



MEMORANDUM

To: Executive Committee of Faculty Council (March 21, 2017)
Faculty Council (April 10, 2017)

From: Associate Professor Evan Bentz
Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Date: March 15, 2017

Re: Re-Issued Session Dates for 2017-2018

REPORT CLASSIFICATION

This is a major policy matter that will be considered by the Executive Committee for endorsing and forwarding to Faculty Council for vote as a regular motion (requiring a simple majority of members present and voting to carry).

BACKGROUND

The Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC) is responsible for determining the session dates through consultation with the Colleges and Residences, as well as with the University holiday schedule. The curriculum model requires 12.8 weeks of term.

The 2017-2018 session dates were proposed by the UCC on November 3, 2016 and approved by Faculty Council on December 1, 2016 as Report 3524. An error was subsequently discovered in the Summer 2017 session dates, and the report was revised to provide a week-long break following April exams and to remove an unnecessary week lag between the end of May-June classes and the May-June exam period. This resulted in a better schedule for students and more closely aligned it with the University add/drop dates and refund schedules. Report 3524 Revised, dated February 24, 2017, was approved by Faculty Council on February 28, 2017.

When the sessional dates for 2017-2018 were initially approved by Faculty Council, the full effect of a longer examination period for the Faculty of Arts & Science (FAS) was not known. Academic and Campus Events (ACE), which schedules all final examinations, forecast the impact on APSC to be minimal. It is now known that during the April 2018 examination period, there will be an overlap of six days during which FAS examinations will take place while APSC students are still in class. While it is not possible to avoid the overlap entirely, we aim to reduce it from six days to three, and will offer an alternative examination timeslot to those APSC students with a conflict between their FAS examinations and APSC classes.

The proposed change:

Report 3524 Revised (February 28, 2017 Faculty Council)	Report 3538 (April 10, 2017 Faculty Council)
Classes start: January 8, 2018 Classes end: April 13, 2018 Study day: April 16, 2018 Exam period: April 17, 2018 – April 30, 2018	Classes start: January 4, 2018 Classes end: April 11, 2018 Study days (add one day): April 12, 2018 and April 13, 2018 Exam period (add one day): April 16, 2018 – April 30, 2018

For clarity, the UCC is proposing that Report 3524 and Report 3524 Revised be withdrawn and replaced by Report 3538. The proposed APSC session dates for 2017-2018 and the summer of 2017, and the tentative dates for the summer of 2018 are attached in their entirety as Appendix A.

PROCESS

The Undergraduate Curriculum Committee is composed of representatives from each program; the Vice-Dean, Undergraduate Studies; the Chair, First Year; the Associate Dean, Cross-Disciplinary Programs; and the Registrar’s Office. The Committee meets regularly, and reviews changes to the curriculum.

PROGRAM

All programs are involved in these changes, and the impact on students in the various programs has been considered.

PROPOSAL/MOTION

THAT Report 3524 and Report 3524 Revised be withdrawn and the 2017-2018 session dates proposed in Report 3538 be approved.

APPENDIX A

PROPOSED APSC SESSION DATES FOR 2017-2018

	APSC
First day of fall classes	Thursday Sept 7
Thanksgiving	Monday Oct 9
Last day of fall classes	Wednesday Dec 6
Exam Study Day	Thursday Dec 7
Fall exams start*	Friday Dec 8
Fall exams end	Wednesday Dec 20
Number of instructional days	64 days/12.8 weeks
First day of winter classes	Thursday Jan 4
Reading Week	February 19-23
Good Friday	Friday March 30
Last day of winter classes	Wednesday April 11
Winter study day(s)	Thursday April 12 and Friday April 13
Winter exams start	Monday April 16
Winter exams end	Monday April 30
Number of instructional days	64 days/12.8 weeks

PROPOSED APSC SESSION DATES FOR SUMMER 2017

May/June Term

Classes start May 8, 2017

Classes end June 22, 2017

Exam period June 23-30, 2017

Total of 33 instructional days (equivalent to a 13.2 week term, as courses will meet twice per week)

July/August Term

Classes start July 4, 2017

Classes end August 18, 2017

Exam period August 21-25, 2017

Total of 33 instruction days (equivalent to 13.2 week term, as courses will meet twice per week)

TENTATIVE SESSION DATES FOR SUMMER 2018

May/June Term

Classes start May 7, 2018

Classes end June 22, 2018

Exam period June 25-29, 2018

Total of 34 instruction days (equivalent to a 13.6 week term, as courses will meet twice per week)

July/August Term

Classes start July 3, 2018

Classes end August 17, 2018

Exam period August 20-24, 2018

Total of 33 instruction days (equivalent to a 13.2 week term, as courses will meet twice per week)