

READING DAYS 2013

There have been many questions about Reading Days (Oct 7/8). Reading Days were created by the University, after a request by the Student Government Association and a joint action of the Faculty Senate, SGA and the Graduate Student Government Association.

Since this year is our first Reading Days, there is a lot of confusion about them. What follows is part of a response from Doug Burgess to a student's question about reading days:

The two reading days comprise the University's response to student requests for "break days" within the fall semester. Given a variety of factors (e.g., Ohio Board of Regents regulations, college accreditation requirements, existing fall term holidays, etc.) it was just not practical or conducive to student learning for UC to remove two additional days fully from the fall academic calendar. And so, the reading days were introduced for Fall Semester 2013 as a means for UC to be responsive to student governance input while allowing UC to meet its primary responsibility to students ---- which is to provide a quality educational experience.

The reading days are not intended to be full "break days" such as you will enjoy next semester during Spring Break. The reading days are not required to be or intended to be devoid of all academic activity for all students by default. On October 7 & 8, UC will not hold its "standard" classes. Those structured class meetings will not take place. Yet the colleges / departments can and may require your attendance at or participation in co-curricular activities such as recitals, internships, clinicals, co-op, travel study, etc. Not all colleges, departments, or classes will require such co-curricular activity. Doing so is at their discretion. If your college does not require your attendance or participation in these activities, then you are encouraged to use the "classes-free" days to read ahead in your classes, to study for upcoming exams or work on class projects.

A second point of clarification on M and W only classes:

Ohio Law requires us to observe Veteran's Day on Nov 11 (unless Nov 11th is on a weekend). This year, Nov 11th is a M so the Labor Day Holiday, Veteran's Day and the first Reading Day all fall on M. This would mean that M only classes miss 3 sessions.

To fix this, Senate passed and the University accepted, a resolution that moves Monday ONLY classes to Wednesday during Reading Days and cancels Wednesday only classes the week of Reading Days. The complete policy is:

- Monday-only Classes. All Monday-only classes will convene on Wednesday, October 9, at their regularly-scheduled meeting time and in the building / classroom assigned to the class for the semester.
- This includes Monday-only recitations and laboratories where the lecture meeting of the class might be held on Tuesday and Thursday in a different room.
- If a student identifies a pre-existing conflict with the class meeting rescheduled for October 9 (e.g., the student works on Wednesdays during the class time), you are asked to make appropriate accommodations.
- Wednesday-only Classes. For all Wednesday-only class sections, the Wednesday, October 9 class meeting is cancelled to avoid classroom space conflicts.
- Classes meeting in any combination including Wednesday, but not Monday (e.g., WF, WR, WRF, TW, etc.). The Wednesday, October 9 class meeting is cancelled.

The complete policy with FAQ's can be found

at: http://www.uc.edu/registrar/calendars/Reading_Days_Week_-_M-only_W-only_class_swap.html