

From: Admin Memos <ADMIN-MEMOS@LISTSERV.UGA.EDU> on behalf of UGA
Administrative Memos <adminmem@UGA.EDU>
Sent: Wednesday, August 06, 2014 3:47 PM
To: ADMIN-MEMOS@LISTSERV.UGA.EDU
Subject: Sensitivity to Religious Practices

TO: Deans, Directors, Department Heads, and Faculty

FROM: Victor K. Wilson, Vice President for Student Affairs
Laura D. Jolly, Vice President for Instruction

RE: Sensitivity to Religious Practices

Many of our faculty, staff, and students commemorate various events of importance to their particular religions. Our institutional practice is to make every reasonable effort to allow members of the University community to observe their religious holidays without academic penalty. Absence for religious reasons does not relieve students from responsibility for any part of the course work required during the period of absence. Students who miss classes, examinations, or other assignments as a consequence of their religious observance should be provided with a fair alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. Students must provide instructors with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they plan to be absent.

As you plan your syllabus and begin communicating with students, please keep in mind that some religious holidays affect a significant number of University of Georgia students and might require a student to abstain from secular activities or attend a house of worship. Different groups within a particular religion may also observe holidays on different dates, making it difficult to provide a comprehensive list of all potential religious observances. You may wish to search online for a religious calendar resource to serve as a guide for the dates of common observances.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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Administrative Memos are coordinated through the Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. For more information, contact Sam Fahmy at sfahmy@uga.edu.