



**Faculty Center for
Teaching and Learning**

Division of Teaching and Learning

Religious Observance Calendar 2018–2020

This is a list of major holidays that are celebrated in a number of religions represented at UCF. Please consult it and share with others who engage in scheduling and planning functions. For more detailed information about these and other holidays, please see our website: <http://www.ftl.ucf.edu/TeachingAndLearningResources/CourseDesign/MajorReligiousHolidays/>. For those considering requests to accommodate religious observances on workdays, please see the following document on the UCF Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action website: <http://www.eo.ucf.edu/documents/ReligiousAccommodation7-10.pdf>. Note to faculty considering requests from students: the period of observance may include reasonable local travel time to a site for observance. It need not include time for travel chosen personally for observance outside the local area.

Event	Date(s) Observed
Gantan-sai (Shinto) Shinto New Year festival.	Jan. 1, 2018 Jan. 1, 2019 Jan. 1, 2020
Chinese New Year (Buddhist/Confucian/Daoist) Traditional Chinese holiday marking the end of winter.	Feb. 16, 2018 Feb. 5, 2019 Feb. 5, 2020
Vasant Panchami/Basant Panchami (Hindu/Islamic/Sikh) Festival celebrating the arrival of Spring.	Feb. 10, 2018 Feb. 10, 2019 Feb. 30, 2020
Holi (Hindu) Festival of colors.	Mar. 1–2, 2018 Mar. 20–21, 2019 Mar. 9–10, 2020
Passover (Jewish) Commemorates the liberation of the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt. <i>Begins and ends at sundown on the dates listed.</i>	Mar. 30–7, 2018 Apr. 19–27, 2019 Apr. 8–16, 2020

Good Friday (Christian) The Friday before Easter.	Mar. 30, 2018 Apr. 19, 2019 Apr. 10, 2020
Vesak (Buddhist) Celebration of the birth of of Gautama Buddha.	Apr. 8, 2018 Apr. 8, 2019 Apr. 8, 2020
Easter (Christian) The major festival of the Christian church year.	Apr. 1, 2018 Apr. 21, 2019 Apr. 12, 2020
Beltane (Pagan/Wiccan) Major festival of the summer equinox.	May 1, 2018 May 1, 2019 May 1, 2020
Shavuot (Jewish) Commemorates the revelation of the Ten Commandments. <i>Begins and ends at sundown on the dates listed.</i>	May 19–21, 2018 Jun. 8–10, 2019 May 28–30, 2020
Eid al-Fitr (Islamic) The last day of Ramadan, marking the end of a month of fasting. <i>Begins and ends at sundown on the dates listed.</i>	June 14–15, 2018 June 3–4, 2019 May 23–24, 2020
Litha (Pagan/Wiccan) Celebration of the midsummer sabbat solstice.	Jun. 24, 2018 Jun. 21, 2019 Jun. 21, 2020
Obon (Shinto/Buddhist) Annual event for memorializing the spirits of one’s ancestors.	Aug. 13–15, 2018 Aug. 13–15, 2019 Aug. 13–15, 2020
Mabon (Pagan/Wiccan) Celebration of the Autumn equinox.	Sept. 21–29, 2018 Sept. 21–29, 2019 Sept. 21–29, 2020
Rosh Hashanah (Jewish) The Jewish New Year. <i>Begins and ends at sundown on the dates listed.</i>	Sept. 9–11, 2018 Sept. 29–Oct. 1, 2019 Sept. 18–20, 2020
Yom Kippur (Jewish) Concludes the 10 days of repentance that begin with Rosh Hashanah. <i>Begins and ends at sundown on the dates listed.</i>	Sept. 18–19, 2018 Oct. 8–9, 2019 Sept. 27–28, 2020

<p>Shemini Atzereth (Jewish) Festival following the seventh day of Sukkoth. <i>Begins and ends at sundown on the dates listed.</i></p>	<p>Sept. 30–Oct. 2, 2018 Oct. 20–22, 2019 Oct. 9–11, 2020</p>
<p>Simchas Torah (Jewish) Celebrates the completion of the annual reading of the Torah. <i>Begins and ends at sundown on the dates listed.</i></p>	<p>Oct. 1–2, 2018 Oct. 21–22, 2019 Oct. 10–11, 2020</p>
<p>Eid al-Adha (Islamic) Commemorates the willingness of Ibrahim to sacrifice his son as an act of obedience to God. <i>Begins and ends at sundown on the dates listed.</i></p>	<p>Aug. 20–21, 2018 Aug. 10–11, 2019 Aug. 30–31, 2020</p>
<p>Diwali (Hindu/Buddhist/Sikh) Festival of lights.</p>	<p>Nov. 7, 2018 Oct. 27, 2019 Nov. 14, 2020</p>
<p>Birth of Baha' Allah (Baha'i) Celebrates the birth of Baha' Allah, the founder of the Baha'i faith. <i>Begins and ends at sundown on the dates listed.</i></p>	<p>Nov. 9–10, 2018 Oct. 29–30, 2019 Oct. 18–19, 2020</p>
<p>Christmas (Christian) Commemorates the birth of Christ.</p>	<p>Dec. 25, 2018 Dec. 25, 2019 Dec. 25, 2020</p>
<p>Yule (Wiccan/Pagan) Festival commemorating the Winter solstice.</p>	<p>Dec. 21, 2018–Jan. 1, 2019 Dec. 22, 2019–Jan. 2, 2020 Dec. 22, 2021–Jan. 1, 2021</p>