As we begin the 2019-2020 academic year, I want to take this opportunity to remind you about some important changes to the University’s Academic Planning Calendar that take effect this semester.

Last November, the University announced that it would move to a five-year planning calendar, enabling our community to plan long term and ensure consistency from one academic year to the next. With these changes, a short fall break has been added (listed on the academic calendar). Additionally, the University will no longer suspend classes on religious holidays when state government is open for business.

Concurrent with these changes, the University has worked diligently to remind students, faculty, and staff that they have the right—protected by state law—to be excused from class, and work, to observe their religious beliefs without penalty and to receive accommodations to make up missed assignments or exams. UAlbany has always protected this important right and will continue to do so. This Frequently Asked Questions page more fully explains the University’s reasons for making these changes.

Guidance on the observance of religious holidays has been shared with faculty and staff and posted on relevant academic websites. Some key dates for the fall semester are included below, and the full academic calendar, and future calendars, can be found here to aid in planning.

We look forward to seeing you all very soon!

Sincerely,

Michael N. Christakis, Ph.D. ‘01, ’05
Vice President for Student Affairs

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