

Summary of the Survey of Faculty on Final Exam Week

January 8, 2019

291 faculty completed the survey over 3 weeks

Q1: How did you like the new schedule?

31% strongly disliked

+ 22% slightly disliked

TOTAL: 53% disliked

11% slightly liked

+ 19% strongly liked

TOTAL: 30% liked

Q2: What did you dislike? Most common responses

Students stressed, rushed and confused

Not enough time in blocks for comprehensive final

Students had exams crammed into last 2 days

Had to cover less material in class

Not having a designated exam schedule

Q3: What did you like? Most common responses

Students were not confused about when exams were, consistency of schedule was good

Allowed extra day of teaching

Shorter term

Flexibility and versatility of what to do with the last week

Q4: Suggestions for spring 2019 that the college should make

Provide better info to students

Mandate when exams will be given and provide this schedule

Go back to the old system and have a finals week

Do nothing

Wide variety of other suggestions

Q5: Suggestions for spring 2019 they individually plan to make

Move exam earlier

Change exam to other type of assignment

Better inform students about what will happen during the last week

Cut content

Move content or assignments online

Wide variety of other suggestions

Q6: Do you prefer keeping it like fall 18 or doing 15 weeks + one exam

Divided about evenly

Many comments in Q7 that they did not like either forced choice

Q7: Other comments

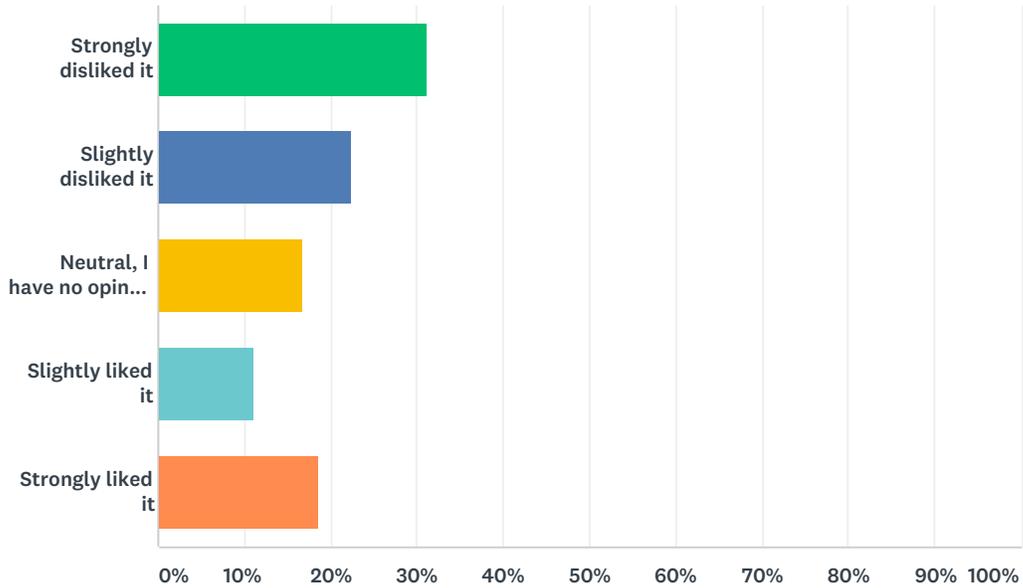
Many comments that the 16 week schedule is too short

Many comments that a separate exam week is good, no matter if the term is 16 or 17

Wide variety of other suggestions

Q1 This fall, final exams were held during the last week of the 16 week term and not during a separate exam week. How did you like this new schedule?

Answered: 291 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly disliked it	31.27%	91
Slightly disliked it	22.34%	65
Neutral, I have no opinion about it	16.84%	49
Slightly liked it	11.00%	32
Strongly liked it	18.56%	54
TOTAL		291

Q2 What did you dislike about the new format?

Answered: 153 Skipped: 139

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	When I voted yes for the new calendar I was under the impression that there would be a final exam week, as were many of my colleagues. Needless to say I was quite surprised and somewhat irritated to learn otherwise long after voting was completed. Therefore, what I most dislike about this format is that an already shortened semester feels even more confusing and rushed for our students, especially the developmental students. For me the finals week was essentially turn in an essay, perhaps gather for a brief culminating wrap up, but there are other disciplines which require, indeed find a final examination period essential. Most of my students never fully understood the lack of finals concept, despite continually explaining it, writing it on the board, and putting it in my syllabus and course calendar. I think students really need more time to process material and prepare as the semester ends.	1/8/2019 9:58 AM
2	Last week of classes irrelevant. Students have no time to prepare for final so why teach anything? Also, I have no time to prepare. And my course worse.	1/7/2019 10:17 PM
3	I had the same class but different sections that were 4 days/week and 2 days/week and their final exam times were different, this didn't seem fair. I don't think it prepares students who want to transfer well for a four year college experience. It puts a lot of stress on students and instructors who have all of their final exams on the same two days of the week. Students don't have a chance to properly study for finals because they still have class the days leading up to their finals. Some students are still learning new material just a day or two before their final exam in some cases. It puts a lot of stress on instructors because it compresses grading. It makes it extremely difficult for DSS students to figure out times that they can take their final exams when they might have 3 or 4 exams in the same day and it's the last two days of the semester. I don't see any positive reasons to have finals done in this way.	1/7/2019 3:57 PM
4	very difficult for the students.	1/7/2019 2:38 PM
5	Not enough time to conduct exams appropriately, confusing for students	1/7/2019 1:00 PM
6	There wasn't enough time to prepare for the final because of the school closures during the semester.	1/7/2019 12:13 PM
7	It was challenging for my students- led to many exams crammed into the last two days of the semester (Wed and Thurs).	1/7/2019 10:06 AM
8	Not enough instructional/review time due to the closure for bad air quality.	1/7/2019 9:13 AM
9	Cheated students out of extra class learning time Was an excuse for full timers to take time off	1/7/2019 9:01 AM
10	I have 1 less meeting to cover materials. My pay is also less because i'm a part-time instructor	1/6/2019 10:26 AM
11	Shorter time to take a final exam. I had to split the test to put all content in. Students were more stressed having to take multiple exams on one day. Not enough time for students to prepare for their final exam as with a finals week.	1/6/2019 9:50 AM
12	students were very confused, despite me explaining it to them many times. Also, I heard from many students that some instructors were just not holding class for all of the last week. That upsets me too, as I think we all need to do the same thing.	1/5/2019 3:27 PM
13	Fewer total hours of instruction and shorter time to take the exam	1/5/2019 9:22 AM
14	Stressful, lost teaching time	1/5/2019 6:02 AM
15	Not enough time given to students to be prepared	1/4/2019 7:36 PM
16	Students were tired and confused.	1/4/2019 10:34 AM
17	This semester was so tight between the 16 weeks, school closures and the threat during finals week, no breathing room for our students. They were so stressed by the last week, I don't know how some of them made it. I had one student that had two days of finals that were 10 hours or more of taking finals each day. Very stressful for students, how does this help them be successful?	1/4/2019 10:05 AM

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18	Students were stressed to finish finals in only 1.5 hours for some classes instead of a longer session and students had more meetings that week which seemed to overload their schedules. The worst part in my opinion, is that some professors had their finals run late (go over the allotted time), which meant some students were late to other final exams.	1/4/2019 9:07 AM
19	Students seemed very stressed; in English (where I am), lacking a final exam week does not create undue hardship for most of our classes/curricula--but I think lacking a finals week in other disciplines, esp. the STEM disciplines, makes students feel pressed for time and stressed (esp. paired with this being the first 16-week semester and losing additional time to the fire).	1/4/2019 9:03 AM
20	It doesn't give the students any down time to study when we are trying to teach to the last day. It is hard to plan for final exams when we are teaching to the last day. It also doesn't give much room to adjust finals for students that have more than 2 on one day. It almost guarantees that students will have all their final exams on Wednesday and Thursday. This is really difficult for students to handle.	1/3/2019 8:17 PM
21	Too many finals in one day. Lots of stressed students.	1/3/2019 5:07 PM
22	The schedule did not allow students to focus nor have time in the day to study. Having the normal class schedule potentially only allowed for ten minute breaks between classes.	1/3/2019 4:05 PM
23	Did not allow for a comprehensive final -- like most classes have (the week of cancelled classes made it worse). Had to significantly change what has worked well for me on the day of the final.	1/3/2019 3:57 PM
24	too many exams on the same days for our students. No time to study from last lecture/labs to final exam time.	1/3/2019 2:53 PM
25	not enough time to have a comprehensive final	1/3/2019 2:43 PM
26	It is HIGHLY disruptive and negatively impacts student academic performance.	1/3/2019 2:28 PM
27	Students has too many finals on the same day	1/3/2019 2:22 PM
28	I've lived with a finals week my entire academic life; I'm used to it. Also, if we're all offering finals as per contract, why not just have a true finals week?	1/3/2019 2:04 PM
29	Students had too many exams on the same day	1/3/2019 1:54 PM
30	It seemed that both students and instructors were stressed about getting their work completed, turned in and then prepare for finals. Accommodations had to be made for students when the campus had an anonymous threat. So much to do in such a short time.	1/3/2019 1:45 PM
31	Students were extremely stressed and had to complete work for regular classes as they prepared for finals. A dedicated finals week is characteristic of 4-year colleges, and students looking to transfer should have that experience. It also encourages students to view community college as a "real" college.	1/3/2019 1:40 PM
32	In math, the final exam gives the students an opportunity to look at the course as a whole and the connections between topics. Students did not have the usual time to strictly concentrate on final exams. Being required to come to lecture put more stress on my students.	1/3/2019 1:38 PM
33	1. There was no "weekend" break for the students to study and review for cumulative finals. 2. There was no 30 min. break between final exams, so some students could have 2, 3 or 4 exams back to back with only 10 minute breaks in between. 3. The final exam lecture blocks were only 85 minutes long, not long enough for a traditional cumulative final involving critical thinking and writing (for many of our students).	1/3/2019 1:02 PM
34	Changing a format that most colleges and universities as well as high schools employ. Confusing for students.	1/3/2019 12:53 PM
35	The rush of administrative tasks compromising academic delivery quality	1/3/2019 12:46 PM
36	It didn't provide a structured time frame for taking finals. Most finals ended up scheduled at the end of the week for the students I talked to.	1/3/2019 12:29 PM
37	Students were stressed. Too much pressure in too few days	1/3/2019 12:24 PM
38	Students are expected to attend class and learn new academic material during the last academic week of the semester PLUS complete final exams in the short time allotted to a normal class meeting. Further, there is no central coordination for final exam days/times. This is a problem.	1/3/2019 12:10 PM
39	It conflicted with music juries and didn't allow me to participate fully in my students' juries.	1/3/2019 12:07 PM

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40	Time too short for students to prepare for many exams	1/3/2019 11:52 AM
41	Length of time allotted.	1/3/2019 11:10 AM
42	Difficult for students to allocate study time.	1/3/2019 11:03 AM
43	There is not a separate finals week. Class periods are too short for final exams. Without a finals weeks faculty are forced to have finals on the last day of instruction or have a useless day of instruction after the final exam. If all faculty use the last day, students have all finals compressed into two days, Wednesday and Thursday, instead of spread out over four days, as with a finals week. Students also need more time to study for final exams. With a finals week they have at least the weekend to study after their last day of instruction.	12/31/2018 3:29 PM
44	I like a longer final class period for writing or presenting projects.	12/29/2018 8:30 AM
45	Not enough time	12/28/2018 11:56 AM
46	I liked having the longer time period of a finals week, which is more appropriate for an essay exam. Additionally, the stress level of the students seemed much higher than in previous semesters.	12/27/2018 5:54 PM
47	There was no time to go through all of my syllabus. Time of the essence I had to cram everything. Strong student do not suffer...marginal, not because of any fault, had to suffer. Not fair.	12/26/2018 2:32 PM
48	The shorter time-blocks for 2x week classes - I prefer 2 hours for a final exam.	12/26/2018 10:31 AM
49	Students did not have time to study. Students were exhausted since there was nothing but push to the end. I was exhausted too: scrambling to try to prepare lecture and lab and write the Final and grade the last Exam and help the students review all at the same time. I was very lucky that other professors of my students who had three classes on my class day scheduled their exams on different days. There is no way I could make more than one version of the comprehensive Final.	12/24/2018 3:34 PM
50	In my discipline the students have both a lecture and lab exam. Some of my students were forced to take both on the same day.	12/24/2018 11:17 AM
51	Mandatory classes both days ends up having all finals on the last two days, which is unfair for the students. It makes no sense to have a class day after the final.	12/22/2018 9:15 PM
52	It was hard on students and profs because of the shortened time for finals work. Mostly, students struggled with the pressure. Many complained to me.	12/21/2018 6:26 PM
53	To rushed. The students could have too many exams on one day. Students do not experience what final exam week is like at other colleges and may be at a disadvantage when they transfer.	12/21/2018 12:16 PM
54	It made it difficult to schedule the end of the semester with a final unit test as well. My students generally seemed pretty overwhelmed by their end of semester workloads as well.	12/20/2018 9:19 PM
55	Students were extremely stressed, requesting to be excused from our scheduled lab session so that they can study for exams. Usually during the finals week I grade assignments that I return to students on the day of the final. This semester had no time for grading since I had regular lab sessions and lecture that week. This made it very difficult to meet the deadline for submitting the grades and also prevented me from returning graded assignments to students. I had a large number of DSS students this semester. The DSS office seemed overwhelmed and their requirement to submit the exams well in advance added stress to an already stressful schedule. Also, retrieving the tests from the DSS was delayed which negatively impacted the already short time intended for grading and finalizing the grades. This semester we had to cancel some of our regular small meetings due to lack of time. We usually have end of semester meetings to discuss challenges and problems we had during the semester with laboratory experiments and to plan for the next semester.	12/20/2018 12:24 PM
56	Students (specifically my engineering/science students) expressed distress at having many final exams over a short time period while still being expected to attend classes all week. It makes placing material covered on the last instruction day on the final exam rather harsh, and students seemed to perform more poorly than usual on the last topics covered.	12/20/2018 12:16 PM
57	Administrators are not aware of their decisions ... cutting down a semester was the worse you could have done to students and teachers - same material less time - and worse we do not even have time to go to the restroom in between classes I think the people who made these decisions should get fired as they are not in tune with the academic world of teachers and students -	12/20/2018 10:15 AM
58	Not enough time to finish up course material. Also it was confusing.	12/20/2018 9:49 AM

