AMS Consultation: Fall Reading Break + Extended Holiday Break

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Current UBC Academic Schedule

• Must maintain 3-year running average of 61 teaching days (62 is ideal)
  ○ Ranges from 61 – 63 teaching days

• One of the longest exam periods in Canada
  ○ 16-day exam period, no Sunday Exams for 14 examinable days, ending Dec. 23rd at the latest

• Must begin classes after Labour Day and allow for a 3-day break between the end of classes and beginning of exams
Academic Scheduling Elsewhere

• Average length of exam period: **12.7 days**
  ○ Average number of examinable days: **11.4 days**

• Most universities have a **2-day break** between end of classes/beginning of exams

• Most universities have a Fall Reading Break around Thanksgiving
  ○ Some have their break around Remembrance Day
How do we get a Fall Reading Break?

- Must **shorten the exam period**, if we don’t reduce teaching days
  - Accredited programs would not be recognized
  - Would be more difficult to complete course material
- Could also **reduce the 3-day break** between end of classes/beginning of exams to be two days
- May have to begin classes **before Labour Day** (but **after Sept 1st**) in applicable years
- FRB: One or two days off, to make the Thanksgiving break a **four- or five-day long weekend** (worst case scenario)
What are the options?

Currently: 16-day exam period, no Sunday Exams
  o 14 examinable days

• Option 1: 14-day exam period, Sunday Exams
  o 14 consecutive examinable days

• Option 2: 15-day exam period, no Sunday Exams
  o 13 examinable days

• Option 3: 14-day exam period, no Sunday Exams
  o 12 examinable days
# What are the consequences?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Current Schedule</th>
<th>Option 1 (14 consecutive days)</th>
<th>Option 2 (15-day period)</th>
<th>Option 3 (14-day period)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More than one exam in 24 hrs</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two exams on same day</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam hardship</td>
<td>3 in 1000</td>
<td>3 in 1000</td>
<td>4 in 1000</td>
<td>8 in 1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than three exams in three days</td>
<td>6 in 1000</td>
<td>9 in 1000</td>
<td>8 in 1000</td>
<td>13 in 1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What would it look like?

Model One for 2019 (63 teaching days)
Option 1 (14 consecutive days) or Option 3 (12 examinable days in 14 day-period)

Model Two for 2019 (63 teaching days)
Option 2 (13 examinable days in 15 day-period)
Extended Holiday Break

• If the same changes are made in April, we could lengthen the Holiday Break by a few days
  ○ This year, we’d be back on Jan 7\textsuperscript{th} instead of Jan 2\textsuperscript{nd}

• Would you support making the \textit{same changes in second term} to allow for an \textbf{Extended Holiday Break}?
Questions?