



The Organisation of the Academic Year

2007/08



AUSTRIA

Type of programme: universities

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	1 October
Teaching activities and holiday periods	The academic year consists of the winter semester, the summer semester and the periods during which courses are not held. (The so-called 'lecture-free' time is comparable to the summer holidays of schools.)
Examinations	No centrally set dates but most of examinations are carried out in January, March, June and October.
End of the academic year	30 September of the following year
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Christmas (2 weeks), Semester holidays (February), Easter (2 weeks); summer holidays (July to September); no more detailed information available. All holiday periods are set by the university's senate.
Number of periods of teaching activity: 2	Length of periods: about 4 months winter semester, about 4 months summer semester.

AUSTRIA (CONTINUED)

Type of programme: *Fachhochschulen* (universities of applied science): diploma-programmes, bachelor-programmes, master-programmes

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. Occurs generally between 1. September and 10 October.
Teaching activity and holidays	All periods of teaching activity and holidays are fixed by institutions. Usually teaching activities last 15-20 weeks (mostly 15 weeks for full-time programmes, 18-20 weeks mainly for part-time programmes). Usually there are: Christmas holidays (around 2 weeks), Easter holidays (around 2 weeks) and the periods between the semesters.
Examinations	Institutions are free to fix examination dates.
End of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. The academic year usually ends at the date the new one begins.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Certain dates, such as 25 December, 1 January or 1 May, are nevertheless regarded as public holidays by all institutions.
Number of periods of teaching activity: 2	Length of semesters is fixed by institutions autonomously. The Law on <i>Fachhochschulen</i> does not state when 'semesters' have to take place. Winter semester: between 4 and 6 months Summer semester: between 4 and 6 months

BELGIUM – GERMAN-SPEAKING COMMUNITY

Type of programme: ISCED 5B

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
First semester	
Beginning of the academic year	3 September 2007. The relevant legislation states that the government fixes the date of the beginning of the academic year between 1 September and 15 September
Teaching activity	3 September - 26 October 2007
Autumn holiday	29 October - 2 November 2007
Teaching activity	5 November - 21 December 2007
Christmas holiday	24 December 2007 - 4 January 2008
Examinations	7 January - 18 January 2008
Second semester	
Teaching activity	21 January - 1 February 2008
Carnival holiday	4 February - 8 February 2008
Teaching activity	11 February - 21 March 2008
Easter holiday	24 March - 4 April 2008
Teaching activity	7 April - 30 May 2008
Examinations	9 June - 20 June 2008
End of the academic year	No precise date; in practice, it occurs after the final examination or after the results have been announced. The relevant legislation states that the government fixes the end of the academic year on the first Friday in July at the latest.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	11 and 15 November, (Easter Monday), 1 May (Ascension = 1 May), 12 May 2008 (Whit Monday)
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: September to mid-January Mid-January to the end of June

BELGIUM – FRENCH COMMUNITY

Type of programme: all programmes (ISCED 5A, 5B and 6)

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	The academic year is a one-year period beginning on 15 September. However, the academic authorities fix annually the beginning and end of each four-month term. In practice, teaching activities begin around 15 September in most institutions. In order to encourage student and staff mobility within the French Community, the government may lay down further conditions when determining this academic calendar. (Relative) institutional autonomy
Teaching activity and holidays	The academic authorities fix annually the beginning and end of each four-month term. For purposes of curricular organisation, each of the three four-month terms includes assessment and holiday periods. Institutional autonomy
Examinations	Curricular activities leading to an academic qualification in the first or second cycle occur are spread over the first two four-month terms in the academic year (with the exception of certain forms of assessment or professional integration activity). Each of these first two terms involves at least 12 weeks of activity and may not exceed four months. A period of assessment occurs at the end of each term. The third term includes assessment periods (as well as professional integration or personal project activity). Institutional autonomy
End of the academic year	No precise date. The academic year generally terminates on the day the new academic year begins. In legislation concerned with staff status, the academic year terminates on 30 September. Institutional autonomy
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Legal public holidays (and 27 September – festival of the French Community) (see article 25 of the legislation – decree below) excluding Sundays Legal public holidays for the 2005/06 academic year are: 15 August (Assumption Day); (27 September, festival of the French Community); 1 November (All Saints' Day); 11 November (1918 Armistice Day); 25 December (Christmas Day); 1 January (New Year's Day); 17 April (Easter Monday);

	<p>1 May (Labour Day); 25 May (Ascension Day); 5 June (Whit Monday); 21 July (Belgian National Festival).</p> <p>The academic authorities or higher education providers may fix other days on which work ceases at their own institution(s).</p> <p>In practice, there are generally Christmas and Easter holidays (as well as summer holidays). In the 2005/06 academic year, the Christmas holidays were from 26 December 2005 to 6 January 2006 and the Easter holidays from 3-17 April 2006.</p> <p>Institutional autonomy</p>
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<p>Number of intervals: 3</p> <p>As regards the number of intervals, it should be noted that examinations may have been marked and passed at the end of the first two terms, in which case students will have completed their academic year.</p>	<p>Length of intervals: no longer than 4 months (each of the first two four-month terms involves at least 12 weeks of activity and is no longer than four months).</p>
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BELGIUM – FLEMISH COMMUNITY

Type of programme: all types

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	At the earliest 1 September. Occurs generally between 15 September and 1 October.
Teaching activities first Semester	From the beginning until 23 December
Holiday	Two weeks around Christmas and new year
Examinations	3 to 4 weeks in January
Teaching activities 2 nd Semester	Start last week of January or first week of February until the end of the 3 rd or 4 th week of May. There is a Easter holiday break of two weeks.
Examination	Last week of May until the end of the last week of June or the 1 st week of July
Holidays	From the beginning of July or the beginning of the 1 st or 2 nd week of July until the beginning of the next academic year
Third examination period during the summer holidays	From about 20 August until the end of the third week of September
End of the academic year	The day before the start of the new academic year. For most students the academic year ends de facto after the last examination.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	1 and 2 November 11 November 26 December 1 May Ascension day Easter Monday Whit Monday 15 August
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: teaching activities: 13 weeks

