



Dr. Gloria Waters, University Provost and Chief Academic Officer

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TO: Boston University Students, Faculty, and Staff

FROM: Gloria Waters, University Provost and Chief Academic Officer *G.W.*

DATE: January 22, 2025

SUBJECT: Absences for Religious Observances

As we begin a new semester, I am writing to restate Boston University's commitment to respecting the practice of all religious denominations. During the course of the academic year, members of our community may request excused absences from attending classes or participating in examination, work, or study requirements in order to accommodate the observance of their religious faiths. A full reading of the University's Policy on Absence for Religious Reasons may be found here: <https://www.bu.edu/academics/policies/absence-for-religious-reasons/>.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that no student or member of the faculty may be penalized for such absences and must be provided a reasonable opportunity to make up any assignments, work, or examinations missed. Faculty members, likewise, have the authority – should they seek it – to cancel classes in order to accommodate religious observances, so long as provisions are made to cover the required course content. For a multi-faith list of religious holidays and dates for the 2024-2025 academic year, please visit the Marsh Chapel [website](#). If you have any questions, please contact Marsh Chapel at chapel@bu.edu or 617-353-3560.

Thank you for your attention to this policy and for your ongoing cooperation. I wish everyone a productive and successful spring semester.

Cc: Robert Hill, Dean, Marsh Chapel