



# Student Assembly

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## Resolution 43: Implementing a 5 Day Study Period for Final's Season

**Abstract:** In light of the heavy academic workload borne by many students each semester, Cornell will extend the existing 3-day final exam study period to 5-days.

**Sponsored by:** Saad Razzak '26, Adam Vinson '25, Niles Hite '26, Ocean Karim '25, Ameera Aftab '26, Rajat Acharjee '26, Simone Chan '25, Christian Flournoy '27, Davian Gekman '26

**Type of Action:** Recommendation

**Originally Presented:** 03/23/2025

**Current Status:** Adopted by the Assembly, 18-2-3, 04/24/2025

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**Whereas,** the minimum requirement to be considered a full-time student at Cornell University is 12 credits per semester.

**Whereas,** to graduate from Cornell's undergraduate program, a student needs to complete 120 credits. Across 8 semesters (or 4 academic years), this means that a student has to take around 15 credits per semester.

**Whereas,** most courses at Cornell are 3 or 4 credits in line with Federal and New York state laws and regulations, meaning that all full time students must usually be enrolled in at least 3 classes.

**Whereas,** a significant portion of courses have a final assessment in various formats, including, but not limited to, sit-down exams, take-home exams, and final projects.

**Whereas,** the study period and the final exam period are often times of great stress for students.

**Whereas,** the current 3-day study period requires students to decide between taking care of themselves and studying to an adequate level for their final exams.

**Be it therefore resolved,** Cornell will determine with utmost urgency how the academic calendar can be amended to extend the existing pre-final exam season study period from 3 days to 5 days.

**Be it further resolved,** the Assembly requests that the University encourage the Faculty Senate to review the Academic Calendar during the 2025-2026 academic year.

**Be it further resolved,** the Assembly encourages the University to consider starting the Spring semester earlier to allow for more study days prior to final exams.



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30 **Be it further resolved**, if it is impossible to lengthen the study period, the Administration will  
31 consider designating Slope Day as a day off, meaning that the Spring semester study period starts  
32 the day after Slope Day.

33 **Be it finally resolved**, the University will take all necessary steps to make this change by the  
34 Fall 2026 semester and for all following semesters.

35 Respectfully submitted,

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37 Representative of the College of Arts and Sciences, *Student Assembly*

38 Adam Vinson '25

39 *Student Assembly Executive Vice President*

40 Niles Hite '26

41 *Student Assembly Vice President of Finance*

42 Ocean Karim '25

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44 Ameera Aftab '26

45 Minority Student Representative, *Student Assembly*

46 Rajat Acharjee '26

47 Dyson Representative, *Student Assembly*

48 Simone Chan '25

49 *Student Assembly Vice President of Communications*

50 Christian Flournoy '27

51 *Student Assembly Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*

52 Davian Gekman '26

53 School of Industrial & Labor Relations Representative, *Student Assembly*