

2018 Calendar Proposal

Will teaching in the January session be considered in-load or over-load?

Teaching in the January session will be compensated as an overload. Approval of January session teaching as in-load for anyone with a requirement to teach in spring (faculty member, department chair, or other individuals with specific teaching requirements during the regular term) will only be considered in unique or extenuating circumstances. The course must generate equivalent semester credit hours as when offered during the regular term and must not otherwise limit course availability to students during the regular term. This arrangement will require approval of the department chair, dean, and provost.

How will faculty members be compensated?

Faculty members will be compensated at the overload rate for a regular fall or spring term and will not receive the summer rate of compensation.

Will faculty have an opportunity to vote on this calendar?

Input and recommendations will be gathered through Chairs Assembly, Deans Council, Academic Council, and Faculty Senate.

What are the expectations for faculty members NOT teaching during January term?

The week prior to the start of Spring classes will be the spring kickoff which will be equivalent to the Welcome Week in Fall. All faculty will be expected to participate in these activities if they are not teaching in the January term. From the time that the January term begins until the spring kickoff week, faculty are expected to engage in class preparation; research; grant-writing; publications; institutional service; and/or other approved activities.

What types of courses can be taught in a January term?

Departments and colleges will determine which courses can be taught during an abbreviated term in a pedagogically-sound manner. These may include study abroad courses; courses that are currently being taught in Maymester; courses that relieve progression bottlenecks; externships; etc. Regardless of the course taught, learning outcomes and assignments are expected to be comparable to those in that course when taught in a regular term.

Will all departments be expected to offer a January term course?

No. All departments should review their course offerings to determine if (1) a course could be taught during the January term in a sound manner; (2) demand for the course exists in that format; and (3) there is a faculty member interested in teaching the course.

Will faculty be forced to teach in the January term?

No. The teaching assignments will be determined by department chairs and deans in conjunction with faculty who express an interest in teaching or are willing to teach during the shortened session for overload pay. Faculty members teaching during this term should expect to hold appropriate office hours.

What is the student demand for January term?

While students could be surveyed about their interest in this type of term, a variety of factors could impact their actual enrollment. However, it should be noted that students do express interest in terms that are shorter than the full 15-week session. The possibility for attracting more enrollment in this session than in Maymester exists because students who are eligible for federal financial aid can use it for the January term as part of spring and are unable to do so in Maymester because it is part of summer.

Will dual enrollment students be allowed to register for these courses?

No.

How many credit hours can a student enroll in during the January term?

Four credit hours is the maximum regardless of the format (online, face-to-face, or hybrid) or classification of the student (undergraduate or graduate). The exception to this maximum credit hour load is study abroad experiences wherein the courses are offered in 6 hour packages. These courses will count toward the student's overall course load for spring term which will not exceed 19 hours at the undergraduate level or 12 hours at the graduate level (10 if a graduate assistant) unless the appropriate approvals are obtained. Example: A three credit hour course would require 15 hours of seat time each week and 30 hours of external academic engagement each week. Part-time budgets may need to be adjusted to cover the cost of instructors based on the success of the program.

What type of financial model will be applied during this term?

The January term will be treated as all other parts of spring term. Colleges will not receive any revenue-sharing for January term. The compensation for faculty will be covered through the part-time faculty budget for each college.

What is the anticipated impact on Summer term?

The intention is to grow both the January and May terms; thereby offering students more opportunities to progress.

What is the cost to students?

President Markwood has submitted a request to the System Office to waive all fees and charge only state-mandated tuition during the January term (\$522 for a 3 hour course).

What are the markers of success in the implementation of the January term?

Increase in the number of annual semester credit hours; increase in the number of study abroad opportunities.

Spring SCH Production History:

Spring 2016: 89,361
Spring 2015: 87,462
Spring 2014: 87,898
Spring 2013: 86,841
Spring 2012: 87,142

Summer SCH Production History:

Summer 2016: 21,288
Summer 2015: 22,640
Summer 2014: 22,590
Summer 2013: 22,255
Summer 2012: 23,543

If Spring 2018 is the first term of implementation, lessons learned will be identified and data will be analyzed for Spring 2019. This process will occur again for Spring 2020. At the conclusion of Spring 2020, the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs will review to determine viability for continuance.

