



STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES FOR SETTING THE LEARNING CALENDAR

1. PURPOSE

This statement outlines the principles for setting the learning calendar and associated academic year dates. The principles are approved by the Academic Board as outlined in the UTS [Delegations](#) (in particular, Delegation 4.17). The principles apply to all calendars and associated teaching sessions delivered by the University of Technology (UTS).

2. DEFINITIONS

The learning calendar means the framework for the UTS academic year, which sets out:

- the university's teaching sessions and the point in the academic year at which they commence.
- the models of the various academic calendars and their purposes.
- the subdivision of teaching sessions into orientation and preparation weeks, student vacation (StuVac) and final assessment weeks.
- the key academic year dates that are required to be included in calendars.
- the activities that are to occur in the orientation and preparation weeks, StuVac and final assessment weeks.
- the activities that are not to occur in the orientation and preparation weeks, StuVac and final assessment weeks.

Academic year dates are the specific dates related to the university's teaching sessions. Academic year dates are published in the [UTS website](#) and are determined in accordance with Academic Board-approved principles for setting the learning calendar, and commonwealth legislation. These are normally determined 1-2 years in advance.

Additional [important dates](#) and [principal dates](#) are also published, normally in early September for the following academic year.

3. PRINCIPLES FOR SETTING THE LEARNING CALENDAR

Principles for setting the learning calendar are approved by Academic Board and form the basis for determining academic year dates.

Calendar models

Main Calendar

This is the primary calendar for all undergraduate and postgraduate coursework courses and subjects delivered at City Campus and Moore Park Sydney. It does include an optional summer session.

Autumn Session

- Session starts on the third Monday of February
- 17 weeks of learning, including:
 - 12 weeks of teaching
 - Week 1 as a mandatory preparation week
 - one-week StuVac mid-session
 - one-week StuVac at the end of classes
 - 3 weeks final assessment period after the final StuVac.

Spring Session

- Session starts on the last Monday of July or first Monday of August
- 17 weeks of learning, including:
 - 12 weeks of teaching
 - Week 1 as a mandatory preparation week
 - one-week StuVac mid-session
 - one-week StuVac at the end of classes
 - 3 weeks final assessment period after the final StuVac.

Summer Session (optional)

- Session starts on the last Monday of November or the first Monday of December
- 11 weeks of learning, including:
 - 10 weeks of teaching
 - Week 1 as a mandatory preparation week
 - one-week StuVac mid-session
 - There is no formal assessment period for the summer session.

Health Calendar

The health calendar was implemented for undergraduate courses in the Faculty of Health. Used for courses with clinical placements. Also known as "Calendar C". Does not include summer session.

Autumn C Session

- Session starts on the third Monday of February
- 17 weeks of learning, including:
 - 12 weeks of teaching
 - Week 1 as a mandatory preparation week
 - one-week StuVac mid-session
 - one-week StuVac at the end of classes
 - 3 weeks final assessment period after the final StuVac.

Spring C Session

- Session starts on the last Monday of July or first Monday of August
- 17 weeks of learning, including:
 - 12 weeks of teaching
 - Week 1 as a mandatory preparation week
 - one-week StuVac mid-session
 - one-week StuVac at the end of classes
 - 3 weeks final assessment period after the final StuVac.

Teacher Education Calendar

The Teacher Education calendar was implemented for all coursework teacher education courses to enable placement components and alignment with NSW school terms. Also known as "Calendar D". This calendar does not include summer session.

Autumn D Session

- Session starts on the third Monday of February
- 19 weeks of learning, including:
 - 15 weeks of teaching (including placements)
 - Week 1 as a mandatory preparation week
 - 6 weeks for professional placements
 - one-week StuVac mid-session
 - one-week StuVac at the end of classes
 - 2 weeks final assessment period after the final StuVac.

Spring D Session

- Session starts on the third Monday of July
- 19 weeks of learning, including:

- 15 weeks of teaching (including placements)
- Week 1 as a mandatory preparation week
- 6 weeks for professional placements
- one-week StuVac mid-session
- one-week StuVac at the end of classes
- 2 weeks final assessment period after the final StuVac.

Health Extended Teaching Calendar

The Health Extended Teaching Calendar was implemented for the Graduate School of Health. It is predominantly used for postgraduate courses in the Faculty of Health, and courses offered at Moore Park campus (which includes undergraduate courses). Also known as "Calendar B" and previously known as the GSH Calendar. This Calendar does not include a summer session.

Autumn B Session

- Session starts on the third Monday of February
- 18 weeks of learning, including:
 - Week 1 as a mandatory preparation week
 - 14 weeks of teaching
 - one-week StuVac mid-session
 - one-week StuVac at the end of classes
 - 2 weeks final assessment period after the final StuVac.

Spring B Session

- Session starts on the fourth Monday of July
- 18 weeks of learning, including:
 - Week 1 as a mandatory preparation week
 - 14 weeks of teaching
 - one-week StuVac mid-session
 - one-week StuVac at the end of classes
 - 2 weeks final assessment period after the final StuVac.

UTS Online Postgraduate Calendar

A carousel teaching delivery model for all online postgraduate courses offered with an Online Program Management (OPM) partner. Our current OPM partners are Keypath and CinLearn.

