

## **FIU-2504 Student Religious Observances, Practices, and Beliefs**

- (1) Florida International University (“University”) recognizes and values students’ rights to observe and practice their religious beliefs. The University will reasonably accommodate the religious observances, practices, and beliefs of students in regard to admissions, class attendance, and coursework such as class exams, class assignments, and class events.
- (2) Class instructors are required to reasonably accommodate students in class attendance and course work because of religious observances, practices, and beliefs.
  - a. Students are responsible for any material covered or tested during an excused absence, but shall be given a reasonable amount of time to complete coursework including course exams and course assignments missed during their prior approved absence. The approved make-up assignment and examination must be equivalent in content, type, and grading scale to the missed coursework.
  - b. Students who desire to be excused from class or coursework to observe or practice their religious beliefs should notify all instructors preferably upon receipt or access to the syllabus, but in no case later than two (2) weeks before the religious observance or practice.
  - c. A student who has requested to be excused from class or coursework for a religious observance or practice is not required to provide a second party certification of the reason for the absence.
- (3) The University does not consider religious observances, practices, or beliefs in determining admission to University undergraduate, graduate and professional programs. If a prospective or current student believes their religious observances, practices, or beliefs were considered in admission, the student must timely submit a written statement which includes any information to be considered regarding an accommodation to their religious observances, practices, or beliefs to one of the following. A second party certification of the student’s religious observance, practice, or belief is not required:
  - a. The Admission Petition and Appeals Committee for appeals of admission to undergraduate degree programs;
  - b. The graduate program director for appeals of admission to graduate degree programs;  
or
  - c. The applicable professional school admissions director for appeals of admission to professional degree programs.
- (4) Students who believe their religious observances, practices, or beliefs were not reasonably accommodated in accordance with this Regulation may seek redress by filing a grievance with the Office of Equal Opportunity Programs and Diversity, Complaint Contacts at <https://diversity.fiu.edu/contacts/>. All grievances will be processed in accordance with the University’s regulations and policies regarding alleged discrimination.

*Authority: Fla. Const. art. IX, section 7, Board of Governors Regulation 6.0115; History - New 4-24-2019*