BULGARIA

Type of programme: all types and programmes

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. Occurs generally on 1 October.
Teaching activity and holidays	All periods of teaching activity and holidays are fixed by institutions.
Examinations	Teachers and students are free to fix examination dates jointly.
End of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. The academic year generally ends between the end of June and the mid-July.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Certain dates such as 25 December, 1 January, 3 March, 1 May, 24 May are nevertheless regarded as public holidays by all institutions.
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: 15 weeks of teaching activity

CYPRUS

Type of programme: university level, University of Cyprus (UCY), Open University of Cyprus (OUC)*, Cyprus University of Technology (CUT)

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates
Beginning of the academic year	University institutions in Cyprus are autonomous as regards to their <i>modus operandi</i> and their schedules are determined by the universities themselves. The beginning of the academic year usually occurs between 1 and 15 September. (In the academic year 2007/08, at the UCY and CUT, classes start on 3 September, whereas OUC's first student-tutor communication takes place in the first week of October.)
Teaching activity and vacation periods	Universities determine all periods of teaching activity and holidays. Holiday periods at UCY and CUT will occur at the end of the Fall semester for Christmas (23 December 2007 - 13 January 2008) and for Easter, before the end of the Spring Semester (19 April 2008 - 4 May 2008). For OUC vacation period for Christmas starts on 24 December 2007 and ends on 8 January 2008, whereas for Easter, vacation period starts on 21 April and ends on 4 May 2008.
Examinations	Final Examinations' periods and schedule are determined by the universities themselves whereas Midterm Examination dates may be set by faculty or faculty and students jointly. Only Final Examination periods appear on the academic calendar and these occur at the end of each semester. Final examination periods for both UCY and CUT, for 2007/08, will be as follows: 7 to 22 December for Fall Semester and 9-24 May. For OUC final examinations will take place in June.
End of the academic year	The academic year traditionally ends in mid July for all Universities.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Public holidays for the academic year 2007/08 are as follows: 1 October, 28 October, 24, 25 and 26 December (Christmas Holidays), 1 January, 6 January, 10 March (Green Monday), 25 March, 1 April, 27 April (Easter) and 1 May.

Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: semesters
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<p>Additional notes:</p> <p>* Please note that the Open University of Cyprus is an open type university and students study at their own pace and time via long distance methods. Due to the non-traditional nature of the university its academic calendar may slightly vary from that of other university institutions in Cyprus.</p>
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CYPRUS (CONTINUED)

Type of programme: non-university level (public and private institutions of higher education)

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates
Beginning of the academic year	1 September
Teaching activity	First academic semester: it is compulsory that classes start in September or within the first fortnight of October and continue until the end of December or mid January.
	Second academic semester: it is compulsory that classes start within the second fortnight of January or within the first fortnight of February and finish in the end of May or beginning of June.
	Summer Session (Intensive Courses): it starts in mid June and lasts for 7 to 9 weeks.
Vacation Periods	Vacation periods occur at the end of the Fall semester for Christmas (around 23 December 2007 - 13 January 2008), and before the end of the Spring Semester for Easter (around 19 April - 4 May, Easter). Please note that vacation periods may slightly vary depending on the institution.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Public holidays for the academic year 2007/08 are as follows: 1 October, 28 October, 24, 25 and 26 December (Christmas Holidays), 1 January, 6 January, 10 March (Green Monday), 25 March, 1 April, 27 April (Easter) and 1 May.
Examinations	Final Examinations' periods and schedule are fixed by institutions, whereas, Midterm Examinations may be set by teachers and students jointly. Only Final Examination periods appear on the academic calendar and these occur at the end of each semester (15 th week of teaching activity) and at the end of the summer session (9 th week of teaching activity).
End of the academic year	31 August

Number of intervals: 2	Length of interval: semesters
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Additional notes:

Non-university institutions are obliged to include their academic calendar (exact dates of classes, examination periods, vacation periods, holidays) in their internal regulation and prospectuses, and they are required to adhere to it.

The majority of non-university institutions in Cyprus use the semester mode of study as it is illustrated in the table.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Type of programme: ISCED 5A (higher education institutions – *vysoké školy*)

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. Occurs usually during September or early October.
Teaching activity and holidays	All periods of teaching activity and holidays are fixed by institutions in internal regulations.
Examinations	Examination period are fixed by institutions in internal regulations.
End of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. The academic year ends the day before the new one begins.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Dates 28 September, 28 October, 17 November, 24-26 December, 1 January, 23-24 April (Easter), 1 May, 8 May, 5 July, 6 July, are regarded as public holidays by all institutions.
Number of intervals: most often two	Length of intervals: around a half a year

CZECH REPUBLIC (CONTINUED)

Type of programme: ISCED 5B (tertiary professional schools – *vyšší odborné školy*)

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	1 September 2007 (exact date is set by school head in accordance with the accredited educational programme).
Teaching activity and holidays	Exact dates are set by school head in accordance with the educational programme, the period of teaching must be 40 weeks per academic year (32 for teaching at school, 6 for self study and examinations and 2 weeks of time reserve). Exact days of holidays are set by school head in accordance with the accredited educational programme, 4 weeks at minimum are for free-time of students.
Examinations	Exact days are set by school head in accordance with the accredited educational programme.
End of the academic year	31 August 2008
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Dates 28 September, 28 October, 17 November, 24-26 December, 1 January, 23-24 April (Easter), 1 May, 8 May, 5 July, 6 July, are regarded as public holidays by all institutions.
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: 5 months (153 days) and 7 months (212 days)

