



# AMS Consultation: Fall Reading Break + Extended Holiday Break

Presented by Max Holmes, VP Academic & University Affairs  
and Roshni Pendse, AVP Academic Affairs

# 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. 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup>**) 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

- *14 examinable days*
- **Option 1:** 14-day exam period, Sunday Exams
  - *14 consecutive examinable days*
- **Option 2:** 15-day exam period, no Sunday Exams
  - *13 examinable days*
- **Option 3:** 14-day exam period, no Sunday Exams
  - *12 examinable days*

# What are the consequences?

	<b>Current Schedule</b>	<b>Option 1 (14 consecutive days)</b>	<b>Option 2 (15-day period)</b>	<b>Option 3 (14-day period)</b>
More than one exam in 24 hrs	24%	24%	26%	31%
Two exams on same day	8%	8%	9%	11%
Exam hardship	3 in 1000	3 in 1000	4 in 1000	8 in 1000
More than three exams in three days	6 in 1000	9 in 1000	8 in 1000	13 in 1000

# 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)*

September							October							November							December						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

## Model Two for 2019 (63 teaching days)

*Option 2 (13 examinable days in 15 day-period)*

September							October							November							December						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

# 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<sup>th</sup> instead of Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Would you support making the **same changes in second term** to allow for an **Extended Holiday Break**?



Questions?