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59	Not enough prep time for students	12/20/2018 6:39 AM
60	Students expressed being more stressed. They felt that when there is a "finals week" all they have to work on is finals. They felt there was too much going on in the last week. In addition, the current format leaves less class time for the final or final activity.	12/19/2018 11:00 PM
61	Most of my students were very confused about when their finals were, and quite a few of them had a bunch of finals on the same day. Also, my department was assessing SLOs for one of my courses, and I had to include a bunch of specific questions on the final. Since our final was during our regular class time, those questions took up a big chunk of my final. In addition, some of my colleagues were required to give students two hours for their final because their curriculum came from the Carnegie Foundation, and the Foundation wanted a specific set of questions asked under very specific conditions. That meant those teachers had to give a final in one class that lasted two days.	12/19/2018 9:31 PM
62	I didn't like that either I had to teach one day and test on the same topic 2 days later OR I had to use the second to last class day for review then give the final. I feel like it amounts to losing a whole of instruction.	12/19/2018 8:52 PM
63	I think the students need the space/time to study	12/19/2018 5:07 PM
64	I would prefer 15 weeks of instruction and a finals week. Students complained having too many finals on Wed and Thurs. I gave one of my finals on Mon. and found it difficult to have high attendance on Wed.	12/19/2018 4:09 PM
65	No time	12/19/2018 3:28 PM
66	Students did less well, and I think this is reflected in their grades. Paper completion rates declined for papers due that week.	12/19/2018 2:25 PM
67	My final projects that I have the students present were formatted to a longer final time. With the new structure, half of my students presented on Tuesday and the other half on Friday. I believe that it didn't affect the grades obtained by my students, but that being said, those who went on Thursday had the extra time and also the benefit of observing on Tuesday. Seemed a bit unfair to me. Next semester I will have to change my Final; I tried to make it work, but I feel it may be unfair. It's a shame because I had worked to refine the final project and believe it to be a great assessment measure.	12/19/2018 2:10 PM
68	Difficult on students since classes were still continuing	12/19/2018 1:29 PM
69	The fact that we were encouraged to give final on a Monday or Tuesday and then have a class after the final.	12/19/2018 1:20 PM
70	Students especially with the week missed due to fire, did not seem ready and grades were lower.	12/19/2018 12:18 PM
71	While the total number of instruction hours didn't change (or even slightly increased), the content of my courses is best presented as one chapter per week, which meant I lost a week of material to better prepare the students for their final (the last class). Also, since the last meeting of the semester is different for different sections (sometimes a long lab, sometimes a short problem session, sometimes a lecture), it was difficult to coordinate multiple versions of the exam and ensure equal exam durations. In the past, all students in a lecture (frequently a double section), would get a full two hours in a single sitting without staggered versions or a need to make the exams shorter to accommodate differing final classes. Also, if the most convenient time to schedule the exam happens not to be the final class meeting, it is difficult to incentivize students to attend the final meeting, further reducing available teaching time.	12/19/2018 12:11 PM
72	1. class period too short for truly comprehensive final exam 2. most students had all their final exams on Wed and Thurs instead of spread out throughout the week. This gives them less time to study and causes more stress.	12/19/2018 12:06 PM
73	Students did not have any time to prepare for cumulative finals. They had regular exams or projects right up to two days of intensive final exams. Weaker students suffer greatly.	12/19/2018 11:49 AM
74	Students don't have time to reflect and review.	12/19/2018 11:36 AM
75	Having only 14 weeks of instruction including finals is too tight of a schedule especially when there are days that the school is closed for holidays. One of my classes had two holidays fall on it so it took my semester down to 12 weeks including final. Too tight.	12/19/2018 11:34 AM
76	Students had a to take multiple finals on the same day.	12/19/2018 11:20 AM

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77	I have short classes and because my department requires that I give cumulative final exams (in 4- and 5-unit courses), I had to give two-part finals in all of them. Several students DID NOT SHOW UP FOR PART 2 of their exams. They obviously failed. Other students were stressing out all week and emailing every day all day long, me asking for makeups, extra time, etc because they had back to back exams and had no breaks. It was ugly. Also, because there was no down time AT ALL, faculty needed more time to grade. This need was NOT just because of the campus closure. It was PRIMARILY because many of us had NO breaks to begin any grading. I gave exams ALL DAY LONG THREE DAYS IN A ROW, and held "reviews" on the fourth day. Any break that I had was spent meeting with freaked out students and dealing with their emergencies. Then I had committee meetings ALL DAY ON FRIDAY. I had NO TIME to begin any grading until the weekend, while I was still wrapping up committee work. It's a nightmare. This almost put me in the hospital. Not exaggerating. In the spring I'm giving one-part final exams (cumulative, in 5-unit math classes, so imagine how that will feel for my students) and I'm using sick leave so I can cancel the other class meetings that week and have some time to begin thinking about grading. Bottom line: If we don't have a final exam week by next fall, I am looking for a job in another district. I cannot do this again. I have a chronic medical condition and this almost killed me. I'm forced to use my sick leave because someone who doesn't teach made my schedule. Unbelievable.	12/19/2018 10:14 AM
78	Not only did students have no opportunity to catch up, I had no time to grade big semester-end projects. Everyone was stressed out and I felt unable to give meaningful feedback or work with students who were struggling.	12/19/2018 10:10 AM
79	Many of my students' finals were pushed to the last two days, Wednesday and Thursday. Students also had the extra pressure of attending class during that week. They did not have enough time to study.	12/19/2018 9:56 AM
80	It really stressed out the students. In addition, it made half of the week pretty useless, especially if I gave the final in the first half of the week.	12/19/2018 9:50 AM
81	It was awkward and it seemed to be very confusing for the students. I luckily taught class times that had exams on the last two days, but it would have been odd to have exams on the first day and then a meeting time after the final. I sensed that the students were very unhappy with the set up as well.	12/19/2018 9:42 AM
82	Students seemed extra frantic and stretched. I surveyed my class and the vast majority of students wanted time to study. If we are serious about student success and transfer, then we need to do all we can to help students succeed. 4 finals in one day is not that. Also, DSS seemed particularly overwhelmed, and it is important to get their feedback as well.	12/19/2018 9:24 AM
83	We really need a separate final exam week!! Students were extremely overwhelmed and did not perform well during the last week. Also, we, instructors, didn't have enough time for grading.	12/19/2018 9:07 AM
84	I needed a longer class period for the final. One longer day would be better.	12/19/2018 8:41 AM
85	I don't want to be dismissed as a naysayer. I appreciate that changes are sometimes needed. But there are some things I don't understand. In every circle of administrators, support staff and faculty that I interact with, there is a general consensus that our most of our students lack basic skills. I teach a literacy intensive discipline and force feeding my students the same amount of reading, but in less time, and with no finals week, is a recipe for very poor performance. I ended up leaving out the last chapter and limiting a lot of two others. My students can't absorb the material faster just because we added 5 minutes to the end of classes. I realize this experiment in scheduling was also messed up by the necessary school closures. But even if the closures had not happened, students still have fewer weeks to absorb the same material. I also do not understand why we have three week intersessions where we cram material into courses that are too fast paced for any real learning to take place. I'm assuming the intersessions, which bring in more revenue, were the impetus for the shortened Fall and Spring schedules?	12/19/2018 8:35 AM
86	I really need a full two hours to execute finals.	12/19/2018 8:12 AM
87	Stressful for students and faculty. No one who was actually affected by the change was consulted in the decision not to have a finals week	12/19/2018 8:11 AM
88	Monday-Wednesday class: 16 weeks minus 2 Monday holidays minus one cancelled week of classes minus "finals week" equals skipping material essential for success in the next course in the sequence.	12/19/2018 7:48 AM
89	Felt rushed in teaching all the material.	12/19/2018 7:27 AM
90	Too rushed	12/19/2018 7:08 AM

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91	There was no designated exam schedule. This reduced the time for the students to take the exam. Normally, on exam week there is a 2 hour period to take a final exam. This format only gave us 1 hr and 25mins	12/19/2018 3:54 AM
92	Our students were expected to work right up to the date of the final without having the "down time" that comes from a complete finals week.	12/19/2018 1:25 AM
93	Not enough time in the semester to teach as it is, then having to squeeze in the final exam.	12/18/2018 11:59 PM
94	felt rushed to get class content covered	12/18/2018 10:38 PM
95	My students were put under a lot of pressure by other teachers during the final week. Many had both their last regular exam and their final exam that week for some of their classes. This distracted them from studying for my final exam since I didn't also load them up with an extra exam in the last 2 days. We need to have a serious guideline regarding the amount of exams, not just the days that are being given that week. The only reason I didn't dislike it more is it easily allowed me to have a longer time for my final using my laboratory time. This is something students greatly appreciate when final exams are so intense.	12/18/2018 10:17 PM
96	For each of my classes I have to give 3 exams. In the past, I was able to spread the exams out more because there was an official 2 hour block for exams during the finals week. So I would do the lab exam the last official lab meeting then use the exam block for their last lecture exam (one day) and their comp final the next. I had to do both lecture exams the same day. My physio students took a 5 hour exam on the last day. It was way to much for them and no one did well on the comp final. Furthermore, I only have 15 weeks of instruction because I have to dive 3 exams that last week. I hope this formatting is ok. It is hard to proof read in this window and I am on my phone.	12/18/2018 9:56 PM
97	Students didn't get enough time to prepare for the final exam. They were exhausted. Several students told me this.	12/18/2018 8:35 PM
98	The shortened schedule caused the 2 hr and 50 minute classes once per week classes to longer than 3 hours. Although an equivalent amount of time was available to cover the material, I feel that the class reached a point of diminishing returns in learning the material due to the condensed schedule.	12/18/2018 8:22 PM
99	My students had a lot of finals at the end of the week and so I gave mine at the beginning. But then the last class was weird and awkward and a little bit useless. This is especially a travesty considering the closure or during that week. Luckily this class was ahead! I can't imagine if it was one of the classes I was just in time or a little behind on.	12/18/2018 8:07 PM
100	1. I had to split my final exam into two parts, because one lecture was not long enough for my final exam. The students did very poorly on part two of my final, likely because they put more of their study time into studying for part 1, which came first. 2. I had to hold class for my students after they'd already taken their final exam. This felt very awkward, and I felt bad asking my students to come to class after having taken their final when I know they had other finals to study for. 3. I had much less time to get grading done during the last week of classes. I am usually able to finish grading during finals week. I felt more rushed getting grades in having to hold class four days of our last week.	12/18/2018 7:52 PM
101	Too many of my students had three exams on the same day...and this experience (shorter exams) is poor preparation for what they will face at universities.	12/18/2018 7:49 PM
102	Needing to meet both class days basically forced me to give the exams on Wednesday/Thursday	12/18/2018 7:37 PM
103	16 week plus a finals The time was too compressed to have a week to prepare and take a final	12/18/2018 7:35 PM
104	Not enough time for a 2 hour final exam. No time for students to study for finals.	12/18/2018 7:15 PM
105	The academic calendar was confusing. It stated that the last week of instruction was 12/9/18, however, the calendar shows the school open until 12/19/18. My class calendar was a week late announcing the dates for final exams. I recovered, however, not without disappointments.	12/18/2018 7:05 PM
106	1) It makes it more likely that students will have multiple final exams on the same day; perhaps even back-to-back. 2) It denies the students an established period of time in which to prepare -- academically and emotionally -- for The Exam that (for many) is likely to decide whether they pass or fail a course. A lot of students stress out over the very phrase, "final exam". 3) It smacks too much of high school. I tend to think that part of our purpose is to help transition students to a more mature and personally responsible viewpoint of their education -- to prepare them for the demands and philosophy of most universities (let alone "the real world"). I do not think we help them much by adopting practices that enable some to maintain a notion that CC is just "13th grade".	12/18/2018 6:51 PM

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107	Exam time cut significantly from 2 hours	12/18/2018 6:50 PM
108	Students had too many classes to go to during the final week, so they didn't have as much time to study. I also had much less time to grade papers, because I was planning/teaching the same week I gave the final exam. Also, I had to split my final over 2 days, which meant giving it during lecture AND lab time. My two sections of students have lab at different times, so I couldn't be sure that students didn't talk to their classmates about what was on the exam. Also, DSS students had a had time cramming all of their extra testing time in a busy week of classes.	12/18/2018 6:42 PM
109	Most Finals were on Wednesday and Thursday, putting extra pressure on the students, some having three Finals on the same day.	12/18/2018 6:42 PM
110	Fitting the exam in the regular class schedule meant I had to simplify my final exam and limit its scope due to time constraints. Students also complained about having regular classes in the same week that they were having final exams	12/18/2018 6:19 PM
111	The further loss of practical instruction time. DVC should not place funding and vacation time ahead of education quality.	12/18/2018 6:18 PM
112	It was a poorly-conceived, unmitigated disaster for students. Too many finals on the same day, too many profs making changes to the schedule. The absurd recommendation to have a final exam early in the week and then make students return for a class meeting after that.	12/18/2018 6:07 PM
113	I didn't like the fact that I had to come in two nights during the final exam week when in the past I only had to come in one night. Continuing students were also slightly confused	12/18/2018 5:58 PM
114	My students were more stressed than usual. They had multiple exams on wed and thurs. They did not have a weekend to study new material covered mon and tues. My workload was unaffected, but it was a huge strain for my students.	12/18/2018 5:42 PM
115	A regular class period is too short for a final exam, and the schedule virtually ensures that all students will be stressed out and anxious with most finals falling on Wednesday and Thursday instead of being spread out throughout a finals week.	12/18/2018 5:18 PM
116	I ended up with classes being held AFTER the classes final exam. The compress calendar makes no sense and is very detrimental to student learning.	12/18/2018 5:12 PM
117	Students were really stressed out about their grade. It was also harder for me to have to grade all their work by Tuesday, to give students a better idea of their overall performance needed on the final exam. On Thursday, I asked how many students still had another exam and about 2/3 of them did. I think that's really hard on students.	12/18/2018 5:10 PM
118	It is hard to hold the class till the end since students are less focused on the final week due to different final preparations. Some of exams are on the same day with other classes and as a result, students need to study several exams at the same time.	12/18/2018 5:09 PM
119	The 16-week semester is not conducive to student learning and student success, at least in the sciences.	12/18/2018 5:06 PM
120	No "down time" before finals.	12/18/2018 5:01 PM
121	There isn't enough time to teach all the required topics in Math 192 (first-semester calculus)	12/18/2018 4:57 PM
122	Little time for the students to review.	12/18/2018 4:57 PM
123	It was not clear whether or not to have a class+a final in that last week or not. I chose not to, so that my students would not have all their finals on the same day.	12/18/2018 4:47 PM
124	It ends up that students have all their finals scheduled on the last two days.	12/18/2018 4:40 PM
125	- the students were confused because they often didn't know the regular schedule did apply - A dedicated final week with a final schedule makes it easier to plan the finals	12/18/2018 4:38 PM
126	It was confusing for everyone	12/18/2018 4:25 PM
127	It felt cramped in there, with no breathing room for them or me. However, it's better than only having FIFTEEN weeks of instruction and then a finals week. That's what some people are suggesting, to make the final schedule more manageable. But that makes me ask what our primary purpose is as community college teachers: Are we here to teach our students as well as we can (which means allowing ourselves ample time to do so), or are we here to test, assess, and examine?	12/18/2018 4:23 PM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

128	I still prefer an 18-week semester. With the school closures, Monday classes only had 13 weeks. Not enough time for instruction.	12/18/2018 4:23 PM
129	Students were rushed to get everything done.	12/18/2018 4:11 PM
130	Students are not given an opportunity to prepare for the final like at every other college. Due to the pace of the course, in part due to the compressed 16 week format, students are already slammed with work and then have to learn new material on a Monday, and be tested on it on a Wednesday (along with some of their other classes). If you try to make finals easier on them by making yours earlier, you cut precious time from class and make them cram the material in even sooner. Nay to the new 16 week schedule!	12/18/2018 4:05 PM
131	Student exams clumped W/Th OR faculty having meaningless W/Th sessions after final exam	12/18/2018 4:05 PM
132	The schedule for students was not consistent. some had all their finals in a 2-day period. It was difficult to test a semester of science curriculum in time span of a lecture period. Days after the exam students were not motivated to come to class. I would consider saving the final for the last day of class, but if all instructors do this then students would be burdened with all their finals at the end of the week.	12/18/2018 4:01 PM
133	Review was one day and the final two days after. The pros that students didn't get the time to study and process concepts. Students expressed how stressful it was to prepare for finals.	12/18/2018 3:54 PM
134	We still have to teach materials, giving quizzes, oral presentation and final exam on week 16. It's too much work for us and students at the very end of the semester.	12/18/2018 3:49 PM
135	Everything just all seemed so rushed. Also I had to make up a class session on that Monday due to the closure of the campus in order to meet my content/SLO obligations. Really I think the best people to ask are the students	12/18/2018 3:44 PM
136	Students report that most of their finals were on Weds. and Thursday, which compelled me to offer about a dozen of them time on Monday or Tuesday during my non-teaching hours	12/18/2018 3:44 PM
137	students seemed swamped with exams - not realistic to expect faculty to give a final on the earlier part of the week (M/Tu) and then...???...the later part of the week.	12/18/2018 3:42 PM
138	Without a traditional finals week, it was difficult to choose which day to offer an exam - in an attempt to prevent students from having 3 or 4 finals on a single day. It also made no sense to give on final on Monday or Tuesday, and then to expect students to show up for the last class on Wednesday or Thursday. My students (in three different classes) expressed that they disliked not having a finals week. Some told me they had classes splitting the traditional final over two class periods.	12/18/2018 3:42 PM
139	An important part of our job is to prepare students for what will be expected of them at their transfer institutions. Final exams are given at almost all colleges and universities; therefore, I feel an important part of my job is to guide students through the process of preparing for exams and taking them.	12/18/2018 3:41 PM
140	many of my students expressed that they had 3 exams on Wednesday, the day the took my exam. That doesn't really promote success	12/18/2018 3:41 PM
141	Too condensed.	12/18/2018 3:41 PM
142	It was not an effective week of instruction, and also students were stretched thin and extremely stressed. From my perspective, it's bad for instructors, and for students.	12/18/2018 3:40 PM
143	The schedule didn't leave sufficient time for a comprehensive final in a single period. It seemed unfair to the students to have few enough questions that could be executed in a single period. It also was unfair to split the exam into two parts making them study twice for the final. Neither option was satisfactory.	12/18/2018 3:40 PM
144	Final exams have been 2 hours in the past and this semester didn't allow for 2 hours but a shorter time which was not ideal for a comprehensive final exam. Also the students didn't like having new material presented two days before the final.	12/18/2018 3:38 PM
145	The semester had too little time in general (16 vs 18 weeks is too short). Students were forced to be examined on material only just learned too frequently and not allowed enough time to reflect and consolidate their learning. On the other hand, changing back to a "real" finals week would mean losing precious class time earlier that week, which is also not an attractive option. A decision between 16 weeks with a finals week and 16 weeks with the same schedule is a false choice!	12/18/2018 3:36 PM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

146	Seems to work against "student success" because of a intensified final schedule, with more finals on the final days of class (Wed./Thurs.) and shorter breaks between each (0:10 vs. 0:30).	12/18/2018 3:36 PM
147	It felt very rushed and the students seems less prepared. The students seemed more stressed than I've seen before.	12/18/2018 3:34 PM
148	Students were incredibly stressed. Faculty were overloaded with grading commitments while also trying to coordinate final exams. It was unfair to give a cumulative assessment when students are not put in a position to show you effective knowledge transfer. So I had to reduce the weight of my cumulative final, and next semester, I am just going to end up giving four regularly spaced exams that develop based on the cumulative nature of my course. This is a TERRIBLE SYSTEM for introductory STEM courses that serve as the first step in rigorous pathways.	12/18/2018 3:33 PM
149	The last week should be a dedicated final exam week.	12/18/2018 3:33 PM
150	trying to decide when to give the final exam. i gave my classes a vote and the first result was a tie!	12/18/2018 3:32 PM
151	There was no time for students to absorb materials from late in the semester that needed to be evaluated on the final.	12/18/2018 3:32 PM
152	I know many of my colleagues give final exams that students would benefit from having a longer period of time to complete. Because I give a final essay, I wouldn't mind having a final exam schedule in the last week once again if it benefits colleagues and students.	12/18/2018 3:32 PM
153	It was difficult to give students a final should faculty decide to do so. There is not enough time.	12/18/2018 3:31 PM

Q3 What did you like about the new format?

Answered: 78 Skipped: 214

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Much less stress for my students and myself.	1/8/2019 11:49 AM
2	Allowed an extra class day for teaching and was consistent with the regular class meeting time and days. I found students were less confused than in the past.	1/8/2019 8:25 AM
3	more hours to complete the final exams during the last week of classes	1/7/2019 6:39 AM
4	It finished the term quickly.	1/6/2019 11:24 AM
5	It fit in with the schedule of the class and time. (Evening course)	1/5/2019 10:57 PM
6	Compact	1/5/2019 7:24 PM
7	Normal class time and days fit with mine and students "normal" schedual, without complications of different times and days the last week, which I never understood.	1/5/2019 2:59 PM
8	I liked that we got to keep the same schedule over the course of the semester as always meeting on certain days at certain times and not having to figure out which day/time we would meet for the final.	1/4/2019 2:00 PM
9	no question about when the exam would be held. enough time for the exam.	1/4/2019 10:49 AM
10	Shortened calendar was nice.	1/3/2019 11:17 PM
11	None	1/3/2019 8:45 PM
12	shorter semester	1/3/2019 8:06 PM
13	More flexible for scheduling.	1/3/2019 5:30 PM
14	It simplifies things. Finals week always kind of confused new students.	1/3/2019 4:10 PM
15	Allowed me to finish the course in a more organized manner.	1/3/2019 4:03 PM
16	I liked that I could give the final during our regular class time, alleviating necessity to go to a different time slot or to be assigned a specific day.	1/3/2019 3:33 PM
17	The exam was at the regular class time on a regular class day, which really helps those of us who have other teaching jobs that may conflict with a separate exam schedule.	1/3/2019 3:18 PM
18	split exams	1/3/2019 2:16 PM
19	brief, kept same schedule	1/3/2019 2:08 PM
20	Easier for students, less confusion.	1/3/2019 1:49 PM
21	It didn't cause any confusion for students....the last night was the final.	1/3/2019 1:23 PM
22	Did not waste a day of teaching. I was able to teach one day during the week	1/3/2019 1:14 PM
23	It fit into the format of my online class.	1/3/2019 12:54 PM
24	I was able to give students the option of taking their exams on either MW or TTH. Students really liked having a choice. Some took finals early, some later depending on their schedule. Also, it gave me a head start on grading.	1/3/2019 12:29 PM
25	During regular class time	1/3/2019 11:55 AM
26	Students were less pooped out...	1/3/2019 11:42 AM
27	Didn't extend the semester an extra week. Final exams were at the same time as class.	12/22/2018 7:11 PM
28	Finals was held on the same day and time as our regular class, so there was no difference.	12/22/2018 5:15 PM
29	the exam was held at regular class time, less confusion for students. did not lose too much lecture time	12/21/2018 4:00 PM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

30	open to do final how I wanted to	12/21/2018 10:01 AM
31	straight forward, and I can hold exam on day before the final project crits. I have 2.5 hours class sessions, btw.	12/20/2018 5:45 PM
32	It allowed an additional 1/2 week of lecture, rather than an entire week dedicated to finals.	12/20/2018 2:27 PM
33	Less information to keep up with now (time change on exam day, etc.)	12/20/2018 10:55 AM
34	16 weeks	12/20/2018 8:53 AM
35	I like a shortened schedule because students don't get as burned out as before.	12/20/2018 8:14 AM
36	Not necessary to add another week.	12/19/2018 10:05 PM
37	No end-of-semester confusion	12/19/2018 4:40 PM
38	No confusion among my students concerning day and time of final. Encouraged the crafting of more focused and cumulative and/or encompassing final exams.	12/19/2018 2:50 PM
39	The exam was during my regular class time.	12/19/2018 2:27 PM
40	Students knew exactly when the finals were--no confusion. Also, I was able to complete the first half of the final on one day, the other half the second day of our weekly class meetings. And it didn't affect online courses at all--all quiet and calm.	12/19/2018 1:19 PM
41	Flexibility	12/19/2018 1:00 PM
42	Flexibility in scheduling exams the last week of the semester	12/19/2018 12:31 PM
43	flexibility	12/19/2018 12:11 PM
44	more time for final speeches on two separate days	12/19/2018 11:52 AM
45	Everything fit into the compressed calendar.	12/19/2018 11:32 AM
46	Shorter semester.	12/19/2018 10:56 AM
47	It allowed a little more time to cover material even though the semester was shorter. If the last week was a finals week, that would have meant one fewer lab session and one fewer lecture. In the sciences, we simply can't afford to lose time. The campus closure due to the fire was a far more significant change than the switch to the new format. Unfortunately, many may respond negatively to the new 16 week format without a finals week because of the lost time Thanksgiving week. But that had nothing to do with the new format. So polling faculty and students after this semester probably won't give an accurate reflection of how the new format works for people.	12/19/2018 10:08 AM
48	Integrated seamlessly into the class	12/19/2018 9:20 AM
49	Final exam during the last class session	12/19/2018 9:04 AM
50	Less confusing for everyone!	12/19/2018 9:02 AM
51	Well, I didn't really like it, but I prefer it to the alternative of losing another week of instruction (in order to have an exam week).	12/19/2018 8:26 AM
52	I taught only classes which met once per week so the schedule caused no problems for me or my students. I appreciated the extra hour compared to the previous finals weeks.	12/18/2018 10:19 PM
53	No one has to change their schedule so it make transportation, childcare, work, etc so much easier.	12/18/2018 9:15 PM
54	It is expedient and easier to complete without exam day and time confusion normally seen from students.	12/18/2018 8:12 PM
55	Flexibility!	12/18/2018 7:31 PM
56	seemed to flow well with the rest of the semester.	12/18/2018 7:16 PM
57	We didn't have to have different times (start time and length of time) .. in our case (3hour class) it meant we had extra time for end-of-semester breakfast-get-together before exam	12/18/2018 7:13 PM
58	I like the shorter semester, and I was able to have the students write an in-class essay.	12/18/2018 7:03 PM
59	I don't need a two-hour time block in order to assess my students' learning.	12/18/2018 6:42 PM
60	Kept the weekly schedule the same. No confusion amongst students.	12/18/2018 6:22 PM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

61	I could split my final up between 2 sessions	12/18/2018 5:42 PM
62	It brought no negative consequences, and students could plan for intercession.	12/18/2018 5:34 PM
63	I was free to adapt it to my course & my students needs, without any artificially-imposed limitations	12/18/2018 5:28 PM
64	16-week semester. Get to finish earlier.	12/18/2018 5:20 PM
65	There was no guesswork, no needing to remind students of a different meeting time. The full class session gave time for getting a lot taken care o.	12/18/2018 5:19 PM
66	Semester was over quicker	12/18/2018 5:01 PM
67	I liked the versatility I had with scheduling the final the last week to do what was best for the class and the students.	12/18/2018 4:49 PM
68	It allowed me maximum days to meet that week. My class met t-w-th and I was able to meet and have the final on Th.	12/18/2018 4:30 PM
69	Doesn't confuse students about when to come in.	12/18/2018 4:08 PM
70	Spending a bit more time in class that allowed us to move a bit deeper. I had heard that finals would go in the last week. It's different and I had to wrap my head around it but I liked it.	12/18/2018 4:02 PM
71	Students didn't have to figure out a new time and day. Regular office hours can be held.	12/18/2018 3:57 PM
72	Less confusion and schedule disruption	12/18/2018 3:56 PM
73	It is hard to give an English final. Having them turn in a final paper is a better use of time.	12/18/2018 3:53 PM
74	Students can have a momentum for the course. They can take the final at the same time of the day of lecture as if it is a mid-term.	12/18/2018 3:53 PM
75	Final exam flexibility	12/18/2018 3:40 PM
76	correspondence with evening sections	12/18/2018 3:38 PM
77	It was clear and part of the normal schedule. I also had more time to give my final.	12/18/2018 3:35 PM
78	In my discipline, few give exams. I never do. The final becomes a grand day to collect a paper. I always felt it was a waste.	12/18/2018 3:32 PM

Q4 In spring 19, we are keeping the same format. Are there things that the college could do to improve spring? Any changes you recommend?

Answered: 225 Skipped: 67

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	No	1/8/2019 11:51 AM
2	The college needs to provide extensive information to students via text, web site, posters, etc. what the end of semester format is. Also, a series of suggestions-best practices-things that worked.did not work, for faculty, particularly out PT faculty who are carrying loads at various colleges.	1/8/2019 10:03 AM
3	No. The campus needs to stick to the changes it has decided on. Like any change, it takes time to adjust.	1/8/2019 8:39 AM
4	plenty of time to change. Drop the new format.	1/7/2019 10:25 PM
5	Be clear about expectations: last semester an email went out that said you could hold finals during the first two days of the last week of class but this email went out so late that I and many of my colleagues had already planned the semester and had syllabi printed that included the dates of the final exam. That was way too late to let instructors know that that was a possibility (not that I thought it was a good idea to allow for some finals to happen the first two days of the last week of class anyways).	1/7/2019 4:04 PM
6	I think we are stuck given the fact we can't change to finals week	1/7/2019 1:01 PM
7	I want to give the semester and finals another trial before making changes.	1/7/2019 12:17 PM
8	Go back to old system	1/7/2019 9:02 AM
9	doesn't involve me	1/7/2019 6:42 AM
10	none	1/7/2019 6:36 AM
11	It would be nice to give part-time instructors the same pay as previous format	1/6/2019 10:30 AM
12	I have no ideas. All of my concerns have to do with the current format.	1/6/2019 9:55 AM
13	Not certain at this time. This will only be our second semester on the new schedule.	1/5/2019 10:59 PM
14	None	1/5/2019 7:26 PM
15	You need to make sure instructors understand - both FT and PT - that class has to be held all week long. When individual instructors decide they don't want to hold all their classes, students get confused. I had 4 different students miss one of their final exams due to confusion from other instructors who led them to believe that finals were over on tues.	1/5/2019 3:30 PM
16	just make sure Spring break does not count in the 16 weeks.	1/5/2019 3:02 PM
17	There was no final exam week. Why are you surveying something that did not exist?	1/5/2019 9:36 AM
18	No	1/5/2019 9:23 AM
19	Assign the days and hours for the finals to avoid conflicts as much as possible.	1/5/2019 6:07 AM
20	Not at this point	1/4/2019 7:43 PM
21	Remind faculty to avoid having all of their finals on the last class period, as this piles it up for students.	1/4/2019 2:04 PM
22	No. No.	1/4/2019 1:01 PM
23	maybe incentivize giving exams earlier in the week?	1/4/2019 10:53 AM
24	I think the college should change the format and turn Week 16 into Finals week.	1/4/2019 10:35 AM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