DENMARK

Type of programme: long-cycle higher education (universities) (ISCED 5A and 6)

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	The universities are autonomous. The academic year at long-cycle higher education institutions (universities) is normally divided into two semesters and begins typically: 1) Early September (fall semester) 2) Early February (spring semester)
Teaching activity	The universities fix all periods of teaching activities and holidays themselves. The typical duration of teaching activities is: 1) Early September - mid-December 2) Early February - mid-May
Examinations	The universities fix the dates of examinations autonomously, but generally the period of examinations are: Fall Semester: typically two-three weeks in January Spring Semester: two-three weeks in June Re-examinations are mainly placed in August before the start of a new academic year.
End of the academic year	The academic year runs from 1 September and ends 31 August, but normally with holidays/periods with no teaching between 30 June and 31 August.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	1 week, 13-21 October 2007: Autumn holiday Approx. 22 December 2007 - 2 January 2008 Christmas/New Year Approx. 15-24 March 2008: Easter holiday 18 April 2008 1-4 May 2008 10-12 May 2008 5 June 2008

Number of intervals: 2

Length of intervals: approx. 4/5 months

Additional notes:

Medium-cycle higher education (ISCED 5A): there is no specific information on the academic calendar available for medium-cycle higher education programmes either. Like the universities, the institutions themselves decide how to structure the academic year. The academic calendar, however, is quite similar to that of the universities, outlined above.

ESTONIA

Type of programme: all types

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. Occurs generally between the last week in August and the first week in September
Teaching activity	All periods of teaching activity and holidays are fixed by institutions. The autumn semester lasts generally until 20 December.
Holiday	Occurs generally between 20 December and 1 January.
Examinations	Occur generally between 2 January and 20 January.
Teaching activity	The spring semester begins generally a week after the examinations are over.
End of the academic year	Between the last week in June and the first week in July
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	21 March 2008 1 May 2008
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: ca 4.5 months

FINLAND

Type of programme: polytechnics and universities

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	1 August
End of the academic year	30 July
Public holidays 2008 (occasional/national/religious holidays)	1 January (New Year's Day) 6 January (Epiphany) 21 March (Good Friday) 23 March (Easter Day) 24 March (Easter Monday) 1 May (May Day) 1 May (Ascension) 11 May (Whitsunday) 21 June (Midsummer Eve) (partly) 22 June (Midsummer) 1 November (All Saints) 6 December (Independence Day) 24 December (Christmas Eve) (partly) 25 December (Christmas Day) 26 December (Boxing Day)
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: 5 to 7 months

FRANCE

Type of programme: university studies

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Institutional autonomy. Almost everywhere the period is between 15 September and 15 October.
Teaching activity and holidays	All periods of teaching activity and holiday are fixed by institutions, which however comply with the following calendar: holidays at the end-of-year festive season (one or often two weeks), as well as in February (generally one week) and April (one or two weeks).
Examinations	Examination periods are entirely at the discretion of university managing bodies.
End of the academic year	No precise date. Institutional autonomy. In practice the academic year ends after the final examination, in June or at the beginning of July.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	1 November, 25 December, 1 January, Easter Monday, 1 May, 8 May and Ascension Day (Thursday) are regarded as public holidays by all institutions.

FRANCE (CONTINUED)

Type of programme: non-university studies (courses to prepare for competitive selection for the *grandes écoles*, higher 'technician' sections, *grandes écoles* and other higher 'schools')

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Institutional autonomy, although all institutions open at the beginning of September or later in the same month.
Teaching activity and holidays	All periods of teaching activity and holiday are fixed by institutions, which however comply with the following calendar: holidays between Christmas and New Year's Day; often one week in February; one or two weeks in April.
Examinations	Examination periods are entirely at the discretion of the managing bodies of institutions.
End of the academic year	No precise date. Institutional autonomy. In practice the academic year ends after the final examination, in June or at the beginning of July.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	1 November, 25 December, 1 January, Easter Monday, 1 May, 8 May and Ascension Day (Thursday) are regarded as public holidays by all institutions.
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: 4-5 months

GERMANY

Type of programme: ISCED 5A, ISCED 5B (partly), ISCED 6

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	1 October 2007
Teaching activity winter semester	15 October - 21 December 2007
Holiday	22 December 2007 - 3 January 2008
Teaching activity winter semester	4 January - 15 February 2008
End of winter semester	29 February 2008
Beginning of summer semester	1 April 2008
Teaching activity summer semester	14 April - 31 July 2008
End of the academic year	30 September 2008
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	1 May (labour day and ascension day)
Number of intervals: 3 2 Semesters, one of five months, one of four months	Length of intervals: 10 days close to Christmas, 1 month after the winter semester, two months after the summer semester

GREECE

Type of programme: ISCED 5A

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates
Beginning of the academic year	1 September 2007
Teaching activity	From the second fortnight of September until 24 December
Holiday	24 December - 7 January (Christmas)
Teaching activity	8 January - end of January
Examinations	Three weeks (end of January and beginning of February)
Teaching activity	From the Monday following the last examination
Holidays	21 April - 4 May (Easter)
Teaching activity	The period after Easter holidays until the beginning of examinations
Examinations	Two weeks in June
Holidays	From the end of the June examinations until those of September
Examinations	Three weeks in September
End of the academic year	31 August 2008
Public holidays (occasional /national/religious holidays)	28 October, 17 November, 30 January, 10 March, 25 March, 1 May, 16 June and several holidays of regional character
Number of intervals: 10	Length of intervals: 2 weeks Christmas Holidays; 2 weeks Easter Holidays; Summer holidays from the end of June examination period until those of September; 28 October; 17 November; 30 January; 10 March (Ash Monday); 25 March; 1 May; 12 June
1st semester beginning: second fortnight of September (the exact date is determined at university level)	end: approximately end of January/beginning of February (at least 13 full weeks of teaching activity)
2nd semester beginning: approximately the week following the last examination in February	end: during the second fortnight of June (at least 13 full weeks of teaching activity) (the exact date is determined at university level)

Additional notes:

According to the Legal Framework (Par.1 Art.16 of Law 3549/2007) from the academic year 2007/08, as far as universities are concerned, each semester must last at least 13 full weeks of teaching activity, whereas in the case of Higher Education Technological Institutes each semester must last 15 full weeks.

