

## **Religious Observances and Holidays for the 2017-2018 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](http://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.*

### **May 2017**

Saturday	27	First Day of Ramadan	Islam	Food Restriction
Tuesday (sundown)- Thursday	30-Jun-01	Shavuot	Judaism	Special Worship/Work Restrictions

### **June 2017**

Saturday (sundown) to Sunday	24 - 25	Eid al Fitr	Islam	Special Worship
Wednesday	27	Laylat al-Qadr	Islam	Special Worship

### **July 2017**

Tuesday	11	Fast of Tammuz	Judaism	Food Restriction
Monday (sundown)- Tuesday	31- Aug. 1	Tisha B'Av	Judaism	Special Worship/Food Restriction

### **August 2017**

Tuesday	15	Krishna Janmashtami	Hindu	Special Worship
Friday	25	Ganesh Chaturthi	Hindu	Special Worship
Thursday	31	The Day of Arafat	Islam	Food Restriction
Thursday (sundown) to Friday	31 - Sept. 1	Eid-ul-Adha	Islam	Special Worship

### **September 2017**

Friday	22	Mabon	Pagan	Special Worship
Wednesday (sundown) to Friday	20 - 22	Rosh Hashanah	Judaism	Work Restriction
Thursday - Friday	21 - 29	Navratri (9 Days)	Hinduism	Special Worship
Sunday	24	Fast of Gedaliah	Judaism	Food Restriction
Friday (sundown) to Saturday	29 - 30	Yom Kippur	Judaism	Work/Food Restriction
Saturday	30	Dussehra	Hinduism	Work Restriction
Saturday (sundown) to Sunday	30 - Oct. 1	Ashura	Islam	Food Restriction

### **October 2017**

Wednesday (sundown) to Friday	4 - 6	Sukkot	Judaism	Work Restriction/Special Worship
Saturday to Wednesday	7 - 11	Sukkot	Judaism	Special Worship
Wednesday (sundown) to Friday	11 - 13	Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah	Judaism	Work Restriction
Thursday	19	Diwali	Sikh/Hinduism/Jain	Special Worship
Thursday (sundown) - Friday	19 - 20	Birth of the Báb	Bahá'í	Work Restriction
Tuesday	31	Samhain	Pagan	Special Worship

### **November 2017**

Wednesday	1	All Saints' Day	Catholic/Unitarian Universalist	Special Worship
Thursday	2	All Souls' Day	Christian/Unitarian Universalist	Special Worship
Sunday	12	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Bahá'í	Work Restriction
Tuesday	21	Guru Nanak's Birthday	Sikh	Special Worship

### **December 2017**

Sunday	3	First Sunday of Advent	Christian	Special Worship
Friday	8	Immaculate Conception	Roman Catholic	Special Worship
Friday	8	Bodhi Day	Buddhism	Special Worship
Tuesday	12	Our Lady of Guadalupe	Roman Catholic	Special Worship
Tuesday (sundown) to Wednesday	12 - 20	Hanukkah	Judaism	Special Worship
Friday	22	Yule	Pagan	Special Worship
Saturday	23	Joseph Smith's Birthday	CJCLDS (Mormon)	Special Worship
Monday	25	Christmas	Christian / Unitarian Universalist	Special Worship
Tuesday-Monday	26 - Jan. 1	Kwanzaa	African Heritage	Special Worship
Thursday	28	Fast of the 10th of Tevet	Judaism	Food Restriction

**January 2018**

Monday	1	Solemnity of Mary	Roman Catholic	Special Worship
Saturday	6	Epiphany	Christian	Special Worship
Saturday	6	Nativity of Jesus Christ	Orthodox/Christian (Julian)	Special Worship
Monday	15	Pongal	Hindu	Special Worship
Wednesday	31	Tu B'Shvat	Judaism	Special Worship

**February 2018**

Friday	2	Imbolc	Pagan	Special Worship
Wednesday	14	Shivaratri	Hinduism	Special Worship
Wednesday	14	Ash Wednesday (start of Lent)	Christian	Special Worship
Friday	16	Chinese New Year	Confucian/Daoist/Buddhist	Special Worship
Monday	19	Clean Monday	Orthodox Christian	Special Worship
Wednesday	28	Fast of Esther	Judaism	Food Restriction
Wednesday (sundown) to Thursday	28 - March 1	Purim	Judaism	Special Worship

**March 2018**

Friday	2	Holi	Hinduism	Special Worship
Friday	2	Women's World Day of Prayer	Multifaith	Special Worship
Friday-Tuesday	2 - 20	The 19 Day Fast	Baha'i	Food Restriction
Tuesday	20	Spring Equinox	Pagan	Special Worship
Tuesday (sundown) - Wednesday	20 - 21	Naw Ruz (New Year's Day)	Bahá'í /Zoroastrian	Work Restriction
Sunday	25	Palm Sunday	Christian/Unitarian	Special Worship
Thursday	29	Holy Thursday	Christian/Unitarian	Special Worship
Friday	30	Good Friday	Christian/Unitarian	Special Worship/Food Restriction
Friday	30	Fast of the First Born	Judaism	Food Restriction
Fridayday(sundown) to Sunday	30 - April 1	Passover	Judaism	Work/Food Restriction/Special Worship

**April 2018**

Sunday	1	Easter	Christian/Unitarian	Special Worship
Sunday	1	Palm Sunday	Orthodox Christian	Special Worship
Monday to Thursday	2 - 5	Passover Intermediate Days	Judaism	Special Worship/Food Restriction
Thursday (sundown) to Saturday	5-7	End of Passover	Judaism	Work/Food Restriction/Special Worship
Friday	6	Great Friday	Orthodox Christian	Special Worship
Sunday	8	Easter	Orthodox Christian	Special Worship
Wednesday (sundown) to Thursday	11 - 12	Yom HaShoah	Judaism	Special Worship/Mourning
Saturday	14	Baisakhi	Hindu New Year/Sikh	Special Celebration
Thursday (sundown) to Friday	19-20	Yom HaAtzmaut	Judaism	Special Celebration
Friday (sundown) to Saturday	20 - 21	First Day of Ridvan	Bahá'í	Work Restrictions
Saturday (sundown) to Sunday	28 - 29	Ninth Day of Ridvan	Bahá'í	Work Restrictions
Monday	30	Vesak	Buddhism/ Southeast Asia	Special Worship

**May 2018**

Tuesday	1	Beltane	Pagan	Special Worship
Tuesday (sundown) to Wednesday	1 - 2	Twelfth Day of Ridvan	Bahá'í	Work/Food Restriction
Wednesday (sundown) to Thursday	2 - 3	Lag B'Omer	Judaism	Special Worship
Thursday	10	Ascension of the Lord	Christian/Orthodox	Special Worship
Saturday (sundown) to Monday	19 - 21	Shavuot	Judaism	Work Restriction/Special Worship
Sunday	20	Pentecost	Christian/Orthodox	Special Worship
Tuesday (sundown) to Wednesday	22 - 23	Declaration of the Bab	Bahá'í	Work Restriction
Tuesday	29	Ascension of the Bahá'u'lláh	Bahá'í	Work Restriction