

Religious Observances and Holidays for the 2016-2017 Academic Year

The Office of Religious and Spiritual Life has produced this calendar so that our scheduling of activities can be more sensitive to the religious needs of students, alumnae, faculty members and administrators.

Observances and Holidays with work, food restrictions and/or special worship obligations. The following list includes those religious observances and holidays that involve food or work restrictions, or special worship obligations which affect the ability of members of the community to participate in college events. All of the following days include special worship obligations. Work and food restrictions are noted. A notation of a work restriction indicates that the religious obligations of some observant members of this tradition may restrict work for all or part of this day. Although not all of these religious observances and holy days involve work and food restrictions, they nevertheless are an important part of the lives of observant members of these faith traditions. **Please refer to our website for more details:** www.wellesley.edu/RelLife/calendar/index.html

Please note that the Islamic Calendar is lunar -- dates are flexible and change depending on the location of the moon.

June 2016

Monday (sundown)	6	First Day of Ramadan	Islam	Food Restriction
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July 2016

Friday	1	Laylat al-Qadr	Islam	Special Worship
Tuesday (sundown) to Wednesday	5 - 6	Eid al Fitr	Islam	Special Worship

August 2016

Thursday	25	Krishna Janmashtami	Hindu	Special Worship
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September 2016

Monday	5	Ganesh Chaturthi	Hindu	Special Worship
Saturday	10	The Day of Arafat	Islam	Food Restriction
Sunday (sundown) to Monday	11 - 12	Eid-ul-Adha	Islam	Special Worship
Thursday	22	Mabon	Pagan	Special Worship

October 2016

Saturday - Monday	1 - 10	Navratri (9 Days)	Hinduism	Special Worship
Sunday (sundown) to Tuesday	2 - 4	Rosh Hashanah	Judaism	Work Restriction
Tuesday	11	Dussehra	Hinduism	Work Restriction
Monday (sundown) to Tuesday	10 - 11	Ashura	Islam	Food Restriction
Tuesday (sundown) to Wednesday	11 - 12	Yom Kippur	Judaism	Work/Food Restriction
Sunday (sundown) to Tuesday	16 - 18	Sukkot	Judaism	Work Restriction
Wednesday to Sunday	19- 23	Sukkot Intermediate Days	Judaism	Special Worship
Thursday	20	Birth of the Báb	Bahá'í	Work Restriction
Sunday (sundown) to Tuesday	23 - 25	Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah	Judaism	Work Restriction
Sunday	30	Diwali	Sikh/Hinduism/Jain	Special Worship

November 2016

Tuesday	1	Samhain	Pagan	Special Worship
Tuesday	1	All Saints' Day	Catholic/Unitarian Universalist	Special Worship
Wednesday	2	All Souls' Day	Christian/Unitarian Universalist	Special Worship
Saturday	12	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Bahá'í	Work Restriction
Monday	14	Guru Nanak's Birthday	Sikh	Special Worship
Sunday	27	First Sunday of Advent	Christian	Special Worship

December 2016

Thursday	8	Immaculate Conception	Roman Catholic	Special Worship
Thursday	8	Bodhi Day	Buddhism	Special Worship
Monday	12	Our Lady of Guadalupe	Roman Catholic	Special Worship
Wednesday	21	Yule	Pagan	Special Worship
Friday	23	Joseph Smith's Birthday	CJCLDS (Mormon)	Special Worship
Saturday (sundown) to Sunday	24 (sundown) - Jan 1	Hanukkah	Judaism	Special Worship
Sunday	25	Christmas	Christian / Unitarian Universalist	Special Worship
Monday-Sunday	26-Jan.1	Kwanzaa	African Heritage	Special Worship

January 2017

Sunday	1	Solemnity of Mary	Roman Catholic	Special Worship
Friday	6	Epiphany	Christian	Special Worship
Saturday	7	Nativity of Jesus Christ	Orthodox/Christian (Julian)	Special Worship
Saturday	14	Pongal	Hindu	Special Worship
Saturday	28	Chinese New Year	Confucian/Daoist/Buddhist	Special Worship

February 2017

Thursday	2	Imbolc	Pagan	Special Worship
Friday (sundown) to Saturday	10 - 11	Tu B'Shvat	Judaism	Special Worship
Saturday	25	Shivaratri	Hinduism	Special Worship
Monday	27	Clean Monday	Orthodox Christian	Special Worship

March 2017

Wednesday	1	Ash Wednesday (start of Lent)	Christian	Special Worship
Friday	3	Women's World Day of Prayer	Multifaith	Special Worship
Thursday-Monday	2 - 20	The 19 Day Fast	Baha'i	Food Restriction
Thursday	9	Fast of Esther	Judaism	Food Restriction
Saturday (sundown) to Sunday	11 - 12	Purim	Judaism	Special Worship
Monday	13	Holi	Hinduism	Special Worship
Monday	20	Spring Equinox	Pagan	Special Worship
Tuesday	21	Naw Ruz (New Year's Day)	Bahá'í /Zoroastrian	Work Restriction

April 2017

Sunday	9	Palm Sunday	Christian/Unitarian Universalist/Orthodox	Special Worship
Monday (sundown) to Wednesday	10 - 12	Passover / beginning	Judaism	Work/Food Restriction
Thursday to Sunday	13 - 16	Passover / intermediate days	Judaism	Special Worship/Food Restriction
Thursday	13	Holy Thursday	Christian/Orthodox/Unitarian	Special Worship
Friday	14	Good Friday	Christian/Orthodox/Unitarian	Special Worship/Food Restriction
Friday	14	Baisakhi	Hindu New Year/Sikh	Special Celebration
Sunday	16	Easter	Christian/Orthodox/Unitarian	Special Worship
Sunday (sundown) to Tuesday	16 - 18	Passover / ending	Judaism	Work/Food Restriction
Friday	21	First Day of Ridvan	Bahá'í	Work Restrictions
Sunday (sundown) to Monday	23-24	Yom HaShoah	Judaism	Special Worship/Mourning
Saturday	29	Ninth Day of Ridvan	Bahá'í	Work Restrictions

May 2017

Monday	1	Beltane	Pagan	Special Worship
Tuesday	2	Twelfth Day of Ridvan	Bahá'í	Work/Food Restriction
Wednesday	10	Vesak	Buddhism/ Southeast Asia	Special Worship
Sunday	14	Lag B'Omer	Judaism	Special Worship
Thursday	23	Declaration of the Bab	Bahá'í	Work Restriction
Thursday	25	Ascension of the Lord	Christian/Orthodox	Special Worship
Monday	29	Ascension of the Bahá'u'lláh	Bahá'í	Work Restriction
Tuesday (sundown) to Thursday	30 - June 1	Shavuot	Judaism	Work Restriction