On the basis of Decisions made by the University Senate or the General Assembly of the Higher Education Technological Institutes, the duration of semesters can be extended up to two (2) weeks in order to complete the minimum number of teaching weeks in the teaching period.

During the period of examinations, teaching activity is not taking place, so that students can take part in the examinations.

HUNGARY

Type of programme: all types of programmes

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous, usually between 1 and 10 September.
Autumn term	Exact dates are fixed by the institutions. It starts from the beginning of September and lasts until the end of January.
Teaching activity	Exact dates are fixed by HEIs. It starts sometime at the beginning of or mid September and lasts until mid December.
Exam period	Exact dates are fixed by HEIs. The exam period is from mid December to the end of January.
(Holiday)	Above national/public/church holidays it varies greatly. See additional note 3.
Spring term	Exact dates are fixed by HEIs, the term lasts from the beginning of February to the end of June.
Teaching activity	Exact dates are fixed by HEIs, it lasts from the beginning of February to mid May.
Exam period	Institutional autonomy. From mid May to the end of June.
(Holiday)	Institutional autonomy (see additional note 3), in spring term usually 1 week sometime around Easter.
End of the academic year	Exact date is fixed by the HEIs, it ends around late June.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	23 October 1 November 25-26 December (Christmas) 1 January (New Year's Day) 15 March 24 March (Easter) 1 May 12 May (Whit Monday) 20 August
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: 5 months

Additional notes:

- (1) The HEIs in Hungary are open all year around for students (who can use libraries, computer rooms and other facilities of the HEI), except on Sundays, on state and church holidays. (Several HEIs are also closed between Christmas and New Year.)
- (2) The 2005 Act on HE only regulates that the academic year must last 10 months. The organisation of the academic year falls under the competence of the HEIs. It is determined by the *Senate* and based on the proposal of the head of the HEI. The organisation of the school year does not vary from one type of programme to the next within the same institution.
- (3) Holidays and non-teaching days: the study and examination regulation of the HEI lay down the number of days that the head of the HEI may rule to be a non-teaching day for students of the entire HEI above the official public and church holidays. This number is usually no more than 5 days. Besides this the same regulation contains the number of days that the head of the faculty may also rule as non-teaching days for the students of the particular faculty. This is usually no more than 5 days.
- (4) Number of intervals: the academic year in Hungary characteristically consists of 2 terms, an autumn term (*ősz* *félév*) and a spring term (*tavaszi félév*). However, due to institutional autonomy in a small number of HEIs the academic year consists of three study periods – trimesters.

ICELAND

Type of programme: ISCED 6A

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. Occurs generally round mid-august.
Teaching activity	Institutions are autonomous. Occurs generally between 22 August and 5 September and ends at 30 November.
Examinations	Institutions are autonomous. Generally between 2-20 December.
Holidays	21 December - 7 January 17 March - 24 March
Teaching activity	Institutions are autonomous. Occurs generally around 7 January. Ends 13-25 April.
Examinations	Institutions are autonomous. Occurs generally between 2. May and 31 May.
End of the academic year	No precise date. The academic year ends <i>de facto</i> after the last examination.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Holidays which are not included in the Summer/Christmas/Easter Holidays are 24 April, 1 May, 12 May and 1 December
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: 13 weeks

IRELAND

Type of programme: all types

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	3 September 2007 Universities and Institutes of Technology are autonomous bodies. Occurs generally in September or October.
Teaching activity	17 September - 28 October
Holiday	29 October - 4 November
Teaching activity and holidays	5 November - 21 December All periods of teaching activity and holidays are fixed by each individual University or Institute. Certain dates, such as 25 December, 1 January or 17 March, are nevertheless regarded as public holidays by Universities and Institutes.
Holiday	22 December - 6 January (Christmas)
Teaching activity	7 January - 3 February
Examinations	Two weeks in February
Teaching activity	From the Monday following the last examination
Holidays	17 March -30 March (Easter)
Teaching activity	31 March -4 May
Holiday	5 May
Teaching activity	6 May - Examinations
Examinations	For Institutes of Technology, it's usually two weeks during May. For Universities, it's usually two weeks during June. Teachers and students are entirely free to fix examination dates jointly. Each University or Institute manages this separately.
End of the academic year	For Universities, the academic year generally ends at the date the new one begins. For Institutes of Technology, the academic year generally ends in June. Universities and Institutes of Technology are autonomous bodies. For Universities, the academic year generally ends at the date the new one begins. For Institutes of Technology, the academic year generally ends in June.
Number of intervals: 2-3	Length of intervals: term = 2-3 months, semester = 4-5 months

ITALY

Type of programme: all types

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	1 October
First semester – Teaching activity	1 October - 31 January
Examinations (first session)	1-15 February
Second semester – Teaching activity	1 March - 30 June
Examinations (second session)	1-15 July
Examinations (third sessions)	1-15 September
Admission tests and entrance examinations	September/October
End of the academic year	30 September
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	All Sundays, 1 November, 8 December, 23 December - 7 January, Easter (1 week), 25 April, 1 May, 2 June
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: semesters (October-January and March-June)