25	Professors should be encouraged to spread out finals and final projects. Maybe instead of having final projects they should be due earlier in the semester. I think I will give my finals a week earlier to give students some breathing room.	1/4/2019 10:10 AM
26	Continue to encourage faculty to follow the academic senate "recommended" finals schedule; encourage faculty to deliver final exams/projects in alternate methods that don't prioritize in-class work.	1/4/2019 9:11 AM
27	Mandate which day teachers are giving finals for classes that meet more than once a week. Make certain instructors have changed their finals so that they can be completed in the class time frame and students are not staying late to complete long exams. International and ESL students seemed most affected by this because they tend to need all the allowable time to complete a test.	1/4/2019 9:10 AM
28	None	1/4/2019 8:46 AM
29	I can't think of anything.	1/4/2019 8:27 AM
30	I think it went well this semester — no changes or recommendations.	1/3/2019 11:19 PM
31	not yet, I will see what spring semester will be....	1/3/2019 8:47 PM
32	Not really.	1/3/2019 8:17 PM
33	nope	1/3/2019 8:08 PM
34	Nope, all is well.	1/3/2019 6:16 PM
35	Just friendly reminders...	1/3/2019 5:47 PM
36	Nothing - not having to close the college would help.	1/3/2019 5:33 PM
37	There is nothing the college can do since this decision was already made.	1/3/2019 4:11 PM
38	Nope.	1/3/2019 4:11 PM
39	Keep it the same please... It really works well.	1/3/2019 4:06 PM
40	I think there is an inherent problem in doing things this way; English classes will be able to adjust more easily (that's what I teach). I would think the STEM world could not easily be accommodated.	1/3/2019 4:00 PM
41	No recommendations. I planned ahead, putting the date of the Final on my Syllabus. There was no confusion, whatsoever.	1/3/2019 3:41 PM
42	I would like to keep it the same as in the fall.	1/3/2019 3:19 PM
43	not keep the same format !!	1/3/2019 2:56 PM
44	Nothing	1/3/2019 2:38 PM
45	If you keep the same format, there are no options for improvement!	1/3/2019 2:38 PM
46	More options for finals	1/3/2019 2:24 PM
47	none	1/3/2019 2:18 PM
48	Be more deliberate about adjusting the due dates for other things as per the shorter semester: program review, course scheduling, etc.	1/3/2019 2:10 PM
49	Not sure exactly sure but hopefully other colleagues may have suggestions for changes to improve the format.	1/3/2019 2:00 PM
50	None at this time.	1/3/2019 1:52 PM
51	Create a dedicated finals week with no classes, or have class time be strictly finals prep.	1/3/2019 1:45 PM
52	Provide a finals schedule.	1/3/2019 1:40 PM
53	No real changes....just make it clear from the outset that the last day/week is finals week. Students and faculty need to have that stated loudly and clearly.	1/3/2019 1:28 PM
54	No	1/3/2019 1:16 PM
55	1. The college can make sure faculty who give finals early and take that last week or day off are docked pay. It was frustrating to see how empty the faculty parking lots were that last week as I was fulfilling my contract and teaching, while others were not. 2. I cannot think of anything else; it is such a bad arrangement for assessing a semester's worth of knowledge...there is no way the students are able to do their best work under this system.	1/3/2019 1:10 PM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

56	Make sure students understand the format.	1/3/2019 12:55 PM
57	allow + and - scores for grades (like A+, B-)	1/3/2019 12:55 PM
58	No	1/3/2019 12:55 PM
59	Not really ... aside from adding one more week to the term so we can have the time to do both our academic mission and our administrative duties with sufficient time to do things right	1/3/2019 12:50 PM
60	The problems seem an inevitable result of doing things this way.	1/3/2019 12:33 PM
61	Maybe add a Friday test day that students/faculty could use optionally by mutual agreement for students with too many assignments all due at the same time. It could allow a little bit more spacing for those in need.	1/3/2019 12:30 PM
62	None I can think of at this point.	1/3/2019 12:30 PM
63	I did feel bad for students that had multiple exams during Finals week because they were moving from one exam directly into another exam. I don't want to overwhelm the make-up test center, but some flexibility for students with multiple finals in a day would be nice.	1/3/2019 12:15 PM
64	Provide central coordination for final exam days/times. The mess that was experienced in fall 2018 does not have to be repeated. Perhaps add another few minutes to the class meeting schedule so DVC can offer a 15-week + 1-week finals semester?	1/3/2019 12:14 PM
65	I think each division and departments within that division have to determine what is most efficient for finals week.	1/3/2019 12:13 PM
66	None	1/3/2019 11:56 AM
67	?	1/3/2019 11:53 AM
68	More FLEX in the evening for instructors who have day jobs.....	1/3/2019 11:44 AM
69	Not sure?	1/3/2019 11:13 AM
70	Unknown.	1/3/2019 11:04 AM
71	None	1/2/2019 8:52 PM
72	No. It is an extremely bad format that cannot be improved.	12/31/2018 3:31 PM
73	The college could encourage flex classes on new ways to assess learning besides our traditional testing. I am glad we are keeping the same format because I do not want to lose the whole week (of 16) of instruction to final exams.	12/29/2018 8:34 AM
74	None that I can think of.	12/27/2018 8:06 PM
75	Not if you are staying with the same format, my suggestion would be to hold a traditional finals week.	12/27/2018 5:57 PM
76	We'd like to bring the old format	12/26/2018 2:35 PM
77	My suggestion would be to have a Finals Week. So, no, no changes suggested.	12/26/2018 10:33 AM
78	Add in some "breather days". See note at the end.	12/24/2018 3:43 PM
79	Allow sciences to have Wednesday and Thursday for "finals" and ask less content-intensive courses to give tests earlier in the week.	12/24/2018 11:21 AM
80	Maybe you could allow skipping last class day if you hold final on earlier (M/Tu) in the week...	12/22/2018 9:17 PM
81	None.	12/22/2018 5:17 PM
82	Maybe have some finals on MW on M and some on W. Same with TTH	12/22/2018 10:47 AM
83	I'll adapt like I did this semester, but it dies many disservices to students.	12/21/2018 6:29 PM
84	nothing i can think of	12/21/2018 4:02 PM
85	NO	12/21/2018 12:17 PM
86	I had a ton of students who said their math teacher required them to take a 2 hour final and therefore they would be late to my class. I knew this was no allowed or approved and informed students of this. That being said- I think making sure ALL part time (and full time) teachers understand the change to finals schedule is very important. Some are clearly unaware of the schedule changes.	12/21/2018 9:24 AM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

87	no	12/20/2018 5:52 PM
88	I do not believe the existing format can be improved. It needs to be completely changed. I see no improvement in student success with this format. I can only see more stressed students, that have less time per day to study due to longer classroom time and as a consequence they do less course work. This negatively affects their learning experience and the quality and quantity of knowledge they will take with them. Please go back to the 18 weeks format.	12/20/2018 12:35 PM
89	If the same format must be maintained, then issuing rules like the old ones regarding which class meeting times have their finals on which days would be helpful. That would at least ensure that students don't have 4 or 5 exams crammed into the last two days of classes.	12/20/2018 12:24 PM
90	Not like you care - this is a hypocritical survey that will be read by no one who cares about students or teachers so what is the point ?	12/20/2018 10:15 AM
91	Go back to regular finals week as soon as possible	12/20/2018 9:51 AM
92	No sure	12/20/2018 9:38 AM
93	no, for future 15 weeks lecture + 16th finals	12/20/2018 8:55 AM
94	I recommend to keep it the same for now.	12/20/2018 8:15 AM
95	go back to 18-week schedule the way it was. No compressed schedule	12/20/2018 6:41 AM
96	Fine as is.	12/20/2018 12:34 AM
97	I appreciate having the flexibility to set the schedule for the finals. I still scheduled mine during the last week of class, but I didn't have to schedule all of them on the last day. And students seemed to be fine with this arrangement.	12/19/2018 11:28 PM
98	No	12/19/2018 10:53 PM
99	Fine the way it is.	12/19/2018 10:06 PM
100	You could come out and admit that it was a mistake, and apologize to our students.	12/19/2018 9:33 PM
101	no	12/19/2018 5:09 PM
102	maintain the Fall 18 implementation	12/19/2018 4:42 PM
103	Add finals week back somehow.	12/19/2018 3:29 PM
104	Continue to spread the message that class times can not be changed for final weeks. I had several students inform me they might miss my final because another course extended the time on their other final. Ultimately none of my students missed my final, however it did cause confusion for students.	12/19/2018 2:53 PM
105	not right now	12/19/2018 2:33 PM
106	Something should be considered for classes that are taught on Mondays and where Monday holidays potentially impact the number of days of teaching. Can these courses opt to use the testing center equal to the amount of Monday holidays, as an acceptable rule?	12/19/2018 2:26 PM
107	? I have no idea.	12/19/2018 2:13 PM
108	Dss seemed to have a particularly difficult time handling the testing schedule	12/19/2018 1:32 PM
109	Nothing, I think it's a good idea	12/19/2018 1:04 PM
110	Ensuring that longer class sections (labs and lectures) occur at the end of the week would help, but a) the schedules are already written b) it's impractical to have all labs and lectures on Thurs/Fri c) the students would have all of their finals on the same days (which was already a problem this semester)	12/19/2018 12:18 PM
111	Keep evaluating/ prepare for "smoke" days?	12/19/2018 12:12 PM
112	The final week of classes next spring will have the same problems. While it was nice to have the makeup test center open additional hours, this causes instructors to have to write multiple versions of the final for students taking the final on different days. The most practical solution is to return the finals week back into the schedule.	12/19/2018 12:11 PM
113	make sure students are informed about the schedule	12/19/2018 12:09 PM
114	Acknowledge that the entire last week of classes needs to be set aside for finals.	12/19/2018 11:58 AM

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115	none, it was great	12/19/2018 11:54 AM
116	??	12/19/2018 11:38 AM
117	Add a finals week.	12/19/2018 11:37 AM
118	Leave as is.	12/19/2018 11:33 AM
119	No- Move back to a dedicated finals week in F19.	12/19/2018 11:23 AM
120	Allow us to cancel classes that week without having to use sick leave, so that we can make the grading deadline. Many of us are not going to meet all of our classes that week. It didn't work this fall and is not worth it in spring.	12/19/2018 10:31 AM
121	Make Monday and Tuesday of the last week reading days. Extend finals through Friday of the last week, and use the weekend for students with scheduling conflicts.	12/19/2018 10:15 AM
122	Not cancelling classes would be helpful!	12/19/2018 10:11 AM
123	No	12/19/2018 9:57 AM
124	I don't really see how to alleviate the issue if the schedule stays the same.	12/19/2018 9:52 AM
125	Yes, institute a schedule. I used the suggested schedule that someone had helpfully devised, but it should come from the college. And make it clear somehow to the students that there is no exam week.	12/19/2018 9:44 AM
126	Aside from continuing to encourage instructors to balance out their finals so that students don't take them all on Thursday, I think a strategic focus on study groups and tutoring (maybe take over a section of the cafeteria?) could help.	12/19/2018 9:28 AM
127	None	12/19/2018 9:22 AM
128	Nothing. The college needs to immediately start creating a traditional final exam week for the fall of 20.	12/19/2018 9:19 AM
129	None	12/19/2018 9:05 AM
130	none	12/19/2018 9:03 AM
131	We are stuck with this format for the Spring, but I recommend one of two possibilities. Go back to the 18 week term in the Fall of 2019. Or, (and this is not going to happen), create "sections" like they have at 4 year schools, where teachers can meet with students in smaller settings to work on skill building outside of "lecture." So classes would meet for FOUR hours a week. There would be three hours of regular class and one hour of "section." In my discipline, history, this would do so much for students: 1) provide an intimate setting for focusing on building literacy skills. 2) provide more community as students would be meeting in a face to face setting that was more relaxed and intimate than the regular classroom.	12/19/2018 9:00 AM
132	Add a finals week like all other colleges have. You are taking time away from students and faculty otherwise, and this is not a corner that should be cut.	12/19/2018 8:56 AM
133	Organize into one day for finals week.	12/19/2018 8:42 AM
134	My first year of college, I went to a school that had an honor system for exams. You could go take an exam at any time (you'd go to a big classroom, request an exam, and take it). It seems to me that we could preserve the scant 16 weeks of instruction we have now and still hold exams by moving to this kind of system. Yes, it's messy; however, it could still work. Students could take exams on their own schedules and we wouldn't lose any precious teaching time.	12/19/2018 8:30 AM
135	Not that I am aware of. But thanks for asking.	12/19/2018 8:14 AM
136	Don't keep the same format. It's ludicrous and idiotic.	12/19/2018 8:13 AM
137	Have a recommendation for what to do that second or last classes after the finals! It's silly that we have to meet with nothing to do. Plus would also be good to have a recommendation for times zones for when classes hold their finals. That is, something like finals week. :-)	12/19/2018 8:05 AM
138	Too late.	12/19/2018 7:56 AM
139	Just don't keep this format for the future like Fall 19	12/19/2018 3:56 AM
140	Not that can be applied college wide.	12/19/2018 1:32 AM
141	I need more time to teach in the semester	12/19/2018 12:00 AM

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142	n/a	12/18/2018 11:37 PM
143	can't think of any	12/18/2018 10:45 PM
144	Give us more time to turn in final grades. Lots of big assignments/exams come in that final week. DSS services could be improved. Students this semester told me the testing room during finals was packed, making it hard to concentrate. Is there another space that could be used during finals week? Students also said there was no clock in the room (it turns out there was, but it was at their backs and they were not aware of it) and they were only given a 5 minuted warning at the end of a 3 or 4 hour long exam. A warning of 30 minutes left would be more helpful.	12/18/2018 10:28 PM
145	Restrict teachers to one lecture and one laboratory exam/project due that week. This would simulate something similar to a normal finals week for student workload at least.	12/18/2018 10:23 PM
146	No recommendations for changes.	12/18/2018 10:21 PM
147	Send out emails to all students and faculty to make it very clear what the final week means to everyone.	12/18/2018 10:20 PM
148	Get rid of flex week, start school a week early amd out back in finals week with blocks.	12/18/2018 10:02 PM
149	Just make sure information gets put to everyone.	12/18/2018 9:17 PM
150	None that I can think of.	12/18/2018 8:40 PM
151	Please reinstate the previous calendar format.	12/18/2018 8:24 PM
152	None at this time.	12/18/2018 8:13 PM
153	Allow us to not hold class every day of the last week. If the college allowed me to cancel class meetings after the final is given, both the students and I could use our time more effectively after their final exam is completed.	12/18/2018 7:54 PM
154	You can suggest...as you did for the fall...but there is no assurance that instructors will follow suggestions.	12/18/2018 7:51 PM
155	go to a 16 week plus a final	12/18/2018 7:38 PM
156	Go for it!!	12/18/2018 7:33 PM
157	Make a finals week for next year.	12/18/2018 7:21 PM
158	no	12/18/2018 7:17 PM
159	Some of the students did not know we were not having a final exam week. My classes adjusted well.	12/18/2018 7:09 PM
160	No	12/18/2018 7:09 PM
161	If we are going to do the same format: no. (And BTW, asking instructors to coordinate their finals during Week 16 is unrealistic. Instructors do not have the resources or time to individually coordinate with an instructor population that spans the school's spectrum of departments. In addition, the suggested approach of "morning classes have exams on the first day of Week 16 and afternoon/evening classes on the second day of Week 16" makes no sense: few students taking their exam on the first day will bother to come to class the second day of Week 16, in essence, creating a "Finals Week" without the school actually acknowledging it. It sort of defeats whatever purpose was in mind in eliminating a Finals Week in the first place. In my humble opinion, of course.)	12/18/2018 6:59 PM
162	Have a Final Exam week with 2 hour exam windows	12/18/2018 6:52 PM
163	My course was changed to include fewer in-class meetings with additional work assigned outside of class. With the earlier end date the final schedule did not affect us.	12/18/2018 6:49 PM
164	The current format is the problem. If a Final is given Monday or Tuesday the class is still to meet on Wednesday or Thursday anyways, this "Lame Duck" class meeting is not liked by the students, since the Final has already happened.	12/18/2018 6:48 PM
165	Encourage faculty to NOT give big high-stakes final exams at the end of the semester!	12/18/2018 6:46 PM
166	Wee need a finals week. But it seems if we do that, then we are just going back to the semester length we were before. Maybe designate which days certain classes give their finals so that the students don't have their finals all on the same day for MW/TTH classes.	12/18/2018 6:32 PM

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167	Yes, there are things that could be done. Whether we have the leadership to carry that out, many are pessimistic. That alone is a canary in a coal mine. One idea is to turn Wednesday through Saturday of the last week into a compressed finals week.	12/18/2018 6:28 PM
168	Do not ask instructors to hold finals early in the week. Go back to having a dedicated finals weeks or at least give instructors the option to treat the last week of class as "finals week"	12/18/2018 6:11 PM
169	Advertise the final exam schedule sooner. Also advertise deadlines sooner	12/18/2018 6:01 PM
170	Nothing to improve, it works fine as is.	12/18/2018 5:29 PM
171	No.	12/18/2018 5:21 PM
172	No	12/18/2018 5:20 PM
173	Nope	12/18/2018 5:20 PM
174	As a college, we may implicitly adjust final schedule for students. For example, we can consider students with a lot of exams on the same day. I am not sure it is OK to train students to adjust by themselves or professors should consider their intense schedule to adjust each class exam schedule.	12/18/2018 5:15 PM
175	Not that I can think of.	12/18/2018 5:14 PM
176	The college should try to plan out if they are going to have different divisions/classes have to hold their exams on different days (earlier in the week) and/or spread them out so that student performance isn't the most impacted by having so many exams on a single day. I think that bringing back finals week would also be helpful.	12/18/2018 5:12 PM
177	I suggest returning to the 18-week semester.	12/18/2018 5:08 PM
178	No	12/18/2018 5:03 PM
179	Get the word out about the format.	12/18/2018 5:02 PM
180	There's not much that can be done.	12/18/2018 5:00 PM
181	Don't cancel any classes unless absolutely necessary.	12/18/2018 5:00 PM
182	Try not to have to close the college 3/4 of the way through the semester.	12/18/2018 4:51 PM
183	Clarify whether we must have two meetings or one during the last week of classes (assuming we are in a two meeting per week schedule).	12/18/2018 4:48 PM
184	Don't keep the same format. Period.	12/18/2018 4:42 PM
185	Send out an email to students that in the final week, the usual schedule will be upheld	12/18/2018 4:40 PM
186	None	12/18/2018 4:32 PM
187	Consider going back to an 18-week semester.	12/18/2018 4:24 PM
188	No.	12/18/2018 4:24 PM
189	Add a final exam week	12/18/2018 4:14 PM
190	Professors need to be clear that the last week is still an in-class/still an online week if they want students to attend. I used the week to give finals. I heard, although I cannot verify, one professor did not have classes the last week. It could be confusing for students.	12/18/2018 4:12 PM
191	the new format works fine. the only issue was dealing with the week lost to the campus closure due to fire. It is harder to assess how this semester went because of this factor. Personally I had to make changes to the curriculum and what I could still include. I know several students who were struggling with the varied ways that faculty dealt with this issue tho, as some faculty were still assigning work on the last week of the semester in order to complete the curriculum. I also heard a student say that he received a homework assignment after the final date. It seems that we are all on a different page about how to manage the final week.	12/18/2018 4:11 PM
192	No	12/18/2018 4:10 PM
193	fine	12/18/2018 4:09 PM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

194	Work to ensure that STEM students do not have 3 or 4 exams on the same day (Wednesday or Thursday). Also, it seems as though many (non-STEM) faculty elected to not meet for classes on Monday/Tuesday of the last week of classes. . . parking lots were noticeably less full and students said that their other instructors had papers due during the 15th week and were not requiring classes to meet during the 16th week. This doesn't seem right/appropriate, at best.	12/18/2018 4:08 PM
195	Perhaps more transparency as to when finals are being offered, or a more strongly enforced suggested schedule.	12/18/2018 4:08 PM
196	Nope	12/18/2018 4:03 PM
197	Maybe there could be some kind of marketing strategy sharing that we have changed. I think there were students that were caught off guard.	12/18/2018 4:03 PM
198	It's impossible to have a class meeting after the final exam. It has to be the last class meeting.	12/18/2018 4:02 PM
199	keeping students well-informed about the final exam week, what could happen to some students, three finals in a day, etc...	12/18/2018 3:59 PM
200	The college can help students manage stress. Not sure how. It is very difficult to teach all material in a meaningful way in such a short amount of time.	12/18/2018 3:59 PM
201	I didn't like the recommendation to hold exams on Mon. for some M/W classes. It seemed good at first but having an extra class after the exam was the downside. Let's do exams on normal schedule.	12/18/2018 3:58 PM
202	Nothing. We just need to go back to 18 week format after Spring 19.	12/18/2018 3:56 PM
203	I don't think so. It was a minor change.	12/18/2018 3:52 PM
204	I feel the Final Exam calendar needs to be restored. It is unfair to expect students to manage a chaotic exam schedule that is embedded in their instructional schedule. Dedicated class meetings for exams collegewide is my recommendation.	12/18/2018 3:48 PM
205	Offer students opportunity to take exams scheduled for Weds./Thurs. earlier (Mon. or Tues.), especially students who use Alt. Testing in DSS	12/18/2018 3:48 PM
206	No	12/18/2018 3:47 PM
207	I think it's best that the students have a staggered final schedule as before because potentially they could have all their finals on Wednesday or Thursday	12/18/2018 3:47 PM
208	if the same daily schedule must be maintained, we need a greater effort to offset some exam to earlier in the week	12/18/2018 3:44 PM
209	Advocate for restoration of an 18 week semester, with a true finals week. I can't think of anything realistic.	12/18/2018 3:44 PM
210	Without a change in format, I think the faculty will have to continue to adapt classes to minimize the college's format's impact.	12/18/2018 3:43 PM
211	Ammend your plan and dump the format.	12/18/2018 3:42 PM
212	Finals week.	12/18/2018 3:42 PM
213	None I can think of.	12/18/2018 3:41 PM
214	more communication to students	12/18/2018 3:41 PM
215	Since my final assignments are online, I like having the option of holding class as an extended study time for those students who need it.	12/18/2018 3:40 PM
216	The new compressed schedule gives very little wiggle room when emergencies arise. Due to the fire closure, my classes got behind and I never had the time to catch up. I realized that we have no safety net in this schedule. It's very tight.	12/18/2018 3:39 PM
217	Just making sure that students have a clear idea that it is finals week. There was some confusion on the schedule. As we drift away from old final schedule this should happen less	12/18/2018 3:38 PM
218	-ideal: 16 wks + 1 finals week -otherwise, current format is fine -issues with ensuring students don't have 3+ finals on the same day	12/18/2018 3:38 PM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

219	Nothing can change that will allow the additional time between the "end of instruction" and the final exam except for allowing students to have a "true" final exam week. With the shorter semester and no finals week, STEM courses have been condensed and there should be no change in the required curriculum.	12/18/2018 3:37 PM
220	One of my students requested the campus invest in stress relief animals such as dogs to be located strategically throughout campus. I am not sure how feasible this is, but my students were so stressed, I would try anything. I also think yoga sessions would be great to hold in different areas on campus throughout the finals week.	12/18/2018 3:37 PM
221	make the last week a finals week as that is how it turned out this semester. i gave my final exam on monday and thus wednesday was a wasted day as far as instruction.	12/18/2018 3:36 PM
222	Dedicated finals week	12/18/2018 3:34 PM
223	15 weeks but with a 1 week exam schedule as in the past?	12/18/2018 3:33 PM
224	No. I think it works for my discipline, but I know that other disciplines are having issues.	12/18/2018 3:33 PM
225	I don't know.	12/18/2018 3:33 PM

Q5 In spring 19, we are keeping the same format. Are there things that you could do to improve spring? Any changes you plan to make?

Answered: 226 Skipped: 66

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I plan to have no testing at the end of the semester. Instead I planned a final project.	1/8/2019 11:51 AM
2	Well, I think now that I have experienced this "living trial balloon," so to speak, I will make my time line and due dates somewhat different and enhance student awareness of the way my class will work for the last week of the semester.	1/8/2019 10:03 AM
3	Continue to be organized and make sure my semester is well planned out. It is not that difficult.	1/8/2019 8:39 AM
4	Shorten my courses. This "improves" students chances on the final. But they learn less.	1/7/2019 10:25 PM
5	I'll be better prepared mentally and try to prepare students better for the insanity that will be the last two days of the semester but other than that I have not been able to come up with creative ways to make this finals format better for me as an instructor or for my students.	1/7/2019 4:04 PM
6	I think we are stuck given the fact we can't change to finals week	1/7/2019 1:01 PM
7	I'm teaching on-line this semester, so there shouldn't be any issues. The biggest problem about the fall semester was the number of instructional days we lost.	1/7/2019 12:17 PM
8	Moving research papers to earlier in the semester to alleviate work burden for students in the last week of classes.	1/7/2019 10:13 AM
9	see above	1/7/2019 9:02 AM
10	doesn't involve me	1/7/2019 6:42 AM
11	none	1/7/2019 6:36 AM
12	I'll assign more reading assignments	1/6/2019 10:30 AM
13	Yes, I will make changes to my testing format and last two weeks of class time such as introducing a final project and presentation option.	1/6/2019 9:55 AM
14	Monitoring closely the course content curriculum schedule to ensure students are prepared for final exams.	1/5/2019 10:59 PM
15	Be quicker with assignments	1/5/2019 7:26 PM
16	Talk about the final more... but honestly the shut down from the fires also made the end of thesemster really difficult.	1/5/2019 3:30 PM
17	just making adjustments based on last semester to work out kinks	1/5/2019 3:02 PM
18	This should be a NO final exam week survey.	1/5/2019 9:36 AM
19	No	1/5/2019 9:23 AM
20	See my comment on #3	1/5/2019 6:07 AM
21	Less assignments to give more time for final project	1/4/2019 7:43 PM
22	I need to tweak my final assignment slightly so that it doesn't feel rushed in the shortened time period.	1/4/2019 2:04 PM
23	Not applicable	1/4/2019 1:01 PM
24	no changes planned.	1/4/2019 10:53 AM
25	I will treat the last week as if it were finals week.	1/4/2019 10:35 AM
26	As I said before, I will probably do finals a week earlier and instead of having final projects disperse them throughout the semester, so not as much is due at the end.	1/4/2019 10:10 AM

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27	Encourage my colleagues to follow the academic senate "recommended" finals schedule; encourage faculty to deliver final exams/projects in alternate methods that don't prioritize in-class work.	1/4/2019 9:11 AM
28	Yes, making some adjustments to my course outline and materials to fit the time frame.	1/4/2019 9:10 AM
29	None	1/4/2019 8:46 AM
30	I think I would prefer 15 weeks with the 16th week devoted to final exams.	1/4/2019 8:27 AM
31	No. It went well.	1/3/2019 11:19 PM
32	None	1/3/2019 8:47 PM
33	I will try to cram more material in the beginning of the semester so that I can provide my students with time to study for their final exams.	1/3/2019 8:17 PM
34	nope	1/3/2019 8:08 PM
35	I plan on being more direct with the new time/date format for final exams. Some of my student were confused a bit--but it all worked out.	1/3/2019 6:16 PM
36	Remind students (and updated due dates)	1/3/2019 5:47 PM
37	Bit better preparation coming into last week.	1/3/2019 5:33 PM
38	I already had to redesign my points for the semester and what the exam covered and what we did with the rest of the time we were in class that week.	1/3/2019 4:11 PM
39	Nope.	1/3/2019 4:11 PM
40	No changes.	1/3/2019 4:06 PM
41	I'll make changes so that what used to be a 2 hour final activity, will be truncated and be done in 80 minutes. I'll do this on the Wed. of my M-W class, but I fear that the Monday will be basically a waste.	1/3/2019 4:00 PM
42	I've just retired! :) Again, I think if instructors take time on the front end to plan their class schedule content to fit into the 16 weeks, it works well. At least it did for me.	1/3/2019 3:41 PM
43	No.	1/3/2019 3:19 PM
44	Early announcement for dates of the finals.	1/3/2019 2:38 PM
45	NO	1/3/2019 2:38 PM
46	More options	1/3/2019 2:24 PM
47	none	1/3/2019 2:18 PM
48	My courses will change. I'm not sure how yet. Last semester, everything felt chaotic after about week 5. Sorry, I'm not being much help on this one.	1/3/2019 2:10 PM
49	Adjust the content and pace of teaching so that students will get what they need and understand the content for student success.	1/3/2019 2:00 PM
50	Add assignments in Canvas rather than during class time.	1/3/2019 1:52 PM
51	I prepped students well for the final, given the conditions, and will do the same.	1/3/2019 1:45 PM
52	Plan a more productive last week lecture that connects to the final exam.	1/3/2019 1:40 PM
53	I will consider using an on-line component so that I could do part of the final in a differet format.	1/3/2019 1:28 PM
54	No	1/3/2019 1:16 PM
55	I will simple have to cover less material. There is no way the 16 week calendar allows us to cover the same amount of content, or allows the students to absorb the same amount of content. I will now make my cumulative final optional; it will be there in case students want to try to replace a low mid-term score.	1/3/2019 1:10 PM
56	I felt that I was clear in communicating this schedule adjustment both in written form for n the syllabus and verbally throughout the semester. Not much more I can do.	1/3/2019 12:55 PM
57	Ensure all work is done by last day of class	1/3/2019 12:55 PM
58	No	1/3/2019 12:55 PM

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59	Work more weekends to catch up and sacrifice family time a longer summer or more weeks not on campus is not a solution to balance work with life.	1/3/2019 12:50 PM
60	I may only have midterms and no finals.	1/3/2019 12:33 PM
61	Yes, but I would prefer a systemic change to individual coping	1/3/2019 12:30 PM
62	I plan on implementing the same plan I used for fall.	1/3/2019 12:30 PM
63	I think I will cut my Final Exam across two days, as I did in the Fall. This seemed to work better for students as each half was less than a full 85 minute exam.	1/3/2019 12:15 PM
64	I could reduce the amount of material and/or time spent actually teaching in order to accommodate the non-final week final exams for my classes, but this seems to go against contract and against common sense.	1/3/2019 12:14 PM
65	I plan to hold finals on different days than the 16th week of spring that will not conflict with the music jury schedule.	1/3/2019 12:13 PM
66	None	1/3/2019 11:56 AM
67	Use makeup test center	1/3/2019 11:53 AM
68	Shorten and combine lectures....	1/3/2019 11:44 AM
69	I plan to condense my schedule and use canvas more.	1/3/2019 11:13 AM
70	I plan to attempt to help students balance study needs.	1/3/2019 11:04 AM
71	Adjust my lecture format to include more group projects.	1/2/2019 8:52 PM
72	No, See above.	12/31/2018 3:31 PM
73	I will rethink my means of assessing my students throughout the semester. I will rethink the role of the final. I could spread out the final over two class period.	12/29/2018 8:34 AM
74	I'm going to start working on my Spring plans in January, so I don't have anything in mind yet.	12/27/2018 8:06 PM
75	In the spring I am just teaching a one day a week class, so the limited time period won't be a problem.	12/27/2018 5:57 PM
76	I'll just have to stick to a very ambitious and crammed schedule.	12/26/2018 2:35 PM
77	I adjusted my final this semester, so I am all set for Spring.	12/26/2018 10:33 AM
78	can't do anything more than I have. Hope for no school closure days.	12/24/2018 3:43 PM
79	I will have my lab exam the week before and do my last lab during the final week. Students will not be tested on the final lab.	12/24/2018 11:21 AM
80	Not at this time.	12/22/2018 9:17 PM
81	None	12/22/2018 5:17 PM
82	Schedule less work for the students.	12/22/2018 10:47 AM
83	Ibid	12/21/2018 6:29 PM
84	evaluate what i can leave out with the reduced lecture period, perhaps create a handout or post on Canvas what there was not time to cover live in class	12/21/2018 4:02 PM
85	None that I know of.	12/21/2018 12:17 PM
86	Yes- this semester was faster than I thought. I need to work on the time a management of my classes and time for students to complete assignments. Although- I think part of the rushed feeling was because of the week of cancelled classes (Due to the fires)	12/21/2018 9:24 AM
87	I will be thinking about that soon. but not in terms of final schedule.	12/20/2018 5:52 PM
88	Yes, I'm still adjusting my lectures to the 16-week format.	12/20/2018 2:29 PM
89	I will hold review and practice problems sessions during the lab periods on the last week of the semester, in an attempt to alleviate some of the stress and anxiety students have during the finals.	12/20/2018 12:35 PM
90	I personally tried to help by giving the main part of my final on Tuesday rather than Wednesday or Thursday, and will probably do that again. I may also have to give up the idea of fairly assessing the last topics covered on the final exam.	12/20/2018 12:24 PM

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91	Well I have to cover less material and/or just not have any time during the semester to review. I don't want to do this but I don't have a choice in the matter.	12/20/2018 9:51 AM
92	Really make sure students know are prepared for the final.	12/20/2018 9:38 AM
93	get better sense of colleagues giving finals-to plan to when scheduling mine	12/20/2018 8:55 AM
94	Not really	12/20/2018 8:15 AM
95	no	12/20/2018 6:41 AM
96	Worked fine as is.	12/20/2018 12:34 AM
97	I think my finals schedule was well planned this semester, and I don't see the need for any changes next semester.	12/19/2018 11:28 PM
98	I will space out the assignments I have due at the end of the term differently.	12/19/2018 11:04 PM
99	Always.	12/19/2018 10:53 PM
100	none	12/19/2018 10:06 PM
101	I already apologized to my students.	12/19/2018 9:33 PM
102	yes ~ I plan to re-think my final exam and perhaps change it to a last class instead	12/19/2018 5:09 PM
103	none	12/19/2018 4:42 PM
104	I'm planning ahead and telling students the plan week one, so they have to adjust accordingly and convey their views to the administration.	12/19/2018 3:29 PM
105	In terms of final? I had just Monday/Wednesday classes. I was lucky that it was suggested my finals be given on Wed. It was a challenge this semester to cover all my material because of canceled classes. I wouldn't have been happy if I was advised to have my finals on Monday. That's something I'll have to think about.	12/19/2018 2:33 PM
106	Go back to course SLO's and see what content can be cut out or shortened.	12/19/2018 2:26 PM
107	I am changing my final project to fit into one session. I will also make certain that my students are aware of the new changes.	12/19/2018 2:13 PM
108	I think without losing the week due to smoke I would have been OK	12/19/2018 1:32 PM
109	Schedule the final for the last day.	12/19/2018 1:21 PM
110	Change my planning to adhere better to the, "Less is more" mantra. Rather than rushing through the material, select the most important parts and make time for students to learn.	12/19/2018 1:21 PM
111	Probably, I'll do the final exam not on the last day of class but the class before. Then the last day of class we can summarize the course, and say buy to each other not in a hurry.	12/19/2018 1:04 PM
112	Maybe I'll switch to take-home or online finals.	12/19/2018 12:18 PM
113	Stay very very focused	12/19/2018 12:12 PM
114	No. I am forced to give my final exams on the last day of class.	12/19/2018 12:11 PM
115	realign assignments for class	12/19/2018 12:09 PM
116	I will be splitting my final across two lecture days, which still means that a student is not done with my final on the first day and thus unable to focus on another final, but must continue to have his/her focus split through out the week on multiple events. The compressed calendar is already more difficult for weaker students in the science areas and spreading finals out across multiple days is also more difficult for weaker students. This is, however, a better option than trying to squeeze everything into the last two days of class.	12/19/2018 11:58 AM
117	none	12/19/2018 11:54 AM
118	I did my best to give them time off with no new material - preferably at least a week before the final. I'll do the same.	12/19/2018 11:38 AM
119	I will be adding participation points to my course syllabus (and this includes attendance). Students can not miss a couple of classes especially if the college is closed for two of the class sessions.	12/19/2018 11:37 AM
120	No, for my class, it worked great.	12/19/2018 11:33 AM
121	Provide alternative final exams formats and due dates (F2F; Online).	12/19/2018 11:23 AM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

122	I will not have two-part final exams. I will also cancel the additional class meetings, using my sick leave. Although I teach five-unit classes and am required to give cumulative final exams, it is not worth it. I will have brief, but still cumulative, final exams. Many students will not finish their exam, but at least do more than half of it, and they will not have five exams in one day, and we might all have some breathing room. I will apologize to students and urge them to write letters to the administration, describing how impossible it is to prepare for and take four or five science and math final exams per day, several days in a row. By the way, in the ranking that we are asked to do in the next question, I'm assuming that 1 is my first choice.	12/19/2018 10:31 AM
123	I'm improving my spring by retiring.	12/19/2018 10:15 AM
124	none needed	12/19/2018 10:11 AM
125	No	12/19/2018 9:57 AM
126	Nope. I will continue to review in the first half of the week and give my final in the second half of the week. Poor students.	12/19/2018 9:52 AM
127	After such an abbreviated semester, I really need to streamline my content. I made it through only 75% of the material I wanted to cover in both of my lecture classes.	12/19/2018 9:44 AM
128	I plan to re-adjust my planning to better fit the 16-week semester and students will submit a final essay rather than take an exam. I will also do more to get students the support they need early.	12/19/2018 9:28 AM
129	No,all went well	12/19/2018 9:22 AM
130	No final exam, presentation, and essay. It is extremely unfortunate because students don't have time to reflect what they have learned and we will not be able to evaluate how much they have learned.	12/19/2018 9:19 AM
131	No. None.	12/19/2018 9:05 AM
132	I'm teaching only on line in the spring, so it doesn't affect me very much	12/19/2018 9:03 AM
133	I am planning to re-work some parts of my curriculum over the "break." (Hah!) But I feel like I am between a rock and a hard place. Digression: There needed to be a lot more discussion about converting to a shorter term than I saw happening on campus. It feels like we are swept up in a fury of excitement for change that isn't thoughtful. (I realize this won't be a popular position.) Too many decisions about the community colleges are being made by people who are not in the classroom. This includes legislators, administrators and newly minted administrators who for some reason(????) have given up teaching to administrate. There has been no real discussion, for example, about the new funding formula and its impact on grading and evaluation. I'm assuming I will be expected to lower the bar even more so students won't drop my classes and we lose points. The tragedy here is that the public institutions will get worse, the elite institutions will remain elite and the disparity between the haves and have nots will grow. End of digression. So, I'm supposed to teach the same material (per course outlines) as always but in less time and to students who year after year are less willing or able to read. Hokay... And because I am a teacher, I should be able to do this. And if I admit it is an impossible assignment, then obviously, I am not a "good teacher." I have been at this for 30 years, it's getting very bad and we need an educated (not just a trained) workforce. Direct instruction is so 19th century, but please tell me how we are to "guide" students who will not, or cannot read? How do I teach history under these circumstances? And has our department actually addressed these issues-NO! At least what I hear (I am "part time--yeah--teaching five classes in two different schools-so not really part time at all) is that FT faculty are Gullivers in Lilliputland--tied down by mindless SLO crap (which it is) so they have no time to really take on pedagogical issues. I think we need a MANDATORY department meeting where ALL we discuss is curriculum and pedagogy.	12/19/2018 9:00 AM
134	Planning doing lab the whole section time on the second to last day in order to give a buffer between the material and the final.	12/19/2018 8:56 AM
135	I'm still thinking how to fix this issue.	12/19/2018 8:42 AM
136	I clearly need to change my set up. I'm not sure if I'll be able to continue to teach four essays (I'm in English) or if I need to move to three.	12/19/2018 8:30 AM
137	I don't teach the same classes every semester, so it will just force me to improvise again.	12/19/2018 8:14 AM
138	Put a temporary bandaid on it until admin gets their heads screwed on straight and brings back finals week.	12/19/2018 8:13 AM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

139	Not really. I waited till mid semester to figure out with my final would be so that I can work around my students' other classes.	12/19/2018 8:05 AM
140	I could use lab time to cover lecture material, so my students have five hours of lecture in a row.	12/19/2018 7:56 AM
141	I will not be teaching the last week. I will incorporate down time for the students to think only about studying... not new material. This will make my class a 15 week class, but it is better than the students worrying about new material that close to the final exam.	12/19/2018 1:32 AM
142	n/a	12/18/2018 11:37 PM
143	I'm still getting acquainted with the pace of the 16 week semester with no separate finals week. Now that I have a better idea, I will help set appropriate student expectations and reinforce throughout the semester.	12/18/2018 10:45 PM
144	I've been thinking about this a lot, but I'm not sure. I had originally scheduled the last week to be review time, but when we lost a few days due to the air quality, I had to use one of those days to finish a lab experiment. I'll schedule the last week as a review week again for the Spring and see how things go. I also might opt to give 4 exams and no final (instead of 3 exams and a cumulative final). That would avoid having 2 big exams in consecutive weeks.	12/18/2018 10:28 PM
145	If half of my students are in the same class again with another instructor I could talk to them about coordinating our testing.	12/18/2018 10:23 PM
146	No plans for changes.	12/18/2018 10:21 PM
147	No	12/18/2018 10:20 PM
148	I am going to ask the department if I have to do the comp final (I think I do) the current system is setting up my students for failure on it	12/18/2018 10:02 PM
149	Have back up plans for incidents like the smoke closure.	12/18/2018 9:17 PM
150	It should be better in spring 19 because (we hope) the college won't be closed for several days as it was this fall due to the fires, which cut into our teaching and review time.	12/18/2018 8:40 PM
151	No.	12/18/2018 8:24 PM
152	None.	12/18/2018 8:13 PM
153	I plan to condense my final exam to be able to fit into a lecture period, so that I don't have to give it in two parts.	12/18/2018 7:54 PM
154	No. Cutting out the extra week is a serious mistake,	12/18/2018 7:51 PM
155	no. I've already compressed the content to fit the new schedule.	12/18/2018 7:38 PM
156	No!	12/18/2018 7:33 PM
157	Make a shorter exam.	12/18/2018 7:21 PM
158	no	12/18/2018 7:17 PM
159	I know I need to be more organized in terms of expectations and time spent on covering material in the texts. I hope to have students write more in class (for credit) so they are ready to write an essay the last day of class within 1 1/2 hours.	12/18/2018 7:09 PM
160	Look at the school's explanation of its calendar more closely.	12/18/2018 7:09 PM
161	Get rid of the idea of no Finals Week. It does the students a disservice.	12/18/2018 6:59 PM
162	Already made do as well as I could	12/18/2018 6:52 PM
163	The course I teach will not be offered in Spring 2018.	12/18/2018 6:49 PM
164	None. I will give my Final on Wednesday.	12/18/2018 6:48 PM
165	No. The changes I made in fall 18 worked well!	12/18/2018 6:46 PM
166	As a faculty member, I am trying to make the decrease in effective meeting times successful. Learning doesn't improve by compressing available time.	12/18/2018 6:28 PM
167	I'll try, but it is going to cost the students content.	12/18/2018 6:11 PM
168	The only thing I can do is start reminding students earlier about it	12/18/2018 6:01 PM
169	Considering turning mon/tues into a review lesson instead of a new content lesson.	12/18/2018 5:47 PM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

139	Not really. I waited till mid semester to figure out with my final would be so that I can work around my students' other classes.	12/19/2018 8:05 AM
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153	I plan to condense my final exam to be able to fit into a lecture period, so that I don't have to give it in two parts.	12/18/2018 7:54 PM
154	No. Cutting out the extra week is a serious mistake,	12/18/2018 7:51 PM
155	no. I've already compressed the content to fit the new schedule.	12/18/2018 7:38 PM
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157	Make a shorter exam.	12/18/2018 7:21 PM
158	no	12/18/2018 7:17 PM
159	I know I need to be more organized in terms of expectations and time spent on covering material in the texts. I hope to have students write more in class (for credit) so they are ready to write an essay the last day of class within 1 1/2 hours.	12/18/2018 7:09 PM
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168	The only thing I can do is start reminding students earlier about it	12/18/2018 6:01 PM
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Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

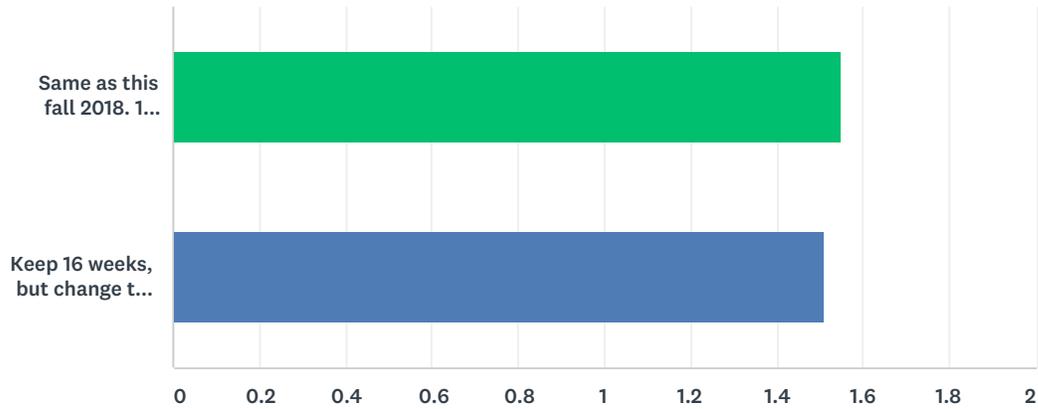
170	No	12/18/2018 5:44 PM
171	Nothing to improve, it works fine as is.	12/18/2018 5:29 PM
172	I will do what I did this semester—split the final and give it over two days (with a review session before each one). It's not a perfect solution, but the students seemed to appreciate it.	12/18/2018 5:27 PM
173	No.	12/18/2018 5:21 PM
174	No	12/18/2018 5:20 PM
175	Not that I can think of.	12/18/2018 5:20 PM
176	I would like to prepare students more for the final on the final week so that they would not panic on the final day.	12/18/2018 5:15 PM
177	My schedule is my schedule.What can I do now?	12/18/2018 5:14 PM
178	I think that it would have to be a discussion with other professors that teach the class I taught in the fall to see if we could better coordinate more equal exam schedules.	12/18/2018 5:12 PM
179	I always look for way to improve as a professor. I have not had enough time to analyze student performance data and reflect on it to come up with substantive changes. I am confident that I will put in this time over the next several weeks.	12/18/2018 5:08 PM
180	No	12/18/2018 5:03 PM
181	I plan on finishing delivering all of the material by the end of week 15.	12/18/2018 5:02 PM
182	Yes. I'll never teach calculus afdgain.	12/18/2018 5:00 PM
183	Have tests earlier.	12/18/2018 5:00 PM
184	I thought my fall courses worked out fine in terms of things.	12/18/2018 4:51 PM
185	Most likely a take-home final.	12/18/2018 4:48 PM
186	Yes, but they are a bandaid until you re-institute finals week.	12/18/2018 4:42 PM
187	I put a lot of thoughts into how to organize the last week of college and I think it worked out for me and the students in my class	12/18/2018 4:40 PM
188	Not at this time	12/18/2018 4:32 PM
189	I guess lower my expectations for students doing their homework.	12/18/2018 4:24 PM
190	Not that I can think of.	12/18/2018 4:24 PM
191	Be more prepared for the last minute squeeze at the end of the semester.	12/18/2018 4:14 PM
192	I am not planning on making any changes to my syllabi: using the last week for finals.	12/18/2018 4:12 PM
193	This semester was a huge learning curve because of the compressed calendar. I plan to change my curriculum as a result. I will have one fewer project, and more exercises.	12/18/2018 4:11 PM
194	No	12/18/2018 4:10 PM
195	no changes	12/18/2018 4:09 PM
196	I wouldn't change anything. I had regular class on Monday and gave my final exam on Wednesday. It worked well though students didn't have much/any downtime in between the last class meeting and the exam. This could be positive or negative. . .	12/18/2018 4:08 PM
197	Give 2 final exam periods in the final week in order to cover material and fully utilize contact hours.	12/18/2018 4:08 PM
198	Nope	12/18/2018 4:03 PM
199	I am a counselor--so as finals approach I might ask students more about how they are preparing for their finals. Because the schedule for the week isn't different, it may be easier for students to plan.	12/18/2018 4:03 PM
200	I'm combining the last regular exam with the final.	12/18/2018 4:02 PM
201	I gave a two-part of the final this semester. I will do the same thing this spring. My students seemed that they felt less pressured from the amount of the final (my exam is a comprehensive exam from day one.	12/18/2018 3:59 PM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

202	I plan to not include last lesson in final exam.	12/18/2018 3:59 PM
203	I have to drop some of important materials to teach so that we don't have to rush too much and students have some time to review.	12/18/2018 3:56 PM
204	I don't think so. It was a minor change.	12/18/2018 3:52 PM
205	I plan to continue teaching my students how to prepare for and take final exams. This is part of the academy that they will need to navigate at transfer institutions. I will continue to help my students with time management and planning so that they can navigate their final week of instruction.	12/18/2018 3:48 PM
206	what I did this semester, which was to offer students the option of taking exams early (Mon. or Tues.), if they were jammed up on Weds./Thurs.	12/18/2018 3:48 PM
207	Giving my final in two class periods instead of one although this eliminates one teaching class period. The other option is to give the final during a lab period.	12/18/2018 3:47 PM
208	because I made on my changes already in order to accommodate the closure of the campus I think I'm going to incorporate that in the spring as well	12/18/2018 3:47 PM
209	More guidance on which classes should give finals on Monday/Tuesday. And suggestions for what to do in a class meeting after giving the final - what incentives do students have to even attend that class?	12/18/2018 3:47 PM
210	It is difficult with the shortened semester to fit in all of the content. I had to skip two chapters that I have taught for 18 years. I need my final exam on the last day. We should go back to the 17.5 week schedule if we really claim to be a student centered school.	12/18/2018 3:44 PM
211	I already spread out material earlier in the semester to give students more of a chance early on. I already compressed the "pain" a bit earlier in the second half of the course, so the last week was fully used, but demands on the students were as low as I could make them. Make "final projects" due the second or third to last week, if possible, rather than "at the final."	12/18/2018 3:44 PM
212	As I said above, as a faculty member, I'll figure something out. One idea is to survey students and, when I see there are students with four classes on a given schedule (MW or TTH), I'll look at moving up my final for that class(es).	12/18/2018 3:43 PM
213	Yes, I will strive to make a best compromise of the poor available options.	12/18/2018 3:42 PM
214	none	12/18/2018 3:41 PM
215	none	12/18/2018 3:41 PM
216	Please stress to students that not every class has a final exam	12/18/2018 3:40 PM
217	I need to continue to adjust my class calendars to accommodate the new schedule. I did this at the beginning of the fall but it didn't really work. This new schedule was harder to work with than I expected.	12/18/2018 3:39 PM
218	I might streamline my schedule a little. Get it to match better.	12/18/2018 3:38 PM
219	survey students, see when their other finals are; limit final week assignments	12/18/2018 3:38 PM
220	I may change my midterm schedule, however this will NOT give the students the time to absorb the materials presented during the last weeks of the semester and still allow me to evaluate each topic twice (once on a midterm and once on the final).	12/18/2018 3:37 PM
221	I will be changing from having a cumulative final to having four regularly spaced semester exams to take some of the stress off of students in that last week.	12/18/2018 3:37 PM
222	i will probably do the same. let the students vote as to when they want to have their final exam.	12/18/2018 3:36 PM
223	Adjust last week's curriculum	12/18/2018 3:34 PM
224	I gave my exams on the 15 week to try and ease the student's pain. I would do that again.	12/18/2018 3:33 PM
225	I will be teaching in Florence.	12/18/2018 3:33 PM
226	I will be teaching online only as I'm teaching only one class, so for me, it won't be an issue.	12/18/2018 3:33 PM

Q6 In 2019-2020, which would be your preferred schedule? Please rank.

Answered: 255 Skipped: 37



	1	2	TOTAL	SCORE
Same as this fall 2018. 16 weeks with finals integrated into the last week of classes	55.26% 126	44.74% 102	228	1.55
Keep 16 weeks, but change to 15 weeks of classes and a separate week of finals.	51.27% 121	48.73% 115	236	1.51

Q7 Do you have any other comments on the finals exam week schedule that you would like to share?

Answered: 164 Skipped: 128

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	No.	1/8/2019 11:51 AM
2	Yeah. . . I don't like EITHER of those two ranked choices you listed above.	1/8/2019 10:03 AM
3	Finals schedule problems reflect the whole compressed schedule idea. It's a great idea for people who want more time off. A bad idea for students who actually want to learn. And students from other schools now have a competitive advantage over them if they go on.	1/7/2019 10:25 PM
4	I think the format for finals in Fall 2018 was such a disservice to students and instructors and I hope that we don't continue to hold finals in this way in the future.	1/7/2019 4:04 PM
5	I think it would be helpful to add a finals week to the semester in the long run (16 weeks plus a finals week).	1/7/2019 10:13 AM
6	Go back to 18 week semesters	1/7/2019 9:02 AM
7	doesn't involve me	1/7/2019 6:42 AM
8	no	1/7/2019 6:36 AM
9	I made them all.	1/6/2019 9:55 AM
10	Not at this time.	1/5/2019 10:59 PM
11	keep it as is, setting a schedule for 4 months and then changing it for the last week of school has always been to complicated.	1/5/2019 3:02 PM
12	I really don't care, but there was no final exam week.	1/5/2019 9:36 AM
13	I like the 16 wk semester, just make suggestions on how to avoid conflicts.	1/5/2019 6:07 AM
14	Can we have final exam week a on top of 16 week of instruction?	1/4/2019 7:43 PM
15	Thank you for trying something new and getting our feedback!	1/4/2019 2:04 PM
16	No.	1/4/2019 1:01 PM
17	I thought exams went OK, but I hope someone is checking that idea with students. I have a feeling that some were slammed by exams on Wed. and Thurs.	1/4/2019 10:53 AM
18	I believe I've said all that was necessary in my above mentioned answers.	1/4/2019 10:10 AM
19	I am not sure how the calendar revision discussions are happening, but I think it's a very good idea to have a finals week as the last week of a 16-week semester if that's a possibility (sounds like from senate it is). Further, I am not sure whether this will be a straight "democratic" vote based on this survey or whatever since the calendar is a negotiated item (from what I understand)--but I hope this is a decision college leaders can weigh in on, because I feel pretty strongly that at least the leaders/colleagues of some influence I have talked to feel that re-instituting a finals week (15 regular weeks + 1 final exam week) is a good idea. I think a lot of faculty who react "no" to the above position are having a knee-jerk reaction of "no more loss to instruction time!" but in reality, we are talking about *one* fewer class session, and that would not be important in "real life" (at all). In my opinion, such a reaction is borne out of a weird "too much change" mentality and somehow strangely conservative (conserving of what, I'm not sure). Anyway; of my faculty who weighed in on our senate rep's notes on a "reply all thread," a handful of folks who took the time to weigh in first had this knee-jerk "no" with the "lost classtime" rationale. I respectfully weighed in otherwise, and then a group of the departmental decision makers had the same thoughts as me, and as I "voted" here--we need a finals week if we're going to be a college that continues to have a culture of in-class final exams. I hope we give this option real consideration--I think having a finals week is a very student-centered thing to do. Faculty and students are amazingly adaptable and will of course be fine in any calendar scenario (even if that seems impossible).	1/4/2019 9:11 AM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

20	I think it worked out fine	1/4/2019 8:46 AM
21	None	1/3/2019 8:47 PM
22	no	1/3/2019 8:08 PM
23	No	1/3/2019 6:16 PM
24	No	1/3/2019 5:47 PM
25	Going to 15 weeks of instruction would be difficult in terms of getting course outline covered - especially in the sciences.	1/3/2019 5:33 PM
26	If we went to 15 weeks of classes and a separate week of finals, would the class times be lengthened to make up for the reduced amount of class time during finals week? If not, why did the district not know that this was an option? This has caused a lot of problems - not only for faculty and students, but for tutoring centers and the Chemistry stockroom.	1/3/2019 4:11 PM
27	Nope.	1/3/2019 4:11 PM
28	It really works well and students are organized and motivated. It is a good high pitch end of semester.	1/3/2019 4:06 PM
29	Again, I liked keeping my regular class schedule and I'm guessing the students had it easier, as well--i.e. not having to keep track of what time any given final was going to take place.	1/3/2019 3:41 PM
30	No.	1/3/2019 3:19 PM
31	have 16 weeks of classes and then a 17th week as finals.	1/3/2019 2:56 PM
32	The 16 week decision's impact on reducing the quality of instruction is obvious to all. Having 15 weeks of instruction and a finals week will further erode the quality. Maintaining 16 weeks and adding a finals week would be an alternative that should be considered.	1/3/2019 2:38 PM
33	No	1/3/2019 2:24 PM
34	none	1/3/2019 2:18 PM
35	Fall 18 semester finals week was very difficult for students who signed up for cybersession. Need to bring back intersession so that students can focus on completing their fall finals without being distracted with having to read new material for cybersession. Student success is key and continuing with this format may affect that outcome in future semesters.	1/3/2019 2:00 PM
36	None at this time. Too early to assess. So far so good.	1/3/2019 1:52 PM
37	It would be great to have a finals schedule again to spread out exams for students and also give them more time. Once class period was too short for the in-class essay without a LOT of additional preparation to compensate. If contact hours are an issue, perhaps we can hold additional office hours.	1/3/2019 1:45 PM
38	I do think that some of the perceptions of challenges could well stem from the cancellation of classes due to the fires.	1/3/2019 1:28 PM
39	No	1/3/2019 1:16 PM
40	I think both of the #5 options are terrible for students AND faculty. Please consider a 16 week semester plus a 17th week for finals.	1/3/2019 1:10 PM
41	no	1/3/2019 12:55 PM
42	None	1/3/2019 12:55 PM
43	Very displeased that this schedule was not adequately communicated beforehand and that feedback was not sought by the admin prior to implementation.	1/3/2019 12:33 PM
44	I don't have a strong opinion either way so long as students are aware of the scheduling. Many, despite many reminders, were still confused by the end of classes!	1/3/2019 12:15 PM
45	Having final exams overlap the last week of instruction is a BAD IDEA!	1/3/2019 12:14 PM
46	I knew it would be challenge. Losing a week to smoke did not help.	1/3/2019 12:13 PM
47	None	1/3/2019 11:56 AM
48	Much better system...	1/3/2019 11:44 AM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

49	None	1/3/2019 11:13 AM
50	No	1/3/2019 11:04 AM
51	None	1/2/2019 8:52 PM
52	When we are more accustomed to 16 week semesters, we may feel less stressed about the finals week.	12/29/2018 8:34 AM
53	I liked having a separate week for Finals, but now that we are doing 16-week semesters, I appreciate meeting with my classes twice a week as usual during the last week. My students and I appreciated having more time for instruction.	12/27/2018 8:06 PM
54	Nope!	12/26/2018 10:33 AM

55	<p>I feel that compacting the schedule as has been done creates a "perfect storm" for lack of success for our science students. We need more class time. The students need more assimilation time and rest. I feel that the original 18 week semester including a final exams week was much better. Our situation • Many students taking our courses are taking at least 3 science and math courses and working at a job to make ends meet. • A high percentage (more than half of my class this fall) are interested in going to medical, dental, or veterinary school so really want good grades. Every student plans to transfer to a 4-year program next year or the year after or apply directly to medical school. Historically, all but a few of our students do transfer when they finish our program, mostly to the UC system. • DVC currently has a very good reputation at the UC system schools at least in our science area. • Our college level 2 year program is a four-course sequence with specified content which acts as prerequisite for specific courses at universities. Each course not only deals with new material, and is dependent on the prerequisite course, but attempts to expand the students' cognitive processing and application of the new material in multistep problems, working towards professional level. This is difficult for some students and takes assimilation and practice time. • I feel I am seeing an increasing number of fragile students every year, more DSS students (one of my colleagues' classes was 30% DSS, mine was only 10% this time), and more additional students with test anxiety and even depression. DSS students often need not only more time for exams, but more time to assimilate the material. And it may be more exhausting. One DSS student this semester decided to cut the last week of class and lab except for the exam, because she was so tired and needed to sleep to have the energy to do her best on the Final. • Additional time pressure makes stress worse for everyone. Research indicates that adults with a higher level of the stress hormone, cortisol, perform worse on cognitive and memory tests than their peers with average cortisol levels. Also sleep deprivation is detrimental to exam performance. Comments on the schedule options: The current 16 week term with no final exams week: For many students this schedule did not lead to the success they had wished for themselves. I was frustrated because I felt I could help them more but had no time and neither did they. Still, with very careful juggling, pruning material, and using many types of short cuts and media, we faculty worked out a schedule to just make it in the 16 weeks (32 lectures and labs including the Final Exam). Then the school was closed for smoke days so we lost another week. I have never felt more drained at the end. If this plan gets used again, it would be very prudent to build into the schedule a way to not lose critical class time if school needs to be closed (see one idea, "breather days" below). In the past three semesters we have had one or more school days cancelled due to smoke or a credible threat to our students or staff. Unfortunately, this may be the new normal. A 15 week semester with a one week Final's week: I don't feel there is any way to complete the syllabus in 15 weeks even if more minutes were added to the class than we have now. We have already cut down the number of exams and quizzes and lab experiments to gain time. We have gone through the curriculum making as many small cuts as possible. We would most likely have to cut one chapter per course. Then the next course starts at a deficit. And we have 4 courses in sequence. It would be a shame for DVC to lose its reputation as an excellent school for transfer success in the UC system. Many students come here because of DVC's ranking in number of transfers to the UC system. I suspect that a good percentage of DVC's transfers to UC are coming from our program, maybe 40 or 50 per year, in addition to those who transfer to CSU and elsewhere. What else could we do? Add "breather days" to the 16 week schedule. This might mean we have to spread the semester over 17 weeks instead of 16. I don't know how this could work with state rules but, if it could be worked out well, it generally makes sense to me. But there needs to be a lot of discussion and faculty input, especially on how "breather days" are scheduled. My thoughts on the concept of "breather days": - A "breather" day is a day when no classes are held. It is a day when students can stay home and catch up on sleep or their homework or whatever (and so can faculty). - Two "breather" days should not be offered next to each other or in the same week as a holiday, since any extended length of time could encourage an employer or family to plan other obligations for the student or offer too much of a break so that learning momentum is broken. - "Breather" days should all be in the second half of the semester when the workload gets hectic and some students start falling apart or could really appreciate down time. - One "breather day" could be assigned during the last class week when Finals are given if there is no Final Exam week. - Breather days could become regular class days if an emergency causes cancellation of a regular class day. "Breather days" could be used to make up those days if necessary and they would be built into the students' schedule already. "Breather days" are not official holidays. Thanks for listening. Sometimes we feel like the science area voices are drowned out, that the diversity of programs is not fully considered.</p>	12/24/2018 3:43 PM
56	Different disciplines have different needs. Divide up days based on discipline rather than time of class.	12/24/2018 11:21 AM
57	No	12/22/2018 9:17 PM
58	None	12/22/2018 5:17 PM

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59	Keep it the same. There was no impact on me as an instructor after converting to the 16 week calendar at the start of the term with my courses.	12/22/2018 10:47 AM
60	I want to reiterate how discombobulated students were not to mention that it doesn't adequately prepare those who transfer to 4-year universities.	12/21/2018 6:29 PM
61	no	12/21/2018 4:02 PM
62	No	12/21/2018 12:17 PM
63	No, but I really don't like the compressed calendar in general. It has caused me and my colleagues lots of problems, and potentially wil exacerbate enrollment problems on going.	12/20/2018 5:52 PM
64	Each semester should end with a week solely dedicated to final exams.	12/20/2018 12:35 PM
65	I think that this is an issue that is not best left up to any sort of majority vote, as the role that final exams play are not equal from discipline to discipline. The 4-year institutions that our students target expect our physical science classes to give comprehensive final exams that weigh very heavily into the final grades. Higher level classes in these disciplines crucially depend on full coverage of the topics in our courses, and build directly on top of them. Anything that challenges our ability to cover all of the material or assess it fairly really hinders the preparation of our students for the next steps in their education.	12/20/2018 12:24 PM
66	I don't see how this new schedule helped at all.	12/20/2018 9:51 AM
67	Is there a possibility of having 16 weeks of classes then a separate finals week?	12/20/2018 8:15 AM
68	no	12/20/2018 6:41 AM
69	Scheduling is one of the most difficult tasks for school. I appreciate your hard work. In terms of scheduling finals, whatever works for the school will work for me. Thank you for your support and concern.	12/19/2018 11:28 PM
70	Several students have discussed the idea or "dead week" like they have a UC Berkeley.	12/19/2018 11:04 PM
71	none	12/19/2018 10:06 PM
72	I really wanted to rank both of the 2019-2020 options #2, since they are both pretty bad.	12/19/2018 9:33 PM
73	it's probable that this year was trickier because we lost a week to the smoke/fire. I don't think we should make any changes until we see how spring works out	12/19/2018 5:09 PM
74	no	12/19/2018 4:42 PM
75	Students were more stressed than normal about having too much to do in a compressed time. It was quite noticeable and I've been at DVC about 20 years.	12/19/2018 3:29 PM
76	I think ultimately the idea of 15 weeks of instruction with the 16th week for finals is the best approach.	12/19/2018 2:53 PM
77	no thanks	12/19/2018 2:33 PM
78	With this schedule, we cannot lose more class time to a finals week. We will have to adjust to a faster delivery schedule. Also, there may need to be an adjustment to maintain the required number of contact hours. (State requirement for certification of classes)	12/19/2018 2:28 PM
79	The reason for choosing to keep the schedule the same as Fall 2018, is because at least my class, which has a lab with it and is over 3 hours, will have more flexibility or hours to work with on the last day of class. If there is a separate finals week, I will only have 2 hours to work with.	12/19/2018 2:26 PM
80	More time for Inst4ructor grading since getting exams from DSS and make up tesitng center may take a week	12/19/2018 1:32 PM
81	No	12/19/2018 1:04 PM
82	Ideally we would return to the 16+1 model from 2017. I know that the district saves millions by doing this, but I think it adds undue stress to the students and faculty and reduces quantity and quality of learning.	12/19/2018 12:18 PM
83	The sciences are still best served by the original 17 week semester followed by a finals week. This is particularly true for under prepared students.	12/19/2018 11:58 AM
84	I thought it went quite well and students did an excellent job of adapting to the new schedule.	12/19/2018 11:54 AM
85	As mentioned have 14 week of instruction and add a finals week.	12/19/2018 11:37 AM

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86	It is clearly an example of DVC NOT meeting students where they are at.	12/19/2018 11:23 AM
87	The shorter semester was a hit with my students.	12/19/2018 10:58 AM
88	I hope you also surveyed the students. At the risk of revealing my identity, I have to tell you that I've worked at several colleges and universities, and all of them have 16-week semesters. Absolutely none of them "integrates" final exams into the regular class schedule. In fact, all of them not only have a separate final exam week, but all final exams are three hours long. Not two hours. When I got here I thought that the 18-week semester was too long, and the two-hour final exam block was weird.	12/19/2018 10:31 AM
89	Whatever changes are made should be made BEFORE faculty have set their course outlines. Getting requests to adjust the syllabus the first week of class was less than ideal.	12/19/2018 10:15 AM
90	I noticed the staff parking lots were much less crowded during finals week. Does anybody monitor whether faculty hold classes during finals week as they ought to?	12/19/2018 10:11 AM
91	No	12/19/2018 9:57 AM
92	It's absolutely abhorrent. It's bad enough that a dedicated finals week only allows 2 hour final exams (UC and CSU classes that are 4 units have 3 hour finals....are we preparing our students?). Now, if I have a 5 unit class that meets 3 or 4 days a week, I have to break the final up into 2 days? Ridiculous.	12/19/2018 9:52 AM
93	No, thanks for asking for our input though!	12/19/2018 9:44 AM
94	If we are dreaming, the best model is the UC Berkeley model, with 16 weeks of instruction, a dead week for studying, and then exams. Some version of that would be amazing for student success.	12/19/2018 9:28 AM
95	None	12/19/2018 9:22 AM
96	N/A	12/19/2018 9:19 AM
97	No	12/19/2018 9:05 AM
98	So the 18 week schedule is off the table? You didn't provide that as a choice? So why even bother with this phony baloney survey? Your minds are made up!!!!!! I just wasted my time. It must be fun to live in metrics heaven and leave the teachers in reality hell.	12/19/2018 9:00 AM
99	With regards to that previous question - you've got to be kidding - removing MORE contact hours (or squeezing them into less weeks) only hurts students, faculty, and the school's reputation.	12/19/2018 8:56 AM
100	I would love it if the finals schedule could be accommodated by the last half of the last week. I don't know if that is possible.	12/19/2018 8:14 AM
101	Consult people who know better before you go making decisions like this.	12/19/2018 8:13 AM
102	My preference is: 16 weeks + separate week for finals	12/19/2018 8:05 AM
103	So those are the only two choices? Wonderful! I eagerly await the seamless transition to Guided Pathways!	12/19/2018 7:56 AM
104	The schedule also makes it difficult to create exams and get them copied and over to DSS in a timely manner.	12/19/2018 1:32 AM
105	n/a	12/18/2018 11:37 PM
106	There was a way that having no separate finals week made the context for the final exam feel more casual. Perhaps DVC could help emphasize the "finals feel" even if we maintain no separate finals week.	12/18/2018 10:45 PM
107	The entire 16 week schedule is terrible. All of my students felt it and agreed with this. It isn't just final exams, but the 2 weekends they lose to work makes it even HARDER on students who work to manage the increased weekly load. This flies in the face of the open access community college goal. I know this isn't exactly the place for this, but the sentiment is shared by basically every teacher I interact with (math and sciences) and all of my students. Fixing the finals situation will help a tiny bit, but not enough to make this anything but a detriment to instruction. I should also mention how pedagogically unsound it is to just make classes longer and expect that to manifest in an equally successful result.	12/18/2018 10:23 PM
108	None.	12/18/2018 10:21 PM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

109	Send out a questionnaire to the students. Ask them the same questions. They know best what the pressures are when there's not a separate finals week with one distinctive day of exams for each class. What works best for them?	12/18/2018 10:20 PM
110	I think the 16 week schedule was a failure. My students were burnt out and the 5 extra minutes were not quality minutes. The students had lost focus then and I would have to retract it. I noticed that my average test scores were down too. This schedule seems to benefit classes that don't give final exam and be hard on science where we have a last lecture exam, a comp final, and a lab final.	12/18/2018 10:02 PM
111	not at this time	12/18/2018 8:40 PM
112	None.	12/18/2018 8:13 PM
113	The format of Fall 2018 was awful for faculty and students alike.	12/18/2018 7:54 PM
114	Provide an option for 16 weeks plus a final...you're forcing the results with only the two options in the previous question.	12/18/2018 7:38 PM
115	I liked it!!	12/18/2018 7:33 PM
116	Students need time to study for exams.	12/18/2018 7:21 PM
117	I strongly suggest you keep it as is. There is no value in this "exam week" other than creating needless restrictions.	12/18/2018 7:16 PM
118	Chaos	12/18/2018 7:09 PM
119	They are all above. Thanks for the opportunity.	12/18/2018 6:59 PM
120	It would be preferable that IT not roll out new software during the last week of the semester.	12/18/2018 6:49 PM
121	None	12/18/2018 6:48 PM
122	Please survey the students who were at DVC both Spring and Fall 2018 to ascertain their perspective!	12/18/2018 6:46 PM
123	No	12/18/2018 6:28 PM
124	Those 2 options in question 5 are both bad. Why not add an extra week for finals?	12/18/2018 6:11 PM
125	Go back to 17 1/2 weeks of instruction and finals	12/18/2018 6:01 PM
126	16 weeks PLUS a finals week is better than either of your choices, and personally, I think the students were better off with 17 weeks plus finals.	12/18/2018 5:27 PM
127	No	12/18/2018 5:20 PM
128	I'm curious to know how many instructors had finals on the same day - you had us submit a survey and I'd like to see those compiled data in the future.	12/18/2018 5:12 PM
129	No.	12/18/2018 5:00 PM
130	No	12/18/2018 5:00 PM
131	Having on 15 weeks of instruction with a dedicated finals week would be tough on the sciences.	12/18/2018 4:51 PM
132	The students were confused.	12/18/2018 4:48 PM
133	Don't make a decision like this with out properly consulting the relevant authorities. Faculty, students, and especially DSS.	12/18/2018 4:42 PM
134	Mine went well and my students had nothing but positive remarks especially with lab classes. They were able to complete assignments.	12/18/2018 4:32 PM
135	Please bring back the 18-week semester. This semester was very hard on me as an instructor, and the students learned less.	12/18/2018 4:24 PM
136	Love the 16-week semester! I can make finals week work in the 16-week semester.	12/18/2018 4:12 PM
137	no	12/18/2018 4:11 PM
138	No	12/18/2018 4:10 PM
139	no	12/18/2018 4:09 PM

163	make a separate finals week.	12/18/2018 3:36 PM
164	thanks	12/18/2018 3:33 PM

Faculty Final Exam Week Survey

140	Faculty in the Biology Department voted overwhelmingly at their 12/14/18 department meeting to support moving towards 16 weeks of instruction and having exams during a 17th week. They did not support 15 weeks of instruction with a designated 16th "finals" week.	12/18/2018 4:08 PM
141	Neither of the choices are optimal. The 15 weeks of classes affects the amount of material that can be covered in a science class. The current schedule leaves scheduling issues. The optimal would be 15 weeks of instruction followed by a dead week for students to absorb material then a scheduled finals week.	12/18/2018 4:08 PM
142	Nope	12/18/2018 4:03 PM
143	I personally don't see the purpose of having a specific finals week--but I'm also unsure of the perspectives from other disciplines outside of my area. I think a lot of frustrations from this semester (at least what I have heard from students) is that the campus closures impacted how mid-terms/finals were spaced out and that was difficult to handle.	12/18/2018 4:03 PM
144	If courses with papers instead of tests had them due earlier then they could discuss the papers during finals week. STEM classes need exams	12/18/2018 4:02 PM
145	Those who can't handle a multiple of finals in one or two days will be allowed to take some final(s) at the make-up center.	12/18/2018 3:59 PM
146	No	12/18/2018 3:59 PM
147	No	12/18/2018 3:56 PM
148	Nope. No worries.	12/18/2018 3:52 PM
149	I think it is a shame that we only have the two choices presented on this survey. When faculty voted for 16-week semesters they didn't know this would mean eliminating the final exam week or having only 15 weeks for instruction. My preference is for there to be a final exam week; I wonder why this necessitates eliminating one more week of instruction.	12/18/2018 3:48 PM
150	it is remarkable that we got into the semester before anyone realized that finals would be a problem; apparently, this never came up in the negotiation and planning process?	12/18/2018 3:48 PM
151	The two options for question 5 are both not ideal. A semester with 15 weeks of teaching and a separate finals week would make it difficult to cover the required content. A semester with finals during the last week was logistically difficult. The opinion of the students would be very valuable.	12/18/2018 3:47 PM
152	No	12/18/2018 3:47 PM
153	I strongly believe the traditional finals week is better for instructors and students.	12/18/2018 3:47 PM
154	The choice in #5 is a false choice. We should go back to an 18 week semester. Yes, I know we are already committed, but with all possible haste, end this failed experiment.	12/18/2018 3:44 PM
155	I like the 16-week schedule overall, but discovered early on I needed to adjust readings/assignments and create a slightly different course, rather than cram my 18-week course into a 16-week format (did not work for any of the four different classes I teach).	12/18/2018 3:43 PM
156	no	12/18/2018 3:41 PM
157	Final exam week was a luxury we could afford while on an 18 week calendar. It is problematic while on a 16 week calendar.	12/18/2018 3:41 PM
158	Not at this time.	12/18/2018 3:40 PM
159	I think many teachers did not hold class on Wed and Thursday. Campus was rather empty. I miss having a final exam week to wrap everything up but I fear going to a 15 wk schedule to add a final exams week. I barely had enough time to cover the material I needed to cover in 16 weeks.	12/18/2018 3:39 PM
160	I think either way is fine. 15 weeks plus one finals week, or 16 weeks	12/18/2018 3:38 PM
161	Please give us a formal finals week to allow students time to finalize their studies of the materials covered in the semester.	12/18/2018 3:37 PM
162	Neither of the above options are my desired choice. I would like 16 weeks of instruction and a finals week. Basically the new calendar has had us eliminate 4 lectures. Extending the lecture time doesn't really work for STEM because it is so content rich, there are only so many learning objectives you can get across in a single lecture period with retention. A 15 week calendar would have us eliminate 6. Why did we do this change without unanimous consent from all divisions? This was a terrible move for our disciplines.	12/18/2018 3:37 PM