

Holiday Calendar- Summer 2025 Semester

The CAS Department seeks to promote awareness of significant cultural, religious, and secular holidays that are celebrated by members of its community, including CAS faculty, staff, and students. This calendar is intended to help faculty plan their semesters and consider the placement of high-stakes evaluations, such as exams, student presentations, and projects.

The list of holidays is not exhaustive. We have tried to highlight events with possible significant impact on course activities and/or of import to one or more cultural groups. If you notice an error or omission, we encourage you to achn out to the CAS Department.

Presenting a cultural calendar is complicated by the use of different time systems. The normative US system is a solar calendar, in which holidays start in the morning (when the sun rises). Semitic religions and some Asian religions use a lunar calendar, in which holidays start in the evening (when the moon rises). As a result, holiday observance for lunar calendar events begins on the night before the event (<https://tamidnyc.org/20-lunar-time-vs-solar-time/>).

Event	Day	Date	Impact/Expectations	Information
Memorial Day	Mon	May 26	Campus closed	US federal holiday honoring people who died during active military service.
Ascension of Baha u'llah	Thurs	May 29	Bahai mark this day with prayers 8 hours after sunset (early morning).	Commemorates the anniversary of the death of Baha u'llah (the founder of the Bahai faith).
Ascension Day	Thurs	May 29	Varies; Eastern Orthodox Christians may be absent	Celebrates the ascension of Jesus into heaven. Western churches typically move this observance to a Sunday.
Shavuot	Mon	Jun 2	Varies; Jews may be absent	Celebrates the receipt of the 10 commandments. Observed by eating milk products during a celebratory meal.
Eid Al-Adha	Sat	Jun 6	Varies; Muslims may be absent	Marking the end of the annual Hajj, this celebration commemorates Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son when commanded by God.
Pentecost	Sun	Jun 8	Varies	Commemorates the Holy Spirit visiting Jesus's disciples.
Anne Frank Day	Thurs	Jun 12	Opportunity to focus on helping oppressed groups.	Commemorates Anne Frank, a Jewish girl who was killed in the Holocaust. Frank wrote a diary documenting the support she received from Gentile (non-Jewish) friends while hiding from the Nazis.
Loving Day	Thurs	Jun 12	Opportunity to focus on unethical legislation.	Commemorates the anniversary of the 1967 US Supreme Court Decision which struck down miscegenation (interracial relationship) laws.
Father's Day	Sun	Jun 15	Varies; students may need support with family dynamics	US holiday celebrating fathers.

All Saints Day (Eastern Orthodox)	Sun	Jun 15	Varies; Eastern Orthodox Christians may be absent	Observed on a different date for Western churches (Nov 1). Commemorates deceased loved ones.
Juneteenth	Thurs	Jun 19	Campus closed	Marking the abolition of slavery in Texas in 1865 (the last US state to abolish slavery), this holiday celebrates the freedom and accomplishments of Black Americans.
Summer Solstice	Fri	Jun 20	Varies	Marks the start of summer with the longest day (the longest time between sunrise and sunset) of the year.
World Refugee Day	Fri	Jun 20	Opportunity to raise awareness about the needs and concerns of refugees and displaced people.	Designated by the United Nations, this day honors people who have fled their home countries to escape conflict or persecution.
Anniversary of Same- Sex Marriage in US	Thurs	Jun 26	Opportunity to raise awareness about prejudices and limitations placed on LGBTQIA individuals.	The 2015 date when the US Supreme Court ruled that same-sex couples have the fundamental right to marry.
Independence Day	Fri	Jul 4	Campus closed	Anniversary of the US declaration of independence in 1776.
Ashura	Tue	Jul 5 (eve) to Jul 6	Varies; Muslims may be absent	A daylong fast to commemorate the start of the Islamic year. It also commemorates migration to Mecca and the martyrdom of leaders.
Martyrdom of the Bab	Wed	Jul 9	Varies; Bahai may be absent	Commemorates the death of the Bab (a 19 th century Bahai prophet) who was killed by religious rulers in Persia.
Dharma Day	Thurs	Jul 10	Varies; Buddhists may be absent	Commemorates the spiritual awakening of Buddha.
American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Day	Sat	Jul 26	Opportunity to raise awareness about accommodations for individual differences.	Commemorates the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990, guaranteeing equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities.
International Day of Indigenous People	Sat	Aug 9	Opportunity to raise awareness about indigenous cultures and the needs of indigenous communities.	Designated by the United Nations, this day recognizes the contributions, self-determination, and lasting legacy of indigenous peoples around the world.