



Statement on “Religious Accommodation for Students”

(Faculty/Administration Manual VIII.A.10.)

The College of Charleston community is enriched by students of many faiths that have various religious observances, practices, and beliefs. We value student rights and freedoms, including the right of each student to adhere to individual systems of religion. The College prohibits discrimination against any student because of such student’s religious belief or any absence thereof.

The College acknowledges that religious practices differ from tradition to tradition and that the demands of religious observances in some traditions may cause conflicts with student schedules. In affirming this diversity, like many other colleges and universities, the College supports the concept of “reasonable accommodation for religious observance” in regard to class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and other academic work requirements, unless the accommodation would create an undue hardship on the College. Faculty are required, as part of their responsibility to students and the College, to ascribe to this policy and to ensure its fair and full implementation.

The accommodation request imposes responsibilities and obligations on both the individual requesting the accommodation and the College. Faculty members are expected to reasonably accommodate individual religious practices. Examples of reasonable accommodations for student absences might include: rescheduling of an exam or giving a make-up exam for the student in question; altering the time of a student’s presentation; allowing extra-credit assignments to substitute for missed class work or arranging for an increased flexibility in assignment dates. Regardless of any accommodation that may be granted, students are responsible for satisfying all academic objectives, requirements and prerequisites as defined by the instructor and by the College.

2020 – 2021 Religious Holidays¹

Date	Holiday	Religion
September 18 2020	Rosh Hashanah ²	Jewish
September 28, 2020	Yom Kippur ²	Jewish
October 2 - October 9, 2020	Sukkot ²	Jewish
October 9, 2020	Shemini Atzeret ²	Jewish
October 19 - October 26, 2020	Navaratri	Hindu
October 19, 2020	Birth of Baha'u'llah	Baha'i
January 7, 2021	Christmas ³	Orthodox Christian
February 17, 2021	Ash Wednesday (Beginning of Lent)	Christian
February 25-26, 2021	Purim ²	Jewish
March 15, 2021	Great Lent Begins	Christian
March 20, 2021	Naw-Ruz	Baha'i
April 2, 2021	Good Friday	Christian
March 26 - April 3, 2021	Passover ²	Jewish
April 12-May 11, 2021	Ramadan	Muslim
April 30, 2021	Good Friday (Orthodox) ³	Orthodox Christian
April 20 and 28, 2021	Ridvan	Baha'i

¹ The previously included Islamic holiday of Eid al-Adha falls outside the regular academic year and is therefore not listed here.

² All Jewish holidays begin at sunset on the evening before the date given.

³ Orthodox Christian holidays begin at sunset on the evening before the date given.