

The Calendar of Syllabos

Although there are many calendar systems around the World, centuries back, it was determined that the schools that belonged to the Portal College Athletic Association should adapt a calendar that is shared by each of them, thus making scheduling easier and more intuitive.

The Calendar of Syllabos is composed of twelve months, each containing 28 days (four weeks). In between are scattered four standalone “festival” weeks—breaks—of 7 days each, with one single, standalone day, known as Graduation Day, which is part of no month or week.

The first day of each week, known as Faithday, is usually set aside for religious observances regardless of faith, while the last day, Freeday, is usually reserved for leisure. The five days in the middle are the days school is in session. The days of the week are as follows:

Faithday
Startday
Nextday
Midweek
Fifthday
Closeday
Freeday

Because each month is exactly four weeks long and the festival weeks are similarly seven days, and because Graduation Day stands entirely alone, the first of each month is always Faithday, the last day is always Freeday, and your birthday is always on the same day of the week every year (so if you weren't born on Saturday, you'll never have a Saturday birthday, get over it).

At several points during the year, “Bunny Holidays” are observed. These days are noted for the cultural attachment of a Holiday Bunny to the traditions of the day. Nobody knows exactly why these traditions started; the Holiday Bunnies don't seem to be hostile, so it wasn't to appease their wrath. Regardless, it's possible for a Warlock to make a pact with a Holiday Bunny, though this is rarely done.

REGISTRATION FESTIVAL (1-week festival)

The first week of the year is, at most schools, a weeklong festival during which school clubs and sports teams try to recruit, hot dogs are sold and dunking booths are dunked, and students receive their orientation packets for the year. Ostensibly, you also sign up for classes, but if you're smart, you've already done that, because you ain't getting into the good sessions if you waited this long to register.

ACADEMA (4-week month)

The first month of the academic year, appropriately named Academia after the goddess of studiousness, Academia is also the beginning of the school year.

First Day of Class (2 Academia)

PYTHAGORAS (4-week month)

Generally considered the first month of Autumn, Pythagoras is named for the god of math. This is the month football season begins in earnest. If you aren't into that, don't expect to see your jock friends a lot for a few months.

SAGA (4-week month)

Deep Autumn and the month of various harvest festivals in various nations. Named for the goddess of history, this month is when you traditionally wish you had dropped that extra history credit last month when it wouldn't count against you. The last week of Saga is when your midterm exams occur.

Harvest Fest (14 Saga)- A rather generic harvest festival combining several harvest festival traditions, notably hayrides and eating pumpkin-related dishes. This is a “Bunny Holiday”, patronized by the Pumpkin Bunny who, overnight, leaves pumpkin pies in the sock drawers of good children all over the world.

Festival of the Dead (28 Saga)- A later harvest festival, as well as an honoring of the dead (or a celebration of the wicked, depending on your disposition). The practices of this day include dressing up in costumes, and going door to door begging for candy. The latter is seen as an activity for young children. The former is seen as an admission of fetishes we've long suspected.

FALL BREAK (1-week festival)

Not as widely beloved as Spring Break, but Fall Break at least is a week free from classes.

OGMA (4-week month)

Named for the god of written language, Ogma is the last month of Autumn, and the beginning of “Retail Gears Up for Holiday Sales” season.

Feast Day (26 November)- a bit late in the year for a harvest festival, Feast Day is a celebration of family and thanks, where you’re expected to travel home, consume far too much food, and then get up to go shopping the next day. It is a Bunny Holiday, and many a family awakens to find the Turkey Bunny has brought them a roast turkey (or goose) and many a turkey farmer wakes up cursing that damned bunny for decimating his flock yet another year.

SAPPHO (4-week month)

Simultaneously the first month of winter, the last month of the fall semester, and the month where you have to worry about final exams and holiday shopping at the same time. Final exams occur during the last week of this month.

WINTERMAS FESTIVAL (1-week festival)

Both a week off school and a weeklong festival during which gifts are exchanged, various wintertime religious observances occur, and sales of partridges and pear trees go through the roof.

Wintermas Day (4 Wintermas)- the most widely celebrated winter holiday in the World. It was originally observed as a celebration of surviving harsh winter weather, but has since spread and is now mainly a day when people exchange gifts and wear obnoxious sweaters. The Santa Bunny, clad in a heavy red coat, travels the world giving children presents and adventurers level appropriate magic items.

TIR (4-week month)

The first month of spring break (although still in the middle of winter), Tir is named for the god of oratory and spoken language. In non-academic calendars, this often syncs up as the first month of the year, but that’s inconvenient.

KOTHAR (4-week month)

Named for the god of science, although it is best known for its day of luvv.

Heart-Shaped Celebration (14 Kothar)- this day is given to a celebration of romance, in the form of store-bought confections and greeting cards. It’s a Bunny Holiday, but the WooWoo Bunny doesn’t give presents like other Holiday Bunnies. He watches

through your window while you’re “celebrating” with your S.O.

EUREKA (4-week month)

The first month of spring, Eureka was named for the god of discovery and is best known for being windy.

Festival of Green (17 Eureka)- You’re expected to wear green today. In some cities, it’s illegal not to. On the other hand, most places have free beer.

SPRING BREAK (1-week festival)

This week off school is the most anticipated week-long festival in the school year. It is traditional for large groups of friends to travel together to beach locations for a week of debauchery and drunkenness. The school does not endorse this behavior, but it’s not like we could stop it.

Feast of Daytona (4 Daytona)- the middle day of Spring Break is the high holy day of Daytona, goddess of Spring Break. “Feast” is a euphemism for whatever the hell you’re choosing to do today.

Daytonan Day of Regret (5 Daytona)- the second most important day in the liturgy of Daytona, a day of great sacrifice and self-reflection. The sacrifice consists mostly of your stomach contents.

ALEXANDRIA (4-week month)

Named for the goddess of libraries, Alexandria is the month even the most slothful of students buckle down and realize if they don’t get at least a C, they could lose their scholarship. After the hedonism of Spring Break, this is the time to take charge and focus on your studies. (This attitude will last until approximately the first weekend).

Spring Dawning (22 Alexandria)- the celebration of Spring and rebirth is usually held around this time in most cultures, and the Calendar of Syllabos nails it down to this date for convenience, combining traditions from several spring celebrations. It is the original Bunny Holiday, and the Springtime Bunny is believed to be the progenitor of the Holiday Bunny pantheon. If suitable sacrifices of hollow chocolate sculptures are left out for it, it will leave merrily decorated eggs scattered about in exchange. If it is dissatisfied with the chocolate gifts, the rest of the day is spent pelting passersby with its colored eggs until dusk.

FELICITAS (4-week month)

Both the last month of spring, and the last month of the Academic year. Named for the goddess of luck,

students often evoke the namesake deity for help in the final exams held on the last week of this month.

GRADUATION DAY (1 day)

Neither part of any month or festival week, and having no designation as a day of the week, Graduation Day stands alone as the day graduation ceremonies are held and square hats are thrown victoriously in the air.

MENME (4-week month)

The first day of summer, and of a two-month period without school (unless you didn't finish all your mandatory credits, in which case, you get to spend the summer taking Remedial Common all over again). Named for the god of memory, ironically as you will probably forget everything you learned this past year.

NIL (4-week month)

Your last month of freedom before you begin your next semester. Nil is the name of the god of atheism, but chances are you'll be praying to every god you know to just extend this vacation one more week. Just one.