LATVIA

Type of programme: all types

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Occurs generally in the first week of September, but may differ among institutions which are autonomous.
Teaching activity and holidays	Periods of teaching activity and holidays are fixed by institutions. Teaching activity usually is organised from September-December and from February-May. As regards holidays, there is normally one week around Christmas/New Year and another one at Easter.
Examinations	Periods of examinations are fixed by institutions. Usually examinations conclude the teaching activity period and take place in January/-February and June/July
End of the academic year	The academic year generally ends after the last examination of spring or summer semester.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	1 January, 1 May, 4 May, 23 and 24 June, 18 November, 24, 25, 26 and 31 December
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: in accordance with the law, academic year consists of 40 credit points. One credit point corresponds to one week of studies. Thus the academic year lasts 40 weeks. The length of intervals is not specified, but normally they are divided in two equal parts.

Additional notes:

Easter holidays are also public holidays, but are not mentioned in the table, as the dates change year by year. In 2008, the Easter holidays will be from 21 till 24 March.

When the specific holidays of 18 November and 4 May fall on Saturday or Sunday, the holiday is transferred to the next working day.

LIECHTENSTEIN

Type of programme: ISCED 5A (public sector - *Hochschule Liechtenstein*)

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	1 September 2007
Beginning of teaching activity	1 October to 21 December 2007
Holiday	22 December 2007 to 6 January 2008 (Christmas)
Teaching activity	7 January to 8 February 2008
Examinations	28 January to 8 February 2008
Beginning of the summer semester	1 March 2008
Holiday	21-30 March 2008 (Easter)
Teaching activity	3 March to 4 July 2008
End of the academic year	31 August 2008
Examinations	23 June to 4 July 2008
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	8 September 2007 (Saturday) 1 November 2007 8 December 2007 (Saturday) 24-26 December 2007 (Christmas) 31 December 2007 1 January 2008 6 January 2008 2 February 2008 20 February 2008 19 March 2008 21 March to 24 April 2008 1 May 2008 11-12 May (Whitsun) 22 May 2008 15 August 2008
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: 27 weeks

LIECHTENSTEIN (CONTINUED)

Type of programme: ISCED 6 (private sector – International Academy of Philosophy / *Internationale Akademie für Philosophie, IAP*)

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	1 October 2007
Teaching activity	8 October to 21 December 2007
Examinations	End of semester
Holiday	22 December 2007 to 6 January 2008 (Christmas)
Teaching activity	7-25 January 2008
Holiday	20-30 March 2008 (Easter)
Teaching activity	3 March to 27 June 2008
End of the academic year	28 September 2008
Examinations	End of semester
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	8 September 2007 (Saturday) 1 November 2007 8 December 2007 (Saturday) 24-26 December 2007 (Christmas) 31 December 2007 1 January 2008 6 January 2008 2 February 2008 20 February 2008 19 March 2008 21 March to 24 April 2008 1 May 2008 11-12 May (Whitsun) 22 May 2008 15 August 2008
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: 17 weeks

LIECHTENSTEIN (CONTINUED)

Type of programme: ISCED 6 (private sector – University of Human Sciences / *Universität für Humanwissenschaften*)

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	1 October 2007
Teaching activity	4 October to 21 December 2007
Examinations	Monthly
Holiday	22 December 2007 to 3 January 2008 (Christmas holidays)
Teaching activity	4 January to 15 March 2008
Holiday	17-24 March 2008
Teaching activity	28 March to 6 July 2008
Holiday	7 July to 23 August 2008 (summer holidays)
Teaching activity	24 August to 30 September 2008
End of the academic year	30 September 2008
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	8 September 2007 (Saturday) 1 November 2007 8 December 2007 (Saturday) 24-26 December 2007 (Christmas) 31 December 2007 1 January 2008 6 January 2008 2 February 2008 20 February 2008 19 March 2008 21 March 2008 to 24 April 2008 1 May 2008 11-12 May (Whitsun) 22 May 2008 15 August 2008
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: teaching activity organised in one two-day period each month

LITHUANIA

Type of programme: all types (ISCED 5A, ISCED 5B)

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous, but as a rule the beginning of the academic year is 1 September. Vilnius Academy of Arts only begins an academic year on 1 October.
Teaching activity	All periods of teaching activity and holidays are fixed by institutions. Usually each semester covers 20 weeks. The last four weeks within are allotted to examination session. In some institutions the semester can last longer (up to 22 weeks) or shorter (17 weeks). In most institutions the spring semester starts at the beginning of February.
Examinations	The last four weeks of each semester are allotted to examination sessions. If the subjects for the courses during the semester are delivered sequentially instead of in parallel, students sit examinations or pass the test upon completion of the course unit and thus have no special examination period.
Holidays	All periods of teaching activity and holidays are fixed by institutions. All institutions have Christmas holiday usually from 25 December to the beginning of the January. Winter break begins at the end of the autumn semester, right after winter examination session (usually the end of January/beginning of February), and lasts 1 or 2 weeks. Most institutions have Easter holidays lasting from 5 to 9 days at the spring semester. Starting after the spring semester, summer vacations in the institutions last the longest up to 2 months, as a rule between 1 July and 31 August.
Professional practice period	In summer vacations time (July-August) some students have their professional training course in duration 2-3 weeks.
End of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. The academic year ends at the date the new one begins, consequently, 31 August.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Certain dates, regarded as public holidays all-around the country as well as by all institutions (for instance, 1 January, 1 May, 1 November, 14 June).
Number of intervals: 2 semesters – autumn semester and spring semester – and 2 months for summer vacations. Some students have their practical training course during summer time up to 2-3 weeks in case this is incorporated in the schedule of their study programme.	Length of intervals: each of semesters lasts approximately 5 months, summer vacations approximately 2 months.

