

What is January Term?

January Term at HGSE (also referred to as “J-Term” and more officially through Harvard as “Winter Session”) is part of a University-wide initiative to create meaningful for-credit and noncredit opportunities for student learning and development during a three-week period between the Fall and Spring semesters. As part of the implementation of a new University academic calendar several years ago, each school at Harvard may now offer innovative programming for its students and the larger University community. At HGSE, we are proud to have one of the most vibrant January learning environments at Harvard.

What will be offered at HGSE during the January Term?

HGSE will offer a range of for-credit and noncredit learning experiences in January 2016, including:

- Fifteen for-credit modules and courses designed as immersive learning experiences and taught by HGSE faculty members
- *Special Topics Seminars* – noncredit, active-learning mini-courses typically spanning three sessions or a concentrated workshop
- A wide array of technology, research, media-production, entrepreneurship, and other skill-building workshops
- Workshops and sessions for exploring your career options and continuing your job search
- Outings and social events sponsored for all students by the Office of Student Affairs
- Other special community-wide events and learning opportunities

In addition, HGSE students are able to enroll in courses at other Harvard schools and to participate in University-wide programs.

Is participation in January Term required?

Some programs require students to participate in course and field work during January (e.g., Ed.M. licensure programs with January practicum requirements). However, for most HGSE students, participation in January-Term programs is optional.

Are there additional costs associated with participating in January Term?

For full-time students, participation in January for-credit modules and courses is included in Fall-semester tuition. Tuition for part-time students is assessed on a per-credit basis, and participation in January Term courses requires having been enrolled in the immediately preceding Fall term. Noncredit activities at HGSE are generally included in regular tuition but may have fees for materials or for no-shows or late cancellations in popular offerings. Some activities offered by other Harvard Schools may charge additional fees.

May I take more than one January Term module or course?

January Term modules are intensive and require concentrated work over a brief period of time. For that reason, students are permitted to enroll in only one January Term module or course at a time (including courses through cross-registration). Exceptions to the policy are possible only in cases in which modules do not overlap in their range of instructional days. Students must complete the [Petition to Enroll in Multiple J-Term Courses](#) and receive the advance consent of their program’s dean, which is contingent on an assessment of academic progress and adviser approval, before December 4.

When will I need to be back on campus to participate in January Term?

The dates of this year’s January Term are January 4 through January 24. (See the visual calendar below.) Most January for-credit modules and courses meet during the first and second weeks of that period (Monday, January 4 to Friday, January 15). However, as different activities and Special Topics Seminars will take place at different times, your return to campus will depend upon your individual selections. Please note that whether or not you choose to participate in January Term, students are expected back in Cambridge on January 19 for Spring course shopping, advising, and registration.

How and when will I enroll for January Term courses and activities?

The schedule of January Term modules and courses is available online in the *HGSE Catalogue*. **Please Note: Shopping sessions for January courses take place at the same time as Fall shopping sessions (August 26 and 27).** However, enrollment in January Term courses works differently for open-enrollment courses (those that do not require the instructor’s permission) and limited-enrollment courses (those that require application and admission by the instructor). In general, open-enrollment courses may be added anytime August 27 through December 4. Limited-enrollment courses have their application process later in the Fall term – in mid-November – and cannot be added to a student’s schedule until after obtaining explicit instructor permission through the November process. These two processes are summarized on the next page. The complete schedule of January Term *noncredit* activities offered at HGSE, including the options and enrollment process for *Special Topics Seminars*, will be released online in early November.

Can students from other schools cross-register into HGSE January Term courses?

Cross-registrants are welcome to enroll in HGSE January Term courses. They must follow all the same process steps (e.g., application for course admission, meeting enrollment deadlines, etc.) as HGSE students, in addition to any requirements for cross-registration into any University course (such as obtaining an instructor permission in order to enroll).

HGSE January Term 2016 at a Glance

| Su | M | Tu | W | Th | F | Sa |
|----------|--|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|----|
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Vacation | For-Credit Modules and Courses at HGSE | | | | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| | For-Credit Modules and Courses at HGSE | | | | | |
| | Special Topics Seminars and Workshops | | | | | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| | Holiday | Spring Shopping | Spring Shopping | Advising Day | Spring Enrollment | |
| | | | Special Topics Seminars and Workshops | | | |

Key Dates for Enrolling in HGSE January Term Courses

| Type of January Course | Shopping Classes | