University of Northern Iowa

Spring Calendar Updates

As you know, the University of Northern Iowa modified the fall 2020 calendar to minimize the risks of COVID-19 and ensure we could safely hold in-person classes. The modified calendar, along with other health and safety enhancements enabled us to successfully start the academic year with the majority of our classes meeting on campus.

Building on what we’ve achieved together this fall semester, we will also modify our spring 2021 calendar in response to the ongoing pandemic. Key changes to our spring schedule of classes are as follows:

- Spring semester classes will begin on Monday, January 25, later than originally scheduled
- Spring break will not be held
- Final exams will take place Monday, May 3 through Friday, May 7

We understand these changes might impact your plans which is why we are sharing the information as early as possible. We believe these calendar changes, coupled with the lessons we have learned during our fall opening, will give us the opportunity to further protect our campus community while still holding a full spring semester of on-campus teaching and learning activities.

The modified calendar will also allow us to offer select classes during 3-week and 6-week winter terms through distance learning. The 3-week terms will be held in December, right after fall classes end, and in January, before spring classes begin. The 6-week term will be split between December and January, with a short break in the middle for holidays, and will focus on courses that may help students progress to graduation.

Winter term classes will be part of students’ spring course load in terms of credit hours, tuition and billing. The dates for the winter calendar are as follows:

- 3 week - Nov. 30 to December 18 (up to 3 credits only)
- 3 week - January 4 to January 22 (up to 3 credits only)
- 6 week - Nov. 30 to January 22 (with two week break from Dec.21 to Jan. 1) (up to 6 credits only)

Students will be able to learn more about those classes through their departments and in the spring schedule of classes.