LUXEMBOURG

Type of programme: all types, all programmes

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	17 September 2007
Winter semester	17 September 2007 to 2 February 2008
Christmas holidays	24 December 2007 to 5 January 2008
Revision	7-12 January 2008
Examinations	14 January to 2 February 2008
Winter break between semesters	4-16 February 2008
Summer semester	18 February to 28 June 2008
Easter holidays	22-30 March 2008
Revision	2-7 June 2008
Examinations	9-28 June 2008
Summer break between semesters	30 June to 13 September 2008
End of the academic year	No precise date. In practice, the academic year ends after the final examination.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	1 May, 23 June
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: 6 months

MALTA

Type of programme: university

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Monday 1 October (Official Opening)
Teaching Activity	Monday 1 October - Friday 21 December (Semester I)
Holiday	Saturday 22 December - Sunday 6 January (Christmas Recess)
Teaching Activity	Monday 7 January - Friday 18 January (Semester I cont.)
Examinations	Saturday 19 January - Saturday 2 February
Teaching Activity	Monday 4 February - Saturday 15 March (Semester II)
Holiday	Monday 17 March - Friday 28 March (Easter Recess)
Teaching Activity	Monday 31 March - Friday 23 May (Semester II cont.)
Examinations	Saturday 24 May - Saturday 28 June
End of the academic year	University regulations state that 'the academic calendar of the University extends from 1 st October to 30 th September' However, the academic year ends <i>de facto</i> after the last examination in June/July. Supplementary examination sessions (re-sits) are normally held in the first week of September.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	8 th December 13 th December 10 th February 19 th March 31 st March 1 st May 7 th June 29 th June
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: 14 weeks each

MALTA (CONTINUED)

Type of programme: Malta College of Arts Science and Technology

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Monday 3 rd September (Official Opening)
Teaching Activity for continuing students	Thursday 6 th September - Friday 21 st December (First Term)
Teaching Activity for progressing students	Monday 10 th September - Friday 21 st December (First Term)
Teaching Activity for new students	Wednesday 12 th September - Friday 21 st December (First Term)
Holiday	Saturday 22 December - Sunday 6 th January (Christmas Recess)
Teaching Activity	Monday 7 th January - Tuesday 18 th March (Second Term)
Holiday	Wednesday 19 th March - Friday 28 March (Easter Recess)
Teaching Activity	Tuesday 1 st April - Friday 11 th July (Third Term)
Examinations	From last full week in May – The third full week in June
End of the academic year	The Academic year at MCAST extends from 1 st September to 31 August of each year. Most programmes effectively end with the last day of examinations in June. Re-sit examinations are held <i>circa</i> the second week of September.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	8 th December 13 th December 10 th February 19 th March 31 st March 1 st May 7 th June 29 th June
Number of Intervals	Three terms

THE NETHERLANDS

Type of programme: all types (ISCED 5A + 5B)

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Around 1 September 2007
Teaching activity and holidays	All periods of teaching activity and holidays are fixed by institutions.
Examinations	Institutions are entirely free to fix examination dates.
End of the academic year	31 August 2008
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Public holidays (25/12; 26/12; 1/01; 24/03 (Easter Monday); 1/05 (Ascension Day); 12/05 (Whit Monday)) National holidays (30/04 and 05/05)

Number of intervals: free for institutions to decide.	Length of intervals: free for institutions to decide.
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Additional notes:

Article 1.1.k: in higher education, the academic year begins on 1 September and ends on 31 August of the following year.

The academic year can be divided into a semester or a trimester. Institutions are free to decide how many weeks are used to teach and how many weeks are used for exams.

During the period of examinations, teaching activity stops so that students can work specifically for them.

Some courses also start during the year, at 1 February.

NORWAY

Type of programme: all types

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. Generally mid-August.
Teaching activity and holidays	All periods of teaching activity and holidays are fixed by the institutions.
Examinations	Institutions are autonomous.
End of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. The academic year generally ends at the end of June.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Christmas holiday (this year normally 21 December - 2 January). Easter holiday (normally Palm Sunday – Tuesday after Easter Monday). 1 May. 17 May. Ascension Day. Whit Monday.
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: 5 months

POLAND

Type of programme: all types

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. Usually the beginning of October (1.10).
Teaching activity	Institutions are autonomous. Usually between the beginning of October and the third week of December (1.10 - 21.12).
Christmas holidays	Institutions are autonomous. Usually between 22.12 - 2.01.
Teaching activity	Institutions are autonomous. Usually January (3.01 - 27.01).
Examinations	Institutions are autonomous. Usually the first two weeks of February (28.01 - 10.02).
Break between the semesters	Institutions are autonomous. Usually the third week of February (11.02 - 17.02)
Teaching activity	Institutions are autonomous. Usually between the third week of February and Easter (18.02 - 21.03)
Easter holiday	Institutions are autonomous. Usually Easter Sunday and Monday and a few extra days are free (22.02 - 25.03).
Teaching activity	Institutions are autonomous. Usually between Easter and summer examinations (26.03 - 15.06).
Examinations	Institutions are autonomous. Usually the last two weeks of June (16.06 - 30.06).
End of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. Usually the end of September (30.09).
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Christmas 25-26.12, Easter 23 -24.03, 1 st of November (All Saints' Day), 11 th of November (Independence Day), 1 st of May (Labour Day) and 3 rd of May (Constitution Day) Corpus Christi (always Thursday 22.05)

Additional notes:

There are two re-take examination sessions: the winter re-take examination session lasts usually one week and begins 3 weeks after regular winter examination session, the summer re-take session begins usually in the second week of September and lasts two weeks. It ends one week before the end of the academic year.

