FAQ Extended Semesters

Q. What is an extended semester?
A. An extended semester refers to teaching and class components that fall outside of the standard University academic calendar of 13 teaching weeks per semester. Students are advised that the timetables for these courses will not exceed 21 teaching weeks per semester (i.e. the academic year will not exceed 42 teaching weeks in duration).

Q. Where do I find the extended semester timetable?
A. Extended semester dates and timetables are posted to the School website www.gu.edu.au/school/doh - click current students, timetable extended semester.

Q. What is the standard semester?
A. A standard semester is 13 teaching weeks. For a calendar refer to http://www.gu.edu.au/ua/aa/sta/calendar/

Q. Why does the School of Dentistry and Oral Health have extended semesters?
A. The School of Dentistry and Oral Health offers professional programs. Extended semesters allow you to gain knowledge to the level of that required of an oral health professional, and extensive clinical and/or laboratory experience to be competent and ready to work upon graduation. In addition, extended semesters satisfy accreditation body requirements.

Q. Do I have to enroll in extended semesters via Griffith Portal (enable)?
A. No, you don’t have to enroll in extended semesters. You only enroll for the normal semester period of 13 teaching weeks.

Q. If I don’t have to enroll, how do I sign up for a specific class component, such as a laboratory or clinical?
A. If you are required to sign up for a class component (such as a laboratory) during an extended semester period, you will be notified by the School. The School will provide you with details, including where and how to sign up. Where you receive no notification you will have to attend all class components detailed in the timetable, or the School may allocate students to specific class components which will be detailed in the timetable.

Q. How do I know I have to attend an extended semester period?
A. The School will alert you and post the extended semester timetable to the School website www.gu.edu.au/school/doh

Q. I see the extended semester timetable on the web, but my year is not posted. Do I have an extended semester?
A. The School can publish
   1. a notice of extended semester dates and not a detailed semester timetable. A notice is published when the School wishes to alert you to dates for an extended semester so that you
can plan your life, but hasn’t yet developed a detailed timetable. Individual course codes and dates are given in a notice.

2. a detailed extended semester timetable, published by years (i.e. year 1 students, year 2 students etc) and often by programs (i.e. dental science, dental technology etc). Within the detailed extended semester timetable is individual course codes, dates and their class components with times and room locations. To use the detailed extended semester timetable click open the correct year and/or program and view the courses that have extended semester class components.

A. If a course you are going to be, or have been, enrolled in IS NOT noted on a notice or detailed extended semester timetable, then you don’t have an extended semester to attend.

If a course you are going to, or have been, enrolled in IS noted on a notice or detailed extended semester timetable, then you do have to attend the extended semester class components. Failure to do so may impact your final grade. Grades may not be released until completion of the extended semester.

Q. I can’t attend all or part of the extended semester class components due to personal commitments. What do I do?
A. Students are required to attend classes during extended semesters. It is important to be aware of study commitments, and arrange jobs and personal/family responsibilities around the extended semesters. If a student cannot attend one or two class components of the extended semester they should obtain written approval from the course convenor to be released from those components and arrange a make-up session(s) with the course convenor.

Q. How do I know if I have to enroll in a course that has an extended semester?
A. You will need to refer to your program structure, which can be found by following links on the School website www.gu.edu.au/school/doh -- click programs.

Q. An extended semester timetable has been published for my year, but it is by courses – how do I know if I have to attend?
A. You will need to refer to your program structure, which can be found by following links on the School website www.gu.edu.au/school/doh -- click programs.

A. For the extended semester BEFORE a semester (pre-semester) if you know you are going to be taking a course during the standard semester that has an extended semester component then you will need to attend the extended semester classes for that course.

For the extended semester AFTER a semester (post-semester) if you are taking a course during the standard semester that has an extended semester component then you will need to attend the extended semester classes for that course. Grades may not be released until completion of the extended semester.

If you require further information regarding extended semesters please contact the School Administrative Officer on 07 5678 0705 or email: doh@griffith.edu.au