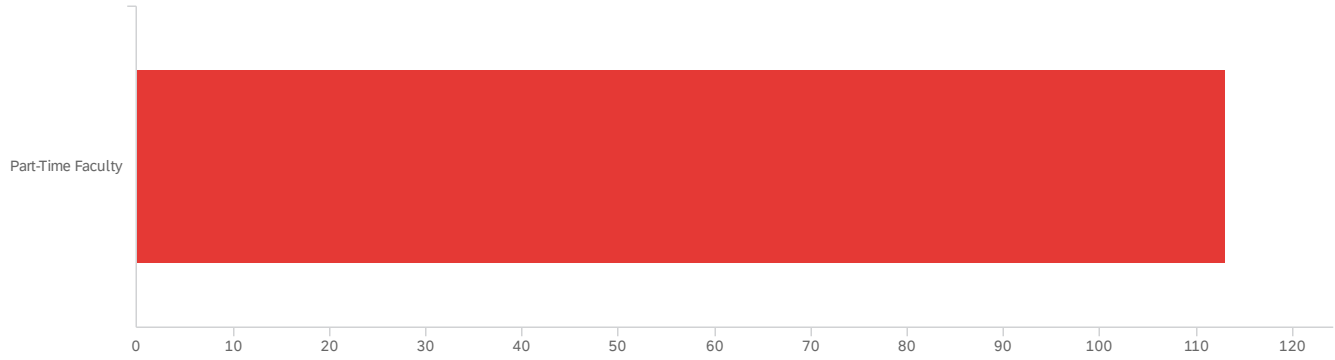


Every permutation

Compressed Calendar Survey VCCCD

April 27, 2021 9:05 AM PDT

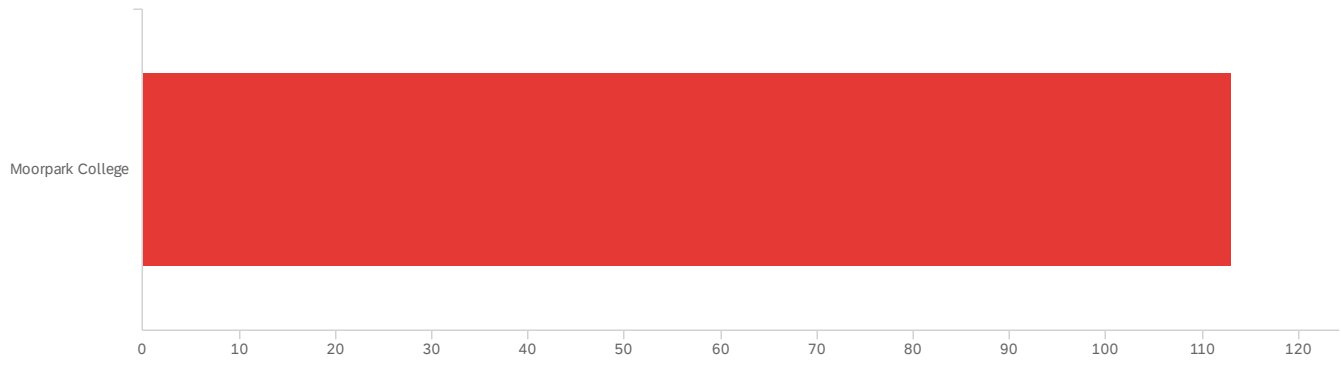
Q1 - Role



#	Field	Choice Count
4	Part-Time Faculty	100.00% 113

Showing rows 1 - 1 of 1

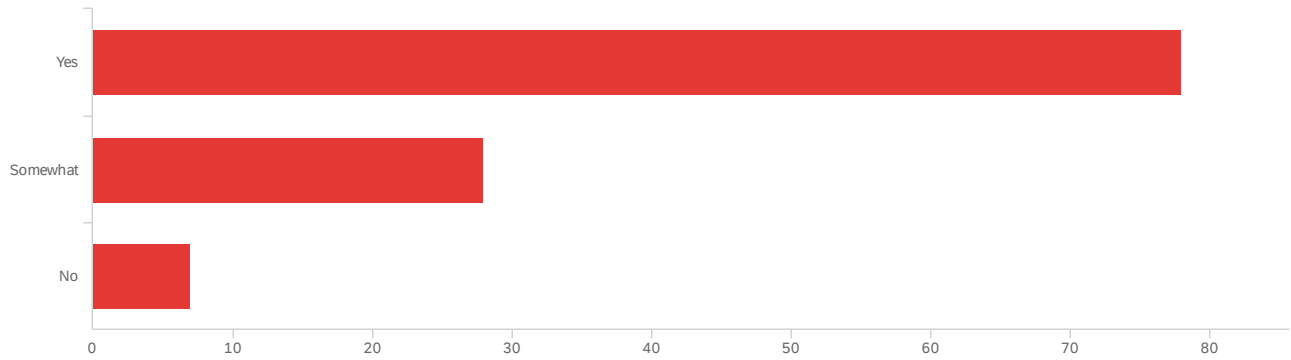
Q2 - Location



#	Field	Choice Count
2	Moorpark College	100.00% 113

Showing rows 1 - 1 of 1

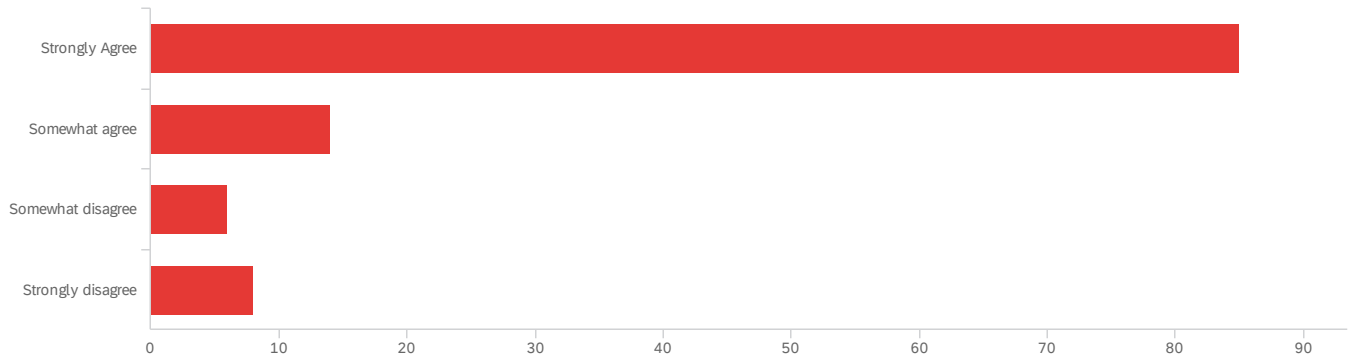
Q3 - Do you feel well informed about the proposed 16-week semester instructional calendar instead of the current 18-week semester calendar?



#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	69.03% 78
2	Somewhat	24.78% 28
3	No	6.19% 7
		113

Showing rows 1 - 4 of 4

Q4 - Which best describes your response to this statement: Overall, I am in support of a 16-week, regular semester, instructional calendar instead of the current 18-week semester calendar?



#	Field	Choice Count
1	Strongly Agree	75.22% 85
2	Somewhat agree	12.39% 14
3	Somewhat disagree	5.31% 6
4	Strongly disagree	7.08% 8

113

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

Q5 - Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester instructional calendar instead of the current 18-week semester calendar?

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

Slightly more compressed time for grading is a potential concern, particularly as the workload toward the end of any given semester tends to grow more frenetic, even with regards to the 18-week paradigm.

More efficient use of time.

Less chance to forget

makes the experience less like high school

I am an adjunct faculty at other colleges where the 16-week class works well.

I also teach in the LACCD, which has had a compressed calendar for many years, and I much prefer it, especially since each class session lasts longer so I have more time with my students, which is a plus for foreign language instruction.

Aligns better with other collegee schedules.

Because an 18 week semester is archaic. Most districts have a 16 week or shorter semester with a Winter term. This proves most beneficial. The students who attend Moorpark College do not need an extra 2 weeks of a semester. Their skills set is already strong upon entry.

Increasing the daily class hours for physical activity courses in KIN is not desirable. Most activity classes of this type in colleges and university are 50 minutes to one hour. Moorpark classes are already 1.25 hours long, increasing the time would also decrease amount of time between classes that is needed to clean facility between classes.

Having a 16 week course is shorter and it helps me stay more motivated

The winter intersession will allow students to complete more course work and also allow freshman a second chance to repeat a class if they should have some difficulty in Fall and continue on schedule in the spring.

There is no evidence that students do better with a 18-week semester, and the shorter semester will allow the college to schedule winter sessions and a 12-week summer session.

I don't want the semester to move faster than it already does. As a part-timer with another full-time job I often feel like I'm barely keeping up with the workload I'm carrying at Moorpark College. I feel like I'd do a worse job at supporting my students if the semester was faster paced.

I read that the students prefer it

I think 16 weeks is more than appropriate for a semester, and allows students to learn the material without "burning out" factor that 18 weeks I feel introduces.

Not on the specific differences, other than the two weeks

It consolidates the semester in a time frame that will benefit students.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

I would welcome a sixteen-week semester. I have experience with both calendar schedules and, to be honest, have little criteria in support of an 18-week semester. Here's my reasoning: My Moorpark classes experience a significant drop in attendance once mid-semester has passed. Two weeks before spring break I discussed this very topic with my classes. All students who commented felt that the semester 'dragged'. In addition, 'waiting three months for a break was far too long'. I concurred with their feedback. In addition, I have taught winter sessions and realize their benefit. Students who choose these accelerated programs are, for the most part, diligent, focused and up for the task of covering multiple chapters per week. Also, students realize the positive outcome that winter classes add to their overall pursuit in community college completion (whatever those end goals may be).

The opportunity for students to take classes during Winter to either catch up or get ahead.

I work on this schedule at another campus, first students have more course options with the addition of a Winter session and 16-weeks is definitely adequate time to deliver course material effectively and efficiently.

The four week break gives students opportunities to take more classes.

Opportunity for Winter Break classes.

I've done this scheduled before and it was fine.

Many other schools I teach at already use the 16 week calendar

It aligns with other institutional calendars.

because the instructor will be asked to teach the same material in a shorter time frame, so fewer hours, less pay, does NOT benefit the instructor at all

I chose "somewhat disagree" because I have seen a lot of flexibility within the 18 unit semester, for example 4 week, 18, week, and 13 week late start courses which provide many options. It is only a "somewhat disagree" because I think there would be great benefit to having everyone on the same calendar/schedule.

Mainly because it allows for a winter session.

loss of wages

As health sciences faculty, we do not have flexibility in terms of the content our programs must provide. A compressed schedule would interfere with our ability to provide direct care hours due to limitations in clinical placement and that there would be less time to learn rigorous theory content. I am concerned about our program objectives and whether or not our learning outcomes would suffer.

It would benefit Dual Enrollment students because they will start their Fall and Spring classes a few weeks after they begin their high school classes, giving them time to register and get prepared for the start of MC classes.

This aligns our schedule with universities and prepares our students for that schedule.

More time for staffs and students to have an actual break mentally and physically.

I think student learning should be a priority. I think the more time they have to learn, the better they will retain the knowledge.

I am already doing 16 weeks semester at other schools. And yes, I agree with the winter break thing. Even if I have break at other colleges, I can not take vacation or do other things as I am here.

It aligns to other institutions calendars better.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

Giving students the ability to process faster through their course is a tremendous benefit.

There are no downsides to this calendar, the additional time each class eliminates 2 weeks which is desirable by students, and it allows for a winter intersession.

reduced wages

Help students by adding winter session

I think we can accomplish all academic goals in the 16 week time frame. 18 weeks feels very long.

concrete time to present depth and breadth to a course; aligns with other programs for variety

From what I understand it will benefit the students. It has been shown that 18 weeks is too long and that 16 weeks has a better success rate. Also, students get a long break, or can get another course in making their next semester easier.

Too many changes for students, faculty and staff already this year with the pandemic. Revisit at a later date.

Having the extra time allows me to offer students a one-week review and study buffer before taking the final. I will not have the time to offer that in a compressed schedule.

To keep us competitive in a changing market.

The 4 week winter session allowing students to take more classes is a great idea!

Student retention

It can provide more opportunities for students to take a winter session.

This will allow us to be in sink with other community colleges around the area.

Many textbooks are created for the 16-week calendar. If it will allow the university to add a winter session, that will also benefit students seeking to complete classes to either complete their 2-year degree and/or transfer to another university where they will more than likely be taking classes on a 16-week semester calendar.

I think the shorter semesters are better for students.

It affords more opportunities for the student to take additional courses during a short four week winter session and it concentrates learning in a more confined time therefore minimizing procrastination in class work/study.

16 week semesters are more in line with the semester length at 4-year universities.

I work at several other colleges, some that transitioned from an 18-week to a 16-week, and I definitely believe a 16-week calendar is more conducive to the lives of students in 2021.

I believe it will help with retention and we can be effective and focused in our courses in 16 weeks.

If it improves student flexibility, and improves outcomes, then I am supportive.

I like the idea of adding a winter term for students.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

I teach at other schools that have the 16 week semester and feel that it is a good length to cover the same amount of information but allows for more courses with the added winter intersession

As an adjunct, I work in other school districts that follow the 16-week schedule. Due to semester overlapping, I have had to turn down assignments given Spring 18 week is still going, but Spring 16 week is over, and Summer has started.

It gives the opportunity to students to have winter semester too.

Students may take additional courses in the Winter intersession. This could help with time-to-degree or transfer, or lighted the load during Fall and Spring semesters so they may do better in the regular sessions because they may take one less course.

16 weeks is the national standard. since we are a transfer college, we need to teach common-durations time management. Students NEED to understand how to process a 16 week term.

Winter intersession would allow students a chance to complete the courses faster.

I believe the benefits for students out weigh the possible campus logistical issues this transition will create.

I teach at a college that utilize the 16-week semester.

All my other employer schools are 16-week

Less pay for adjuncts.

Either is fine - I've adapted my particular course for both, and I don't mind the shorter semester.

Most other schools (on a semester system) run on the 16-week calendar and do quite well. I also think this affords our students greater flexibility in creating schedules and completing more classes so they can transfer to a four-year school.

I believe it will be effective.

Concept sounds sound; concern regarding impact on student learning.

Semester fatigue, learning tends to decline the longer a semester goes on. Longer breaks are a positive

More equal tri mesters for students

better alignment with other institutions and ability to have winter intersession

It follows other schools calendar.

Winter session is needed for students to be able to take more classes with MC and not go to other colleges for their Winter session. Also 18 weeks is too long.

We will getkeep more students. Students will be able to take more classes throughout the year.

More options for students to finish their degree in a timely manner

More in line with other institutions and will allow for better planning for instructors

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

All of my other campuses (Pasadena City College, Antelope Valley College, and College of the Canyons) use that 16-week schedule.

It's already a big challenge for students to finish a course in 18 weeks. I can't imagine how students can finish it in 16 weeks. I am afraid that adopting a 16-week semester instructional calendar will lower the quality of teaching.

To allow students an additional semester to catch up. Also, to allow faculty an additional earning semester.

In our recent department meeting one of my colleagues who is very well informed on the matter discussed the fact that this 16-week semester is already in place at Pierce and other 2-year colleges and that students overwhelmingly support and like this schedule as it gives them greater flexibility. The concern is that we will lose enrollment to alternate systems if we do not evolve and adopt a system that students prefer. Additionally, a 16-week semester allows the addition of a 4-week winter program that provides flexibility for both faculty and students.

