

How to Create a Semester Calendar

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What is a semester calendar?

• The "big picture" of class due dates and exams for your semester

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| Learning | and | Creativity |

USC University of Southern California

| WEEK | SUN | MON | TUES | WEDS | THURS | FRI | SAT |
|------|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | JANUARY 9 | 10 Classes Begin | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 2 | 16 | 17 MLK Holiday | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 3 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 Last day to Add & Drop Class w/refund | 29 |
| 4 | 30 | 31 | FEBRUARY 1 Lunar New Year | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 6 | 13 Super Bowi | 14 Valentine's Day | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 7 | 20 | 21 Presidents' Day Holiday | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Last day to Drop w/o a W and change P/NP | 26 |
| 8 | 27 | 28 | MARCH 1 | 2 Ash Weahesday FAFSA Priority Deadline | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 9 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 10 | 13 Spring Recess Begins | 14 Daylight Savings Begins | 15 | 16 Purim | 17 St. Patrick's Day | 18 Holi | 19 |
| 11 | 20 Spring Recess Ends | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 12 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | APRIL 1 | 2 Ramadan Begin |
| 13 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Last day to Drop w/ a W | 9 |
| 14 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 Passover Begins | 16 |
| 15 | 17 Easter Sunday | 18 Tax Day | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 Passover End Festival of Books |
| 16 | 24 Orthodox Easter; Festival of Books | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 Classes End | 30 Study Days |
| 17 | MAY 1 Study Days | 2 Study Days Eid al-Fitr | 3 Study Days | 4 Finals Begin | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 18 | 8 Mother's Day | 9 | 10 | 11 Finals End | 12 | 13 Commencement | 14 |

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Semester Calendar as a Time Management Strategy

- Overview of assignments and exams
- · Helps to plan ahead
- Easy to access or reference
- Time management tool

- Goal setting and prioritization
- Decrease academic stress and anxiety
- Improve problem solving abilities
- Build self-efficacy

(Seli & Dembo, 2020)

(Kader & Eissa, 2015)

How to build a semester calendar?



Use your Syllabi

- 1. Download the semester calendar from our website
- 2. Gather & review syllabi
- 3. Note important dates
- 4. Mark these dates on the semester calendar
- Note: Add cues to differentiate classes (i.e. color-coding or using symbols)

| WEEK | SUN | MON | TUES | WEDS | THURS | FRI | SAT |
|------|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | JANUARY 9 | 10 Classes Begin | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 2 | 16 | 17 MLK Holiday | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 3 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 Last day to Add & Drop Class w/refund Quiz #1 | 29 |
| 4 | 30 | 31 Quiz 1 | FEBRUARY 1 Lunar New Year | 2 Quiz 1 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 Assignment #1 | 11 | 12 |
| 6 | 13 Super Bowl | 14 Valentine's Day | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 7 | 20 | 21 Presidents' Day Holiday | 22 | 23 Essay | 24 | 25 Last day to Drop w/o a W and change P/NP Midterm #1 | 26 |
| 8 | 27 | 28 Midterm | MARCH 1 Essay #1 | 2 Ask Wednesday FAFSA Priority Deadline | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 9 | 6 RLE Appe | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 10 | 13 Spring Recess Begins | 14 Dayilgki Savings Begins | 15 | 16 Parte | 17 St. Patrick's Day | 18 Holt | 19 |
| 11 | 20 Spring Recess Ends | 21 | 22 | 23 Quiz 2 | 24 | 25 Quiz 2 | 26 |
| 12 | 27 | 28 Quiz 2 | 29 | 30 | 31 | APRIL 1 | 2 Ramadan Begir |
| 13 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 Assignment #2 | 8 Last day to Drop w/a W | 9 |
| 14 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Essay 2 | 14 | 15 Passover Begins | 16 |
| 15 | 17 Easter Sunday | 18 Tax Day | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 Passover <u>Fed</u> Festival of Books |
| 16 | 24 Orthodox Easter; Festival of Books | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 Classes End | 30 Study Days |
| 17 | MAY 1 Study Days | 2 Study Days Etd al-Fite | 3 Study Days | 4 Finals Begin Final Exam | 5 Final Essay | 6 | 7 Final Exa |



Other Additions

- Personal, social or professional reminders
 - Birthdays
 - Travel
 - Appointments
 - Bills

ISC

- Work projects
- Semester Calendar is an overview, not a detailed weekly plan



Summary

- Overview of semester
- Quick reference
- A time management strategy
- Impacts planning
- Can impact stress and self-efficacy

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Learning and Creativity



References

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