

# Academic Calendar Proposal

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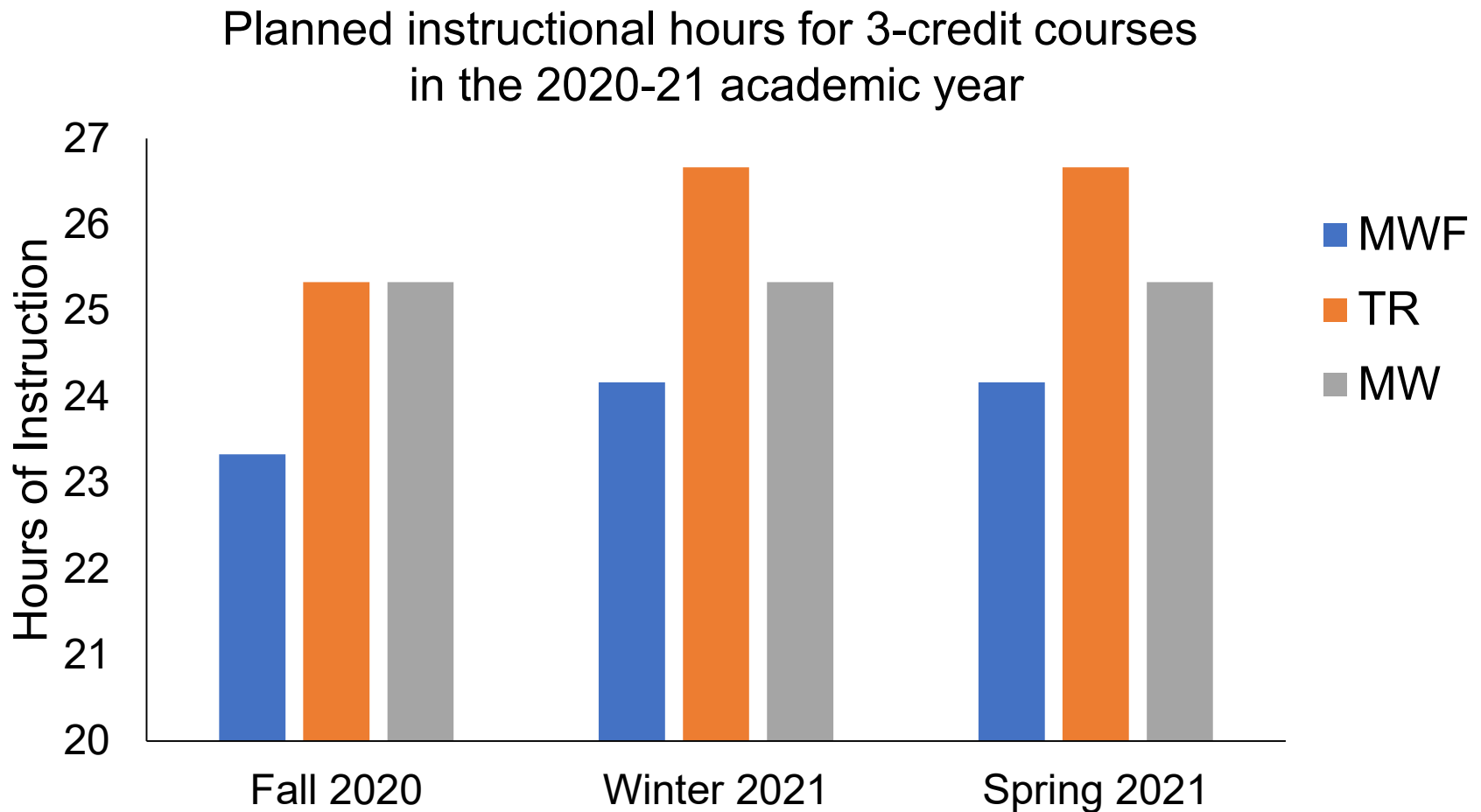
Our Strategic Plan calls for us to:

- 1.3.2 Improve curriculum based on effective assessment of student learning outcomes.
- 2.2.4 Increase faculty development support to implement culturally responsive pedagogy and curriculum.
- 2.3.2 Increase professional development opportunities for staff in support of academic excellence and student achievement.
- 2.3.4 Increase support for professional development for staff to provide culturally and linguistically responsive services.
- 3.4.2 Provide professional development to improve institutional climate and personal commitment to, and understanding of, cultural competencies.
- 3.4.3 Recognize that knowledge of, and experience in, diversity-related topics are professional competencies that are expected of all employees.
- 5.6.1 Provide professional development opportunities for faculty and staff that advance the university mission.

All of which require us to find time in the academic year...

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We have an opportunity to carve out time in our Winter and Spring terms because our academic calendar is unbalanced...



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If we standardized our calendar by canceling classes on the following days...

## **Fall term:**

Veterans' Day (Nov. 11)

Thanksgiving (Week 9, Thursday and Friday)

## **Winter term:**

Martin Luther King, Jr., Day (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in January)

Cultural Competency Day (Week 9, Thursday)

Professional Development and Assessment Day (Week 9, Friday)

## **Spring term:**

Memorial Day (last Monday in May)

Academic Excellence Showcase (Week 9, Thursday)

Professional Development and Assessment Day (Week 9, Friday)

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We could find time to:

- 1) allow faculty to focus on assessment
- 2) provide professional development opportunities
- 3) dedicate a day every Winter term to cultural competency training
- 4) give students a short break prior to the academic push that occurs at the end of every academic term
- 5) reduce some of the term-to-term variation in the number of instructional hours per course
- 6) promote the value of Academic Excellence Showcase by officially dedicating an academic calendar day to the event

And yet...

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Our calendar, in terms of instructional days, would still be similar to other colleges and universities:

