

**School of Medicine  
Office of Graduate Education  
Academic Calendar  
Spring 2026**

**JANUARY**

F            2            University closed [this is a begin date change]  
  
F30/31 Predoctoral Fellowship Grants Workshop (TBA)

M            12            First day of classes

M-F	12-16	(!) IMPORTANT (!) DEADLINE CHANGED Add/Drop course change period begins
F	16	(!) IMPORTANT (!) DEADLINE CHANGED DEADLINE: Add/Drop course change period ends

M            19            University Closed

F            23            **DEADLINE:** CERTIFICATE, M.S., and Ph.D. degree candidates to submit graduation applications for May degrees through eServices

F            23            **DEADLINE:** Students to provide advance written notification to instructors of intent to observe religious holidays<sup>3</sup>

**FEBRUARY**

T            10            Summer semester Advance Registration begins

T            10            30<sup>th</sup> calendar day of semester

F            20            DegreeWorks – Preliminary Freeze audits due (anticipated)

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**MARCH**

Su – Su	8-15	Spring Break - from classes only. University is open
T	24	Fall semester Advance Registration begins

**APRIL**

F	3	<b>DEADLINE:</b> Last day to withdraw from a course with a mark of "W" (Exception: students in courses not scheduled for the full semester should review the course syllabus for appropriate withdrawal deadline)
M	13	<b>DEADLINE:</b> M.S. and Ph.D. deadline for input of approved defense schedule into SOM GradTrak
F	24	<b>DEADLINE:</b> M.S. and Ph.D. students to defend thesis/dissertation to graduate Spring 2026. Individual graduate programs may have additional schedules and deadlines.

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**MAY**

F	1	Last day of classes—MCV Campus
Sa	2	Last day for grades of incomplete to be converted from fall semester
M	4	<b>DEADLINE:</b> M.S and Ph.D. student to have initiated ETD approval form; <b>BEGIN ETD APPROVAL FORM WEEK</b>
M - F	4 - 8	<b>Final examinations—MCV Campus</b>
R	7	<b>DEADLINE:</b> SOM M.S. and Ph.D. students to have completed: ETD Approval forms, Finalized and Approved Thesis upload to VCU Scholars Compass, and completion of Survey of Earned Doctorates (Ph.D.) <b>END ETD APPROVAL FORM WEEK</b>
F	8	SOM Advanced Degree Recognition Ceremony
Sa	9	May university-wide commencement ceremony <a href="https://commencement.vcu.edu/">https://commencement.vcu.edu/</a>
T	12	Final grades are due by noon using Faculty eServices
Sa	16	Official date for certifying May diplomas
M	18	Summer session start

**NOTES:**

1. Unanticipated events might necessitate changes to the calendar.
2. **SOM students entering other SOM programs (M.S., Ph.D., and including M.D., and VCU D.D.S) must successfully complete their current program prior to starting the new program.**
3. Reasonable accommodations for completion of work missed should be made for students observing religious holidays.