It will be better for students. 18 weeks sees a lot of students who fall behind in their coursework. 16 weeks will make it easier for students to maintain their class work as well as succeed in their classes and be able to follow through for the entire semester.

Allows for winter sessions and matches the universities we serve.

Keeps us more in line with surrounding colleges.

It works better for students

A 16-week semester is better in line with other community colleges and 4-year institutions in Southern California. It also allows for better flexibility for students to schedule their classes by offering a 4-week intersession period during the winter to take classes.

Eighteen weeks feels long, limits the options for a winter session, and puts us out of line with most other so cal campuses.

18 weeks is too long!!

I can see how it would be beneficial for students to have the opportunity to take a winter session and get additional classes throughout the year.

Actually, I would like to see us go on the quarter system but a 16-week session would work well for both faculty and students.

as much as i'd like to wrap things up faster, i don't know how well i am at speeding things up. especially my work load

I've been in support of shortening the vccd semesters for a while. Our semester runs longer than most of the schools in our vicinity and I think it contributes to low enrollment and a rush of last minute registration when students aren't expecting school to start so quickly after winter and summer holidays. I also think shortening the semester will help students with maintaining focus and motivation.

I believe this will greatly benefit students by allowing them to take additional units during the winter session. It is very common for students to find winter session courses at other community colleges and this would allow them to stay in our district instead.

Q6 - Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about adopting a 16-week semester instructional calendar instead of the current 18-week semester calendar.

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

Will part-timers have the same rights to teaching courses in the winter session as they now have in the summer sessions?

Will we offer a winter intersession?

N/A

VCCCD semesters will align with LACCD semesters. Vacation periods will occur simultaneously. January will provide students with the opportunity to make more academic progress. Instructors will have more time to plan for their Spring classes. Some instructors may wish to teach an additional class during Winter session to increase their income.

Concerns about compensation for part time instructors.

A 16 week semester will allow for a more traditional approach to the term; hopefully the eliminate the 3 month attending period before a student decides to drop; help prepare students for the semester dynamic at the university level- this will help with time management, etc.

Any hybrid teaching for physical activity classes would be difficult to conduct as extended time with video learning or zoom is not as effective for movement classes without live feedback that is used in live on-ground classes. This format would also seriously impact the ability to have late start classes, that have become popular in Kinesiology, and are already maximized in the amount of content that can be condensed into a shorter session.

16 week course helps me stay motivated and I'm more likely to manage my time more with one

Same reason as above. Students would benefit a lot from the winter and longer summer sessions.

No other concerns than what I raised above

n/a

Please see above.

As mentioned above, additional course offerings will benefit students and maybe a benefit district concerns about increasing enrollment tied to an increase of funds.

How long will the break between summer and fall be if the 16 week calendar is implemented?

Most colleges have moved to this schedule.

For me it just lining up with the other schools I teach at that use the 16 week calendar

My concerns are the effect of the 16-week calendar on the support staff and the loss of income for part-time faculty hours.

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

Benefits- consistency with other colleges, a standard calendar, good for students

I believe offering students the opportunity to take classes/make up classes in the winter can help students achieve their goal of graduating/transferring in an appropriate time for them.

Beneficial for Dual Enrollment students. They often shuffle around their high school schedules during the first two weeks of their semester, and with the college semesters starting after the beginning of their semesters, it gives them more time to add our classes without it being too late to add. Also, we usually request Dual Enrollment Program courses to have a start date 2 weeks after the start of the main campus semester- with this new calendar, it will automatically be set that way without having to request the change from our Data Analysts.

This aligns our schedule with universities and prepares our students for that schedule.

This will not only boost everyone's mental and physical health, but it'll also help improve the learning and working skills of everyone as well.

Only benefit is to faculty who have more time off

Some break after holidays. It's not only for relaxing. We can use the time for preparation of the classes. As some of us are getting new classes as well in spring. We have to jump into it right after Fall and Holidays. I feel it a bit overwhelming. Though, I had managed to do well in the past, I feel that adds more structure.