OPM Session 1 to 6:

- Six (6) sessions per year
- Sessions are named Session 1, Session 2 etc.
- Session 1 starts on the third Monday in January (or next business day if Monday is a public holiday)
- Each session is seven (7) consecutive teaching weeks
- One week between each session
- No StuVacs or final assessment period.

UTS Parallel Calendar

Following the UTS online postgraduate calendar, the parallel calendar is for non-OPM courses and on campus teaching delivery.

- Six (6) sessions per year
- Sessions are named Session 1, Session 2 etc.
- Session 1 starts on the third Monday in January (or next business day if Monday is a public holiday)
- Each session is seven (7) consecutive teaching weeks
- One week of no teaching between each session
- No StuVacs or final assessment period.

Short Session Calendar

The short session calendar was designed to be used by courses being delivered in the main calendars, that need to accommodate specific subjects being delivered in block or intensive modes.

Short Sessions January to December:

- Each session is six (6) weeks, except for December which is seven (7) weeks
- Sessions are named based on month
- Twelve (12) sessions per year
- No StuVacs or final assessment period
- Session weeks overlap

Higher Degree Research (HDR) Calendar

This calendar is designed to be used for HDR courses and subjects only.

- Research Session 1 runs from 1 January to 30 June
- Research Session 2 runs from July to 31 December
- Two (2) Sessions per year
- No StuVacs or final assessment period

The UTS Offshore Calendars

Offshore calendars are used for specific Trans-National Education (TNE) courses delivered offshore, and dates are dependent on partner/country requirements, so can be amended post publication.

Short Session Calendar – China

This calendar is for SILC postgraduate courses only. This Calendar will come into effect from Q1 2026.

Short Sessions January to December:

- Each session is six (6) weeks, except for December which is seven (7) weeks
- Sessions are named based on month
- Twelve (12) sessions per year
- No StuVacs or final assessment period.
- Session weeks overlap

Asia Undergraduate Offshore Calendar

The Asia Undergraduate Offshore Calendar will be used for the undergraduate offerings for SILC Undergraduate, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology (HCMUT) Vietnam and the China Learning Centre (CLC). This Calendar will come into effect from March 2026.

- Long Semesters of eighteen (18) weeks
- Two long sessions that will span across calendar years
- Standardised start and end of session. Flexibility within those dates to determine approach for preparation weeks,
- StuVacs and final assessment period as necessary allowing for local national holidays and other requirements as needed.

Calendar components

Preparation Week

Each faculty will determine its Preparation Week strategy. However, no summative assessment is allowed in Week 1.

StuVac — mid-Session

Students must only be required to undertake normal study patterns in StuVac week where catch-up classes are scheduled for missed classes earlier in the teaching period due to public holidays or emergencies. Faculties may schedule short activity-based learning activities in this period.

In the mid-session StuVac:

- there will be one day on which classes may be scheduled to make up for those missed due to public holidays or university emergencies in the first half of the session
- faculties must not schedule classes
- faculties must not schedule assessment submission deadlines or examinations in this period
- faculties may schedule activity-based learning such as field trips, etc., in this period; students must be advised of such activities at the beginning of the teaching session, as part of the subject information (outline); faculties must have a process for managing activity-based learning clashes
- students on professional experience placements in the scheduled mid-session StuVac are not eligible for StuVac.

StuVac — end of Session

Students must only be required to undertake normal study patterns in StuVac week, where catch-up classes are scheduled for missed classes earlier in the teaching period due to public holidays or emergencies. Faculties may schedule review sessions for students but attendance will not be compulsory. No new material can be introduced to students in the final StuVac.

In the final StuVac:

- there will be one day on which classes may be scheduled to make up for those missed due to public holidays or university emergencies in the second half of the teaching session
- faculties must not schedule classes
- faculties must not schedule assessment deadlines in this period
- faculties may schedule non-compulsory review/revision sessions for students
- faculties must not introduce any new material in this week (with the exception of the catch-up class schedule)
- students on professional experience placements in the scheduled final StuVac are not eligible for StuVac.

Final assessment period

Central examinations will be scheduled in final assessment periods and faculties may also use this period to finalise other forms of assessment.

The final assessment period may be used for:

- centrally conducted examinations
- completion of project and other major assessment works; faculty-based assessments.

Faculties must have a process for managing central examinations and faculty-based examination/assessment clashes.

Rescheduled and alternative exams period

Rescheduled and alternative examination will be held as soon as possible after the final assessment period.

The rescheduled and alternative exams period may be used for:

- rescheduled centrally conducted examinations for students.
- faculty-based examinations for students as approved by their subject coordinator.

Academic Year Dates

Publication of the learning calendars for a given year will include the following academic year dates for all sessions:

- Session start date
- Census date
- Results publication date
- Session end date and/or last day of the final assessment period
- Last day to enrol

Where applicable, the academic year dates will also include:

- Orientation weeks
- StuVacs (mid and end of session)
- Final assessment period
- Rescheduled and alternative exams period
- Gazetted NSW Public Holidays and School Holidays (Eastern Division) (to allow for planning of rescheduled classes and placements)