

Religious Observances and Holidays for the 2011-2012 Academic Year

The Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at Wellesley College has produced this calendar so that our scheduling of activities can be more sensitive to the religious needs of students, alumnae, faculty members and administrators.

Observances and Holidays with work, food restrictions and/or special worship obligations: The following list includes those religious observances and holidays that involve food or work restrictions, or special worship obligations which affect the ability of members of the community to participate in college events. All of the following days include special worship obligations. Work and food restrictions are noted. A notation of a work restriction indicates that the religious obligations of some observant members of this tradition may restrict work for all or part of this day. Although not all of these religious observances and holy days involve work and food restrictions, they nevertheless are an important part of the lives of observant members of these faith traditions. **Please refer to our website for more details: www.wellesley.edu/RelLife/calendar/index.html**

Please note that the Islamic Calendar is lunar -- dates are flexible and change depending on the location of the moon.

August 2011

Monday	1	First Day of Ramadan	Islam	Food Restriction
Friday	26	Laylat al-Qadr	Islam	Special Worship
Wednesday	31	Eid al Fitr	Islam	Special Worship

September 2011

Friday	23	Mabon	Pagan	Special Worship
Wednesday	28	Navratri Begins (9 Days)	Hinduism	Special Worship
Wednesday(sundown), Thursday and Friday	28 (sundown) 29-30	Rosh Hashanah	Judaism	Work Restriction

October 2011

Thursday	6	Dussehra	Hindu	Work Restriction
Friday (sundown) to Saturday	7 (sundown) to 8	Yom Kippur	Judaism	Work Restriction/Fast
Wednesday (sundown) Thursday to Friday	12 (sundown) 13 to 14	Sukkot	Judaism	Work Restriction
Saturday to Tuesday	15-18	Sukkot/intermediate Days	Judaism	Special Worship
Wednesday (sundown) to Friday	19 (sundown) 20 to 21	Shemini Atzeret / Simchat Torah	Judaism	Work Restriction
Thursday	20	Birth of the Báb	Bahá'í	Work Restriction
Wednesday	26 (until 30)	Diwali (5 days)	Sikh/Hinduism/Jain	Special Worship
Monday	31	Samhain	Pagan	Special Worship

November 2011

Tuesday	1	All Saints' Day	Roman Catholic / Unitarian Universalist	Special Worship
Wednesday	2	All Souls' Day	Christian / Unitarian Universalist	Special Worship
Saturday	5	The Day of Arafat	Islam	Food Restriction
Sunday	6	Eid-ul-Adha	Islam	Special Worship
Thursday	10	Guru Nanak's Birthday	Sikh	Special Worship
Saturday	12	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Bahá'í	Work Restriction
Sunday	27	First Sunday of Advent	Christian	Special Worship

December 2011

Monday	5	Ashoura	Islam	Optional Fast
Thursday	8	Immaculate Conception	Roman Catholic	Special Worship
Thursday	8	Bodhi Day	Buddhism	Special Worship
Monday	12	Our Lady of Guadalupe	Roman Catholic	Special Worship
Tuesday (sundown) through 8 days	20 (sundown) 21-28	Hanukkah	Judaism	Special Worship
Thursday	22	Yule	Pagan	Special Worship
Friday	23	Joseph Smith's Birthday	CJCLDS (Mormon)	Special Worship
Sunday	25	Christmas	Christian / Unitarian Universalist	Special Worship
Monday to Sunday	26 to Jan 1	Kwanzaa	African Heritage	Special Worship

January 2012

Sunday	1	Solemnity of Mary	Roman Catholic	Special Worship
Friday	6	Epiphany	Christian	Special Worship
Saturday	7	Nativity of Jesus Christ	Orthodox Christian / Julian	Special Worship
Monday	23	Chinese New Year	Confucian/Daoist/Buddhist	Special Worship

February 2012

Thursday	2	Imbolc	Pagan	Special Worship
Tuesday (sundown) to Wednesday	7 (sundown) to 8	Tu B'Shvat	Judaism	Special Worship
Monday	20	Maha Shivaratri	Hinduism	Special Worship
Wednesday	22	Ash Wednesday (start of Lent)	Christian	Special Worship
Monday	27	Clean Monday	Orthodox Christian	Special Worship

March 2012

Friday	2	The 19 Day Fast begins	Baha'i	Food Restriction
Friday	2	Women's World Day of Prayer	Multifaith	Special Worship
Wednesday	7 (sunup - sundown)	Fast of Esther	Judaism	Fast
Wednesday (sundown) to Thursday	7 (sundown) to 8	Purim	Judaism	Special Worship
Thursday to Friday	8 to 9	Holi	Hinduism	Special Worship
Tuesday	20	Spring Equinox	Pagan	Special Worship
Wednesday	21	Naw Ruz (New Year's Day)	Bahá'í / Zoroastrian	Work Restriction

April 2012

Sunday	1	Palm Sunday	Christian	Special Worship
Thursday	5	Holy Thursday	Christian	Special Worship
Friday	6	Good Friday	Christian	Special Worship/Food Restriction
Friday (sundown) Saturday to Sunday	6 (sundown) 7 to 8	Passover	Judaism	Food/Work Restriction
Monday to Thursday	9 to 12	Passover (Intermediate Days)	Judaism	Food Restriction
Thursday (sundown) Friday to Saturday	12 (sundown) 13-14	Passover	Judaism	Food/Work Restriction
Sunday	8	Palm Sunday	Orthodox Christian	Special Worrrship
Sunday	8	Easter	Christian	Special Worship
Friday	13	Holy Friday	Orthodox Christian	Special Orthodox
Saturday	14	Baisakhi	Hindu New Year/Sikh	Special Celebration
Sunday	15	Easter	Orthodox Christian	Special Worship
Wednesday (sundown) to Thursday	18 (sundown) to 19	Yom HaShoah	Judaism	Special Worship/Mourning
Saturday to Wednesday	21 to May 2	Ridvan	Bahá'í	Work Restrictions

May 2012

Tuesday	1	Beltane	Pagan	Special Worship
Wednesday	2	Twelfth Day of Ridvan	Bahá'í	Work/Food Restriction
Wednesday (sundown) to Thursday	9 (sundown) to 10	Lag B'Omer	Judaism	Special Worship
Thursday	17	Ascension of the Lord	Christian	Special Worship
Wednesday	23	Declaration of the Bab	Bahá'í	Work Restriction
Thursday	24	Ascension of the Lord	Orthodox Christian	Special Worship
Saturday (sundown) Sunday to Monday	26 (sundown) to 27 to 28	Shavuot	Judaism	Special Worship/Work Restriction
Sunday	27	Pentecost	Christian	Special Worship
Monday	28	Vesak, Buddha's Birthday	Buddhism/ Southeast Asia	Special Worship
Tuesday	29	Ascension of the Bahá'u'lláh	Bahá'í	Work Restriction