18 weeks is way too long.

Benefits: Two less weeks of driving to/from (gas/time savings!), provides additional time each class, allows for a winter intersession (short term classes for working students, additional classes for instructors to teach), lines up with other districts which is beneficial to the mostly adjunct faculty who must teach at multiple colleges for a living wage.

Why would we want to reduce our own wages? Unless our wages are increased to make up for the two weeks we will be losing, then those of us that actually depend on our salaries will have to be opposed

4 week winter session made available

The only concerns I have are about maintenance being able to do improvements and the like without that shutdown period. All the details concerning pay, hours, obligations, contracts and logistics can all be worked out in negotiations.

Too many changes for students, faculty and staff already this year with the pandemic. Revisit at a later date.

Ten week quarters would be better, especially for online learning.

It can provide more opportunities for students to take a winter session.

This could allow for an additional winter session.

see above

I also think the way VCCCD is thinking about being able to add a winter term between fall and spring is a GREAT idea!

I believe students take shorter courses at other campuses for same credit. This is will increase our enrollment potentially.

How are the ICA in season classes going to be structured?

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

Benefits of 16 week -More Vacation -Additional Weeks of Unemployment Benefits for Adjuncts -Spring Breaks may lineup for adjuncts in various districts -Less semester overlapping for adjuncts in various districts -Less Commuting

I think that a 16-week semester instructional calendar instead of the current 18-week semester calendar is an excellent idea to add winter semester and align schedule with other colleges in the state.

Please see above. The concern I have may be about financial aid, with this affect the time or amount of awards?

I also teach and College of the Canyons which has already adapted to the 16-week semester. I find no difference in teaching Biology M01 at both campuses.

Would dislike a pay cut to cover the same amount of material.

I find that as the 18 weeks semester drags on, many students get restless. There is always a period of time in the middle of the semester where attendance dips. My hunch is that a shorter semester will eliminate much of that attendance dip. I also think it's worth noting that having longer class periods will facilitate better conversations in the classroom. Sometimes a 75-minute class can feel rushed (after attendance and people settle down) and it's hard to pick up the groove in the next class period. In some ways, reducing the number of times we have to take attendance and recap what happened in the previous class session actually offers more instructional time, overall.

For Performing Arts, the 16 week semester greatly impacts rehearsal time and performance scheduling. Bookings in the PAC are already at the breaking point and several performance offerings require multiple performances to be financially viable

none

1. Will the length of the class time change from the avg of 1 hr 15 min to longer to make up for the decreased number of meetings? 2. If the class time doesn't change, ie we are holding class for the same amount of time each meeting but meeting fewer weeks will that mean a reduction in pay for part timers and or hourly instructors?

The proposal addressed my concerns.

certainly any type of accelerated schedule can sometimes be problematic for students but likely after the first semester, everyone will get used to it

It follows other schools calendar, provides more opportunities for students to take more classes and attain their educational goals.

Students will be more likely to finish their two year classes in two years.

Will there be a winter intersession

It is more in line with the lesson plans from textbook providers.

It is easier for students if the terms of the classes were changed to 16 weeks since that is what other colleges use and would allow for them to finish quicker especially if they have internships that they are planning to complete once finished. Having the classes be a little longer to allow for the 16-week offering wouldn't be much of an adjustment for my courses since this is what I do already for my other campuses.

Shorter semesters might lead to less burn out with extra time off if faculty/ students opt to take winter intersession off

See previous response.

It will be better for mental and physical health to alleviate stress and burnout for students and faculty alike.

Strongly concur with 16 week schedule and very beneficial to students, which is what this is all about.

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

One benefit is that the college could run a winter session like a lot of colleges to. Down side school goes later in May before ending.

more hoiday/vacation time

Students have a difficult time maintaining strong work habits and motivation for so long. A shorter semester will help students maintain focus and hard work for the duration of the semester.

End of Report