THE ACADEMIC YEAR

The academic year is divided into two semesters and summer and winter sessions.

Fall and Spring Semesters
The first semester, referred to as the “Fall” semester, begins in late August and ends before the Christmas holiday; the second semester, referred to as the “Spring” semester, begins in January and ends in May. In the Fall semester there is a one week mid-semester recess as well as a short Thanksgiving recess. In the Spring semester there is a mid-semester week-long recess as well as a short Easter recess.

Within each semester there are also eight-week terms that fit within the traditional semester dates.

Summer Sessions
Annually summer sessions are held throughout the summer, in shorter length terms. Faculty-led travel courses as well as a variety of short workshops and institutes on topics of current interest are part of each summer’s offerings.

Winter Session
Between the Fall and Spring semesters, courses are offered, normally online, to provide students an opportunity to complete one course during the holiday break.