PORTUGAL

Type of programme: university and polytechnic

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Institutions of higher education (universities and polytechnic institutes) are autonomous. Generally the year begins between 15 September and 30 October.
Periods of teaching activity and holiday periods	All periods of teaching activity and holidays are fixed by institutions. Students usually have between one to two weeks holiday on Christmas and at Easter and about four weeks in Summer.
Examination periods	The department teaching, teachers and students are entirely free to fix examination dates jointly.
End of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. The academic year generally ends at 31 August.
Public/religious holidays	5 October; 1 November; 1 December; 8 December; 25 April; 1 May; 22 May; 10 June
Number of intervals: 1 or 2 (more frequently the year is divided in two semesters or three-month terms)	Length of intervals: between 1, 2 or maximum 3 weeks

ROMANIA

Type of programme: all

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. Occurs generally on 1 October.
Teaching activity and holidays	All periods of teaching activity and holidays are fixed by institutions. A standard academic year includes: First Semester Teaching beginning of October - last week of December Holiday last week of December - 1st week of January Teaching second week of January - mid-January Holiday mid-February - last week of February Second Semester Teaching last week of February - end of May (with 1 week - Easter Holiday) Practical activities beginning of July - mid-July
Examinations	Teachers and students are free to fix the dates for examinations within the examination sessions established by institutions Generally, examination sessions are organised as follows: mid-January - mid-February beginning of June - end of June beginning of September - mid-September (for those who failed in previous sessions)
End of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. Occurs generally at the end of September.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	1 st and 2 nd January, 1 st May, 2 days Easter, 1 st December, 25 th and 26 th December
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: 14 weeks
<p>Additional notes: Higher education institutions are free to decide on the structure of the academic year, which is approved by the university senate.</p>	

SLOVENIA

Type of programme: ISCED 5A (universities)

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	1 October
Teaching activity – winter semester	15 weeks
Winter holidays	4 weeks in January and February
Winter examinations	3-4 weeks in January and February
Teaching activity – summer semester	15 weeks
Spring examinations	4-5 weeks in June and July
Summer holidays	2 months
Autumn examinations	4 weeks from the last week in August till the last week in September
End of the academic year	30 September
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	31 October (Reformation Day) 1 November (All Saints Day) 25 December (Christmas) 26 December (Independence and Unity Day) 1-2 January (New Year) 8 February (Prešeren Day, Slovenian Cultural Holiday) 24 March (Easter Monday) 27 April (Day of Uprising Against Occupation) 1-2 May (May Day Holiday – International Workers' Day) + The Rector Day + The Dean Day
Number of intervals: 2 semesters	Length of intervals: approximately 15 weeks

SLOVENIA (CONTINUED)

Type of programme: short higher vocational studies (ISCED 5B)

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	1 October
Teaching activity	34 weeks – all periods of teaching activities are fixed by institutions.
Examinations	Institutions are free to fix examinations following the Rules issued by the Minister (*).
End of the academic year	30 September
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	31 October (Reformation Day) 1 November (All Saints Day) 25 December (Christmas) 26 December (Independence and Unity Day) 1-2 January (New Year) 8 February (Prešeren Day, Slovenian Cultural Holiday) 24 March (Easter Monday) 27 April (Day of Uprising Against Occupation) 1-2 May (May Day Holiday – International Workers' Day) + Occasional days fixed by institutions
Number of intervals Teaching activity: 2 semesters Examination activity: 3 periods	Length of intervals Teaching activity: approximately 17 weeks Examination activity: in the autonomy of colleges
<p>Additional notes: The law determines the beginning and the end of a study year, the length of a study year is at least 34 weeks of organised study work, and 37 - 42 weeks of study load for students. Higher vocational institutions enjoy considerable flexibility in planning and structuring their study year.</p> <p>* The Rules on Assessment of Students (2006) stipulate the obligation of higher vocational colleges to organise at least 3 examination periods per study year, that is in 30 days after each semester and in one period in September.</p>	

SLOVAKIA

Type of programme: all

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	1 September
End of the academic year	31 August
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Dates such as 1 November, 24-26 December, 1 January, 2 days - Easter, 1 and 8 May are regarded as public holidays by all institutions.

Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: 4 to 5 months
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Additional notes:

Following the Law on Higher Education (Law No. 131 /2002 on Higher Education and on Changes and Supplements to Some Laws):

The academic year begins on 1 September of the current year and ends on 31 August of the next year.

Study in one academic year may be divided into two semesters or three trimesters. The specific division of study (teaching activity and holidays) is determined for every higher education institution in its Statute.

The Bachelor study, Master study, Engineer study and Doctoral study start at the beginning of the first semester or the first trimester of the academic year. PhD study may also start at the beginning of the second semester or the second trimester, or the third trimester of the academic year.

Higher education institutions decide on the organisation of the study in line with Study order. Study order should be approved by Academic senate of the university.

