49	371	29	226
All Other Courses	2671	34593	1447	14478	2727	35199