



# Interfaith Center

Stony Brook University

Melville Memorial Library 5th floor  
Stony Brook, New York 11794-3370

[www.stonybrook.edu/interfaith](http://www.stonybrook.edu/interfaith)

Chaplaincies and  
Member Associations

#### Islamic

Islamic Society of North America  
Melville Library Room N5564  
Tel: 631-632-9769

#### Jewish

Hillel Foundation for Jewish Life  
Melville Library Suite N5580  
Tel: 631-632-6565  
Fax: 631-632-6576

#### Protestant

Protestant Campus Ministry  
Melville Library Room N5568  
Tel: 631-632-6563

Asian Christian Campus Ministry  
Melville Library Room N5572  
Tel: 631-632-6564

#### Roman Catholic

Catholic Campus Ministry  
Melville Library Room N5574  
Tel: 631-632-6562  
Fax: 631-632-4542

January 2018

To whom it may concern:

Unavoidably, some Jewish holidays fall on scheduled class days. On these days, observant Jewish students are often required to fulfill religious obligations at times that classes are being held or are unable to take examinations.

Section 224-a of the New York State Education Law states that

"Any student in an institution of higher education who is unable, because of his [or her] religious beliefs, to attend classes on a particular day or days shall, because of such absence on the particular day or days, be excused from performing on the particular day or days any examination or any study or work requirements. It shall be the responsibility of the faculty and of the administrative officials of each institution of higher education to make available to each student who is absent from school, because of religious beliefs, an equivalent opportunity to make up any examination, study or work requirements which he [or she] may have missed because of such absence on any particular day or days."

In the **Spring 2018** semester, the holidays that coincide with classes are:

**Passover, first evening**  
**Passover, 1st day**  
**Passover, 2nd day**  
**Passover, 7th day**  
**Passover, 8th day**

**Friday, March 30 after 5:00 pm**  
**Saturday, March 31**  
**Sunday, April 1**  
**Friday, April 6**  
**Saturday, April 7**

(Note: Jewish holy days begin at sundown the previous evening.)

These dates are also listed on the Provost's website, calendar of religious holidays. The Provost has mandated that no exams are to be given on major holidays.

Students who must miss classes because of these holidays must be given an equivalent make-up opportunity. If there are any questions please do not hesitate to call me or consult the Office of the Provost. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Joseph S. Topek  
Jewish Chaplain