SPAIN

Type of programme: university tertiary education

Organisation of Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08 ⁽¹⁾	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Between mid September and the beginning of October 2007
Beginning of the teaching activity	Between the end of September and the beginning of October [The beginning of the teaching activity in third-cycle education (to gain a PhD) generally occurs in November.]
Teaching activity	Between the beginning of the teaching activity and Christmas Holidays
Examinations	2 weeks between the end of November and mid December [Some universities have an extraordinary examination period in December (extraordinary end-of-studies exam session). During this period, the teaching activity is not stopped.]
Christmas Holidays	2 weeks between 22 December and 7 January
Teaching activity	Between the end of Christmas holidays and February examinations
Examinations ⁴	2, 3 or 4 weeks between the mid of January and the end of February
Teaching activity	Between the end of February examinations and Easter Holidays
Easter Holidays	1 or 2 weeks between 15 and 30 March
Teaching activity	Between the end of Easter holidays and June examinations
Examinations	About 1 month between the beginning of June and the beginning of July [During this period of examinations, the teaching is stopped.]
Summer Holidays	Between the end of June examinations and the end of August
Extraordinary examinations	The first 2 or 3 weeks in September
End of the academic year	One day before the beginning of the 2008/09 academic year
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Around 10 public holidays
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: 4 months

⁽¹⁾ Universities have full autonomy to set up their own academic calendar. Therefore, the number of weeks of the teaching activity and holidays vary from one university to another.

SPAIN (CONTINUED)

Type of programme: non-university tertiary education: Advanced Specific Vocational Training and Specialised Education (Advanced Artistic studies and Advanced Sport education)

Organisation of Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	1 September 2007
Beginning of the teaching activity	Between mid-September and the beginning of October
Teaching activity	From the beginning of the teaching activity to June
Holidays	Christmas: 2 weeks between 22 December and 7 January. Easter: about 1 week between 14 and 24 March Summer: 11/12 weeks between late June and mid-September. Public Holidays: around 8 public holidays, depending on the Autonomous Community
Examinations	There are generally 3 periods of examinations: before Christmas holidays, before Easter holidays and before summer holidays. Schools are free to fix examination dates within those periods.
End of the academic year	30 June 2008

Number of intervals: 3	Length of intervals: 3 months
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Additional notes:

Binding regulations have been issued by some Autonomous Communities to establish the period of the extraordinary resit examinations in Vocational Training and the final exams of Artistic Education.

SWEDEN

Type of programme: all

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	HEI are autonomous to decide. Generally between end of August and beginning of September.
Teaching activities and holidays	Fixed by each faculty
Examinations	Fixed by the teachers
End of the academic year	Generally ends at the end of May or beginning of June. During June-Sept most HEI offer single subject courses of 7,5 – 10 higher education credits.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	10 days through the year
Number of intervals: 2	Length of intervals: 4-5 months (app. 20 weeks)

TURKEY

Type of programme: all (ISCED 5A, 5B)

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Universities are autonomous. Fall Semester begins generally in September or October, and Spring Semester in February.
Teaching activity	Universities are free to determine their own periods of teaching activity. But as a rule, each academic year is composed of two semesters and each semester includes at least 14 weeks.
Holidays (semester/national/religious holidays)	The dates of the semester breaks are freely fixed by the universities. The duration of the semester breaks is at least 2 weeks. There are 3 official and 2 religious holidays regarded as public holidays ⁽¹⁾ .
Examinations	Universities fix the examination dates by themselves. The examination period generally starts either right after or one week after the end of the semester. It takes two or three weeks in average.
End of the academic year	Universities are autonomous. In general, Fall Semester ends in December and Spring Semester in May or June.
Number of intervals: 2 Semesters (Fall and Spring)	Length of intervals: 14 weeks per semester (at least)

⁽¹⁾ National and Religious Holidays are as follows;

- National Independence and Children Day on 23rd of April; Commemoration of Ataturk and Youth and Sports Day on 19th of May and Victory Day on 30th of August
- Religious Feast (I) – holiday for three days and Religious Feast (II) – holiday for four days and
- 1st January of every year.

UNITED KINGDOM (ENGLAND, WALES AND NORTHERN IRELAND)

Type of programme: undergraduate (ISCED 5 first cycle).

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the standard academic year	1 August
Beginning of teaching activity	Institutions are autonomous, but the first term or semester typically starts in late September/early October.
End of teaching activity	Institutions are autonomous, but the final term/-semester typically ends in mid/late June.
End of the standard academic year	31 July
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	Institutions are normally closed on public holidays. The actual dates vary from year to year.
Vacations	As well as the long summer vacation, there are typically vacations of two to four weeks at Christmas and Easter.
Number of intervals (periods): Most commonly 3 (terms) Less commonly 2 (semesters)	Length of intervals (periods): Most commonly 8 to 11 week Less commonly typically around 15 weeks

UNITED KINGDOM (SCOTLAND)

Type of programme: all ISCED 5

The Organisation of the Academic Year in Higher Education 2007/08	
Type of information (beginning of the academic year / teaching activity / holidays / examinations / end of the academic year)	Dates or periods
Beginning of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous. Some institutions will follow the traditional academic calendar and will generally start some time in September or October. However others have adopted different patterns where students can start at different times during the year e.g. January.
Teaching activity, holidays and examination periods	All periods of teaching activity, holidays and exams are fixed by institutions.
End of the academic year	Institutions are autonomous and dates will vary depending on when the student has started the year. Traditional academic calendar ends May/June.
Public holidays (occasional/national/religious holidays)	All periods of teaching activity and holidays are fixed by institutions. However certain dates, such as 25-26 December, 1-2 January will be regarded as public holidays by all institutions

Number of intervals: n/a Institutions are fully autonomous in this respect.	Length of intervals: n/a Institutions are fully autonomous in this respect.
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Additional notes:

Under The Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992, higher education institutions have autonomy. They decide how to divide the academic year, when and how many holidays to have, when and how exam periods should be organised. Traditionally, higher education institutions have started in September/October and finished in May/June. Holidays during the year would be at Christmas and Easter (for approx. a month each) and exams would be at the end of the final term. However, many HEIs have moved to a semester system where the year is split into separate teaching blocks with shorter holidays during the year and exam periods twice yearly. Under this system students can start the year at different times e.g. in September or in January.