

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2026 // 2027



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*Inspiring excellence, transforming lives
through quality, impact, and care.*

UNIVERSITY OF THE
FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE
VRYSTAAT
YUNIBESITHI YA
FREISTATA



2026

Semester 1 teaching time		71 days
Semester 2 teaching time		67 days
UFS OPENS	2 JAN	
Academics return	12 Jan	
Online Registration: Seniors & Postgrad	2 Jan – 6 Feb	5 weeks
Online Registration: First Years	2 Jan – 6 Feb	5 weeks
Late registration	9 – 13 Feb	5 days
QUARTER 1	9 FEB – 27 MAR	35 DAYS / 7 WEEKS
School holidays	30 Mar – 7 Apr	1 week
Academic break	30 Mar – 7 Apr	1 week
Graduations	10 and 11 April QQ 14-18 April BFN	
QUARTER 2	8 APRIL – 29 MAY	36 DAYS / 8 WEEKS
MAIN MID-YEAR EXAM	1 JUN – 20 JUN	3 WEEKS
Supplementary mid-year exam	22 Jun – 27 Jun	6 days
Publication of awarding of degrees for Main Mid-year exam	14 Jul	
Academic break	29 Jun – 10 Jul	2 weeks
School holidays	29 Jun – 20 Jul	3 weeks
Semester 2 registration	13 – 17 Jul	
Special exam	23 – 24 Jul	2 days
QUARTER 3	13 JUL – 28 AUG	34 DAYS / 7 WEEKS
Academic break	28 Sept – 2 Oct	1 week
School holidays	25 Sept – 5 Oct	1 week
QUARTER 4	31 AUG – 23 OCT	33 DAYS / 8 WEEKS
Predicate day	23 Oct	
Publication of awarding of degrees for M and D	20 Oct	
MAIN END-OF-YEAR EXAM	26 OCT – 14 NOV	3 WEEKS
Supplementary end-of-year exam	16 Nov – 21 Nov	6 days
Publication of awarding of degrees for Main EOY exam	15 Dec	
Graduations	10 & 11 Dec	2 days
UFS CLOSES	18 DEC	
Academic break	21 Dec – 11 Jan 2027	3 weeks
Special Examination	28-29 Jan	2 days
UFS Senate holiday	25 Sept	

2027

Semester 1 teaching time		70 days
Semester 2 teaching time		68 days
UFS OPENS	4 JAN	
Academics return	11 Jan	
Online Registration: Seniors & Postgrad	4 Jan – 5 Feb	
Online Registration: First Years	4 Jan – 5 Feb	
Late registration	8 – 12 Feb	5 days
QUARTER 1	8 FEB – 19 MAR	30 DAYS / 6 WEEKS
School holidays	23 Mar – 5 Apr	
Academic break	23 Mar – 2 Apr	7 days
Graduation	9 &10 April QQ 13-17 April	
QUARTER 2	5 APR – 28 MAY	40 DAYS / 8 WEEKS
MAIN MID-YEAR EXAM	31 MAY – 19 JUN	3 WEEKS
Supplementary mid-year exam	21 Jun – 26 Jun	6 days
Special exam	15, 16 Jul	2 days
Publication of awarding of degrees for Main Mid-year exam	14 Jul	
Academic break	28 Jun – 9 Jul	2 weeks
School holidays	28 Jun – 19 Jul	
Semester 2 registration	12 – 16 Jul	
QUARTER 3	12 JUL – 27 AUG	34 DAYS / 7 WEEKS
Academic break	27 Sept – 1 Oct	1 week
School holidays	23 Sept – 4 Oct	1 week
QUARTER 4	30 AUG – 22 OCT	34 DAYS / 8 WEEKS
Publication of awarding of degrees for M and D	20 Oct	
MAIN END-OF-YEAR EXAM	25 OCT – 13 NOV	3 WEEKS
Supplementary end-of-year exam	15 – 20 Nov	6 days
Special exam	27, 28 Jan 2028	2 days
Publication of awarding of degrees for Main EOY exam	15 Dec	
Graduations	9 &10 Dec	2 days
Academic break starts	13 Dec	4 weeks
UFS CLOSES	17 DEC	
UFS Senate holiday	26 April	