

University of Wisconsin-Madison Academic Calendar for 2026-2031

Establishment of the academic calendar for the University of Wisconsin-Madison falls within the authority of the faculty as set forth in *Faculty Policies and Procedures*. Construction of the academic calendar is subject to various rules and guidelines prescribed by the Board of Regents, the Faculty Senate, and State of Wisconsin legislation. The dates listed below may be adjusted if there are changes to these guidelines. For the most current information, please refer to the official academic calendar available at: <https://secfac.wisc.edu/academic-calendar/>.

FALL SEMESTER	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Faculty contract year begins	Aug 17 (M)	Aug 23 (M)	Aug 21 (M)	Aug 20 (M)	Aug 19 (M)
Labor Day	Sep 7 (M)	Sep 6 (M)	Sep 4 (M)	Sep 3 (M)	Sep 2 (M)
Instruction begins	Sep 2 (W)	Sep 2 (R) ⁺	Sep 6 (W)	Sep 5 (W)	Sep 4 (W)
Thanksgiving recess	Nov 26-29	Nov 25-28	Nov 23-26	Nov 22-25	Nov 28-Dec 1
Last class day	Dec 9 (W)	Dec 10 (F) ⁺	Dec 13 (W)	Dec 12 (W)	Dec 11 (W)
Study day	Dec 10 (R)	Dec 11 (S) ⁺	Dec 14 (R)	Dec 13 (R)	Dec 12 (R)
Exams begin	Dec 11 (F)	Dec 12 (N) ⁺	Dec 15 (F)	Dec 14 (F)	Dec 13 (F)
Exams end	Dec 17 (R)	Dec 17 (F) ⁺	Dec 21 (R)	Dec 20 (R)	Dec 19 (R)
Commencement	Dec 13 (N)	Dec 19 (N)	Dec 17 (N)	Dec 16 (N)	Dec 15 (N)
Grading deadline	Dec 20 (N)	Dec 20 (M) ⁺	Dec 24 (N)	Dec 23 (N)	Dec 22 (N)
SPRING SEMESTER	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Jan 18 (M)	Jan 17 (M)	Jan 15 (M)	Jan 21 (M)	Jan 20 (M)
Instruction begins	Jan 19 (T)	Jan 25 (T)	Jan 23 (T)	Jan 22 (T)	Jan 21 (T)
Spring recess	Mar 20-Mar 28	Mar 25-Apr 2*	Mar 24-Apr 1	Mar 23-Mar 31	Mar 22-Mar 30
Classes resume	Mar 29 (M)	Apr 3 (M)*	Apr 2 (M)	Apr 1 (M)	Mar 31 (M)
Last class day	Apr 30 (F)	May 5 (F)	May 4 (F)	May 3 (F)	May 2 (F)
Study day	May 1 (S)	May 6 (S)	May 5 (S)	May 4 (S)	May 3 (S)
Exams begin	May 2 (N)	May 7 (N)	May 6 (N)	May 5 (N)	May 4 (N)
Exams end	May 7 (F)	May 12 (F)	May 11 (F)	May 10 (F)	May 9 (F)
Commencement weekend	May 7-9	May 12-14	May 11-13	May 10-12	May 9-10
Grading deadline	May 10 (M)	May 15 (M)	May 14 (M)	May 13 (M)	May 12 (M)
Faculty contract year ends	May 16 (N)	May 21 (N)	May 20 (N)	May 19 (N)	May 18 (N)
SUMMER SESSIONS	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Memorial Day (observed)	May 31 (M)	May 29 (M)	May 28 (M)	May 27 (M)	May 26 (M)
3-week session	May 24-Jun 13	May 30-Jun 18	May 29-Jun 17	May 28-Jun 16	May 27-Jun 15
4-week session	May 17-Jun 13	May 22-Jun 18	May 21-Jun 17	May 20-Jun 16	May 19-Jun 15
8-week session	Jun 14-Aug 8	Jun 19-Aug 13	Jun 18-Aug 12	Jun 17-Aug 11	Jun 16-Aug 10
Independence Day (observed)	Jul 5 (M)	Jul 4 (T)	Jul 4 (W)	Jul 4 (R)	Jul 4 (R)
Grading deadline (8-week)	Aug 11 (W)	Aug 16 (W)	Aug 15 (W)	Aug 14 (W)	Aug 13 (W)

*Dates updated as a result to a change in spring recess scheduling parameters, per [Faculty Senate document 3132](#) (February 2024)

⁺Dates updated as a result to a change to shift dates further from observed holidays, per [Faculty Senate document 3070 rev 2 & 3](#) (March & April 2026)