

## **UNIVERSITY POLICY REGARDING RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS**

The Faculty Senate has set guidelines pertaining to the observation of religious holidays. These have become university policy and are as follows:

- That students notify faculty during the first week of the semester of their intention to be absent from class on their day(s) of religious observance;
- That faculty continue to extend to these students the courtesy of absence without penalty on such occasions, including permission to make up examinations;
- That faculty who intend to observe a religious holiday arrange at the beginning of the semester to reschedule missed classes or to make other provisions for their course-related activities;
- That, prior to each semester, the administration circulate to faculty a schedule of religious holidays most frequently observed by GW students;
- That student members of other religious groups are also entitled to the same courtesies and accommodations; and
- That the administration conveys this policy to students by including it in the schedule of classes and other places deemed appropriate.

<b><u>THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY</u></b> <b><u>RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY CALENDAR*</u></b>			
<b><u>HOLIDAY</u></b>	<b><u>AY 2018-2019</u></b>	<b><u>DAY</u></b>	<b><u>RELIGION</u></b>
Eid al Adha	August 20-21, 2018	Monday-Tuesday	Islamic
Krishna Janmashtami	September 2, 2018	Sunday	Hindu
Rosh Hashanah	September 10-11, 2018	Monday-Tuesday	Jewish
Al-Hijra (Islamic New Year)	September 11-12, 2018	Tuesday-Wednesday	Islamic
Yom Kippur	September 19, 2018	Wednesday	Jewish
Sukkot	September 23-30, 2018	Sunday-Sunday	Jewish
Shemini Atzeret	Sept. 30 – Oct. 2, 2018	Sunday-Tuesday	Jewish
Simchat Torah	October 2, 2018	Tuesday	Jewish
Dussehra (Dassera)	October 19, 2018	Friday	Hindu
Simchat Torah	October 2, 2018	Tuesday	Jewish
All Saints' Day	November 1, 2018	Thursday	Christian
Deepavali (Diwali)	November 7, 2018	Wednesday	Hindu
Mawlid-an-Nabi	November 20-21, 2018	Tuesday-Wednesday	Islamic
Guru Nanak's Birthday	November 23, 2018	Friday	Sikh
Hanukkah/Chanukah	December 2-10, 2018	Sunday-Monday	Jewish
Immaculate Conception	December 8, 2018	Saturday	Christian
Russian Orthodox Christmas	January 7, 2019	Monday	Christian
Guru Gobind Singh's Birthday	January 13, 2019	Sunday	Sikh
Bodhi Day	January 13, 2019	Sunday	Buddhist
Russian Orthodox Christmas	January 7, 2019	Monday	Christian
Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese New Year	February 5, 2019	Tuesday	n/a
Ash Wednesday	March 6, 2019	Wednesday	Christian
Purim	March 21, 2019	Thursday	Jewish
Nowruz -- Persian New Year	March 21, 2019	Thursday	n/a
Ram Navami	April 14, 2019	Sunday	Hindu
Palm Sunday	April 14, 2019	Sunday	Christian
Vaisakhi	April 14, 2019	Sunday	Sikh
Holy Thursday	April 18, 2019	Thursday	Christian
Good Friday	April 19, 2019	Friday	Christian
Pesach (Passover) - first two days	April 19-20, 2019	Friday-Saturday	Jewish
Easter (Western)	April 21, 2019	Sunday	Christian
Pesach (Passover) - last two days	April 26-27, 2019	Friday-Saturday	Jewish
Easter (Eastern Orthodox)	April 28, 2019	Sunday	Christian
Birth of Buddha (Wesak)	**PLEASE SEE NOTE BELOW		Buddhist

**\*PLEASE NOTE: Although these dates were taken from sources that we feel are reliable, dates often vary by source.**

\*\* The Birth of Buddha is observed on different days in different countries. The various dates are due to the numerous calendars used throughout the world. Some dates confirmed by religious leaders are April 8, May 25, June 1.

According to several schools of Islamic law, which are followed by many of our Muslim students, attendance at the Friday congregational prayers is a required religious duty. Although the precise time of observance varies from year-to-year, it always remains within the time period of 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Jewish holidays begin at sunset of the previous evening.