February 2020

Spring academic calendar / timing changes to accommodate an earlier commencement
Purpose

• Institute goal in making adjustments to the IAP and spring term academic calendars is to enable a longer summer period and move Commencement into late-May.

• Three options were presented to the MIT community (students, faculty, staff) and feedback collected.

• The chosen option was presented at an Institute Faculty Meeting on March 20 and voted in on April 17, 2019.
Advantages

• Enables graduating students to begin jobs and internships on June 1.

• Enables graduating students living off campus to avoid extending their lease for the month of June

• Reduces idle time students have between the end of exams and the commencement ceremony

• Allows Graduate Residence Tutor’s required to remain in their dorms until commencement to have more opportunities for internships or jobs

• Dorms and living groups can rent rooms in summer for longer

• Possibly increase faculty participation in commencement
Summary of changes

• IAP stays the same but Spring Reg Day was moved to the last day of IAP

• First day of spring classes was on Monday (2/3) instead of Tuesday

• Tuesday of Patriots' Day weekend in April is no longer a class holiday

• Last day of classes is two days earlier (Tues. 5/12), but the total number of term class days remains the same as usual (65).

• Four days of finals (instead of five) that straddle a weekend. First day is on Friday 5/15 and the next three on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday of the following week (5/18 – 5/20).
• Grade deadline for all subjects that do not have a final exam scheduled by the Institute is only three days after the end of classes (5/15) instead of five days.

• Grade deadline for subjects with a scheduled final exam moves to noon on Friday (5/22) prior to Memorial Day instead of the Tuesday after Memorial Day.

• Seven days of administrative time after finals to work with students to remove degree holds instead of 12.
Effect on the Department schedule

1. Registration Day coincides with the last day of IAP

This moved the first day of classes to Monday (2/3) and studio presentations to Tuesday (2/4) during scheduled studio time.

2. The last day of classes to Tuesday (5/12)

This causes the three days of graduate studio final review to straddle a weekend. Option studio reviews will shift to Friday (5/8) and Tuesday (5/12) and Core 2 to Monday (5/11).

The final day for required M.Arch subjects, or workshops with enrolled M.Arch, to submit papers, hold presentations, exams, reviews, etc. is moved back to Friday (5/1), to preserve the Department mandated 6 day cushion period prior to the first final studio review.

- Thesis reviews for SMArchS, M.Arch, SMBT & BSAD will move to Wed. 5/13, the day after the last day of class and two days before the first day of finals (5/15)

- SMBT, SMACT, SMArchS, BSA and BSAD deadline to submit signed archival theses will shift earlier to the Institute thesis deadline of Friday 5/8, which is prior to the thesis presentations (5/13)

- Thesis grade deadline shifts to Friday 5/15

- M.Arch theses submission will shift earlier to Tuesday 5/19 during final exam week

- Any student that does not submit the final archival copy of their thesis by their respective deadline, and who does not have a final thesis grade by Friday noon 5/22 will need to be removed from the May degree list. Unfortunately, there is no wiggle room.
4. Shortening of administrative time between grade deadline and hooding & commencement

• Department grades meetings will be held on the Tuesday after Memorial Day (5/26) after grade summaries are produced. The Institute grade meeting, when final dept. approved degree lists are submitted, will take place the following day (Wed. 5/27). Hooding and Commencement are held the following two days, Thursday 5/28 and Friday 5/29 respectively. In the past, there was a week between grades meetings and Commencement.

• There is less time for administrators to seek late grades from instructors and for students to resolve incompletes or bursar deficits, which may result in more students being removed from the degree list than previously.
5. Conflicts with Harvard

• GSD Thesis Reviews take place May 12-15 overlapping with the final day of final graduate studio reviews and SMArchS / SMBT / MArch / BSAD thesis reviews.

• Harvard Commencement overlaps with MIT Hooding.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
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<td>29</td>
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</tbody>
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**GSD Studio Reviews April 29 – May 5, 2020**

- 6:00 AM Last day for required M.Arch subjects to hold exam, review, presentation or have assignments
- 6:00 AM SMArchS, SMBT, SMACT, SB Thesis Deadline
- 1:00 PM Option Studio Reviews

**GSD Thesis Reviews May 12 – 15**

- 6:00 AM Last Day of Spring Classes
- 1:00 PM Option Studio Reviews
- 9:00 AM SMArchS/ SMBT/MArch/BSAD final thesis reviews
- 9:30 AM 1st Day of Final Exams
- 5:00 PM Grade Deadline for all subjects except for those with
  - 6:00 AM Last day for M.Arch theses to hold exam, review, presentation or have assignments
  - 12:00 PM 12 noon: Grade Deadline for subjects with institute scheduled final exams

**Memorial Day — holiday.**

- 12:00 PM Department Grades Meeting.
- 12:00 PM CAP/CGP meetings – Degree lists submitted
- 9:00 AM MIT Hooding
- 10:00 AM MIT & School Commencements

**Harvard Commencement**

- 9:00 AM Summer Term Begins
- 9:00 AM MIT Hooding
- 12:00 PM Final Exam Period
- 5:00 PM M.Arch Theses deadline
- 9:30 AM Last Day of Final Exam Period
- 12:00 PM MIT & School Commencements

**Harvard Commencement**

- 6:00 AM Last day for required M.Arch subjects to hold exam, review, presentation or have assignments
- 6:00 AM SMArchS, SMBT, SMACT, SB Thesis Deadline
- 1:00 PM Option Studio Reviews
## End-of-Term Reviews and Exams

### Spring Term 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Grad &amp; UG Final Studio Reviews</th>
<th>Design Workshop Final Reviews</th>
<th>SMArchS, M.Arch, SMBT &amp; BSAD Thesis Reviews</th>
<th>MA/Arch required non-studio academic subjects</th>
<th>Classes without Institute scheduled final exam</th>
<th>Classes with Institute scheduled final exam</th>
<th>Final Grade Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 27-May 1</td>
<td>No presentations or new</td>
<td>Final during class time or...</td>
<td>Final assignments due or...</td>
<td>Final assignments due or...</td>
<td>No test and at most one assignment due between</td>
<td>Subjects with Institute scheduled final exam — no test or assignments shall fall due after this date. (req. MA/Arch has earlier deadline; note above)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penultimate Week</td>
<td>new assignments due in</td>
<td>No presentations or assignments due in design workshops</td>
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<td>No presentations or assignments due in req. MA/Arch classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 4-8</td>
<td>graduate studios</td>
<td>(final scheduled by Institute)</td>
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### Final Exams

- Fri., May 15 - Wed., May 20
- Final Grades Due: May 21 - May 22

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**Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 12:30 PM** — MIT M.Arch Grades Meeting. M.Arch studio instructors, M.Arch required class instructors and M.Arch advisors expected to attend.
Institute + Arch. Department Key dates: Spring 2020
More Department information available at https://archfac.mit.edu/academic-calendar-changes

JANUARY
1: New Year's Day
6: First day of IAP
20: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
31: Last day of IAP
31: Registration Day

FEBRUARY
3: First day of spring classes
4: Studio Previews 1-5PM
6: First day of graduate studios 1-5PM
17: Presidents' Day
18: Monday schedule of classes held

MARCH
6: Add Date
23-27: Spring break

APRIL
20: Patriots' Day
21: Drop Date

MAY
1: Last day for required M.Arch subjects to hold exams, review, presentations or assignments due.
• PhD Thesis Deadline
8: • Thesis Deadline for SMArchS, SMBT, SMACT & BSAD
• First Option Studio Reviews 1-6PM
11: Core 2 Studio reviews 1-6PM
12: • Last day of spring classes
• Second Option Studio Reviews 1-6PM
13: Final Thesis Reviews for SMArchS, SMBT, MArc & BSAD
15, 18-20: Final exam period
15: Grades for classes without final exams due
19: Thesis deadline for M.Arch
22: Grades for classes with final exams due
25: Memorial Day
26: M.Arch grades meeting 12:30 - 2PM
27: CAP/STAP degree meetings
28: Doctoral Hooding
29: Commencement