

Simpson College

Rules for Establishing Fall and Spring Academic Calendar

(Updated June 2018)

Fall

1. Registration day is the last Monday of August. Classes begin the first Tuesday following the last Monday of August (week before Labor Day).
2. Opening Convocation is the first Wednesday of the fall semester.
3. Last day to add/drop a class is the 5th day of class.
4. **Fall Break:** begins on the Thursday closest to after the 34th day of the semester and a home football game is not held the following weekend, if there is a home football game the weekend following the 34th day of the semester. Fall Break is moved to the following Thursday if not home game is being played.
5. Homecoming/Family Weekend is determined by the first home game in October with an appropriate opponent.
6. Mid-Term date is the 34th day of the semester (not counting weekends and holidays).
7. Mid-term grades are due three class days after the mid-term date (**unless the 3rd day is the beginning of fall break, then grades are due prior to fall break**)
8. Last day to withdraw is the 48th day of class.
9. Thanksgiving recess begins on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.
10. Last day of class falls on the first Friday following the 68th day of class (not counting holidays and breaks)
11. A College Reading Day falls on the first Monday following the last day of class. This day is officially set aside for students to prepare and review for their final exams.
12. Final exams begin on the first Tuesday after the College Reading Day. There are three days of final exams, and a fourth day reserved for a snow day in the fall.
13. Christmas break begins the day after the snow day for final exams.
14. Winter Commencement will be held the first Saturday after fall final exams.
15. **Fall grades are due three business days after the last day of final exams.**

Spring

1. Classes begin on the fourth Monday following final exam week in December.
2. Last day to add/drop is the 5th day of class.
3. Spring Break begins on the Saturday prior to the 11th Monday of the calendar year. This is to align with the Regent Universities in Iowa for spring break dates.
4. Mid-Term date is the 34th day of the semester (not counting weekends and holidays)
5. Mid-Term grades are due three class days after the mid-term date.
6. **Graduation application deadlines are set by the Registrar's Office.**
7. Last day to withdraw is the 48th day of class.
8. Easter Break begins on the Saturday before Easter and includes Easter Monday. Classes resume on the Tuesday after Easter.
9. Campus day is typically the first Wednesday of April
10. Honors Convocation Ceremony is the Wednesday of the final week of class.
11. College Research Day is the Thursday of the final week of class, no class is held this day.
11. Last day of class falls on the Friday closest to the 68th day of class (not counting holidays or breaks.)
12. College Reading Day is the Monday following the last day of class.
13. Final exams begin on the Tuesday following after the College Reading Day. There are three days of final exams.
14. Baccalaureate is on the Friday evening following spring final exams, and Commencement is on Saturday following spring final exams.

May Term

1. May term begins the Monday following Commencement and ends on the 15th day (not including weekends and Holidays).
2. The last day to drop a May Term class is the 2nd day of May Term.
3. The last day to withdraw from a May Term class is the 10th day of May Term.
4. **Grades are due two business days after May Term.**