

Question Answered (see below for details)

Special Report

How Many Weeks Will Ed Nissan Get for Spring Break 2007?

An Investigative Series on the Use of the CoB's Budget

Sources tell usmnews.net that a war of words is currently waging in the EFIB over preferential course scheduling in that department. Course scheduling in the CoB has been a subject of numerous reports here at usmnews.net -- and a popular subject at that -- so our reporters decided to revisit scheduling in the EFIB.

We quickly came upon an interesting "element" of economics professor Edward Nissan's spring 2007 teaching schedule. EFIB Chair George Carter, Nissan's long-time friend and co-author, assigned Nissan to teach 3 sections of BA 303, a 1.5 hour course, during the 8W1 session of spring 2007. Two of these sections fall on Mondays, while the remaining one is on Tuesdays. Thus, Nissan's Spring Break began on Tuesday, March 6, 2007. USM's "official" Spring Break starts on Monday, March 12, 2007, and runs through Friday, March 16, 2007.

The remaining 4.5 hours of Nissan's teaching load come through the assignment to him of 3 more sections of BA 303 during the 8W2 portion of spring 2007. Two of these three 1.5-hour courses will be taught by Nissan on Wednesday's, while the remaining one will be taught on Thursday's. This schedule allows Nissan's Spring Break to continue through Tuesday, March 20, 2007. In total, Nissan's Spring Break will then run from March 7, 2007, through March 20, 2007, meaning that Nissan gets 2 weeks for Spring Break 2007.

Given that the Nissan will begin *new* sections of BA 303 on the week after USM's official Spring Break ends, Nissan may be able to pass out a syllabus and dismiss those classes for the week. If that's possible, then maybe he will simply decide to begin those classes on March 28 and March 29, respectively. If he makes this choice, then he can stretch his personal Spring Break out to 3 weeks in length. This option will likely be attractive to Nissan, given his desire to spend large blocks of time in London and the West Coast of the United States. We'll be watching out for this.

Just a few additional notes about Nissan's schedule. First, he never teaches more than 2 days per week during spring semester of 2007. Second, Nissan has one prep only. Third, he never teaches on Fridays. Can you say "Nice!"?

ANSWER: It is now widely known that Edward Nissan did not show up for the first full week of classes that followed Spring Break 2007. That means that Nissan missed classes on March 21 and March 22, resulting in his being away from USM over the period from March 7, 2007, through March 27, 2007 -- a period of 3 weeks!

Nissan's Days Away in March of 2007: 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, and 27th.

As many usmnews.net readers saw, our news ticker sent Nissan a "Welcome Back" message stating that the CoB hoped that he (Nissan) was "rested, recharged and ready to begin moving the college forward again."