

	Florida Gulf Coast University Policy Manual	Policy: 4.005 <i>Approved:</i> September 24, 2008
	Title Student Observance of Religious Holidays	Responsible Executive: Vice President for Student Affairs Responsible Office: Student Affairs

POLICY STATEMENT

The Florida Board of Governors and state law govern university policy regarding observance of religious holidays. All students at Florida Gulf Coast University have a right to expect that the University will reasonably accommodate their religious observances, practices, and beliefs.

REASON FOR POLICY

To inform the Florida Gulf Coast University community of its policy on the student observance of religious holidays.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Student – A person enrolled in a course at Florida Gulf Coast University.

Religious Holiday – A religious holy day of the student’s faith.

PROCEDURES

- Students, upon prior notification to their instructors, shall be excused from class or other scheduled academic activity to observe a religious holy day of their faith.
- Students shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence.
- Students shall not be penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic activity because of religious observances.
- Where practicable, major examinations, major assignments, and University ceremonies will not be scheduled on a major religious holy day.
- A student who is to be excused from class for a religious observance is not required to provide a second party certification of the reason for the absence.

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- A student who believes that he or she has been unreasonably denied an educational benefit due to religious beliefs or practices may seek redress through the student grievance procedure administered by the university ombudsperson.
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**POLICY
AMENDMENTS**

None

HISTORY

New: September 24, 2008

APPENDICES

None

APPROVED:

s/Wilson G. Bradshaw
President

September 24, 2008
Date