

MAJOR RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS Academic Year 2008-2009

SEPTEMBER	2	<u>Ramadan</u> * begins (Islam)
	22	Autumnal Equinox (WICCA & many earth-based traditions)
	30-Oct 1	<u>Rosh Hashanah</u> ** (Jewish)
OCTOBER	2	<u>Eid al Fitr</u> * (Islam)
	9	<u>Yom Kippur</u> ** (Jewish)
	14-20	Sukkot** (Jewish)
	28	Diwali (Hindu, Sikh, Jain)
NOVEMBER	2	Dia de los Muertos (Christian)
DECEMBER	6-9	Hajj, traditional days of pilgrimage (Islam)
	9	<u>Eid al Adha</u> (Islam)
	21	Winter Solstice (WICCA & many earth-based traditions)
	22-29	Hanukkah** (Jewish)
	25	Christmas (Christian)
JANUARY 2009	26	Lunar New Year (Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist)
FEBRUARY	25	Ash Wednesday - Lent begins (Christian)
MARCH	21	Vernal Equinox (WICCA & many earth-based traditions)
APRIL	5	Palm Sunday (Christian)
	9-10	Pesach** (Passover) first two days (Jewish)
	10	Good Friday (Christian – Protestant & Roman Catholic)
	12	Easter (Christian – Protestant & Roman Catholic)
		Palm Sunday (Christian – Orthodox)
	15-16	Pesach** (Passover) final two days (Jewish)
	17	Holy Friday (Christian – Orthodox)
	19	Easter (Christian -- Orthodox)
	21	Yom HaSho'ah* (Jewish)

This list of religious holidays is prepared to promote interfaith dialogue and understanding and to assist faculty and program planners in avoiding conflicts with observances that may involve student absences from campus. Most such lists are highly idiosyncratic, and this one is no exception. We apologize for any omissions and invite your additions and comments. Please contact sssr@wheatoncollege.edu.

Underlining indicates a day of religious obligation that falls within our class schedule and that may require observant students to be away from campus. *As always, students should contact faculty in advance to discuss any anticipated absence.*

* Start of Ramadan may vary by several days as the month begins with the first *sighting* of the crescent moon. Eid al Fitr will occur 30 days later

** These Holy Days begin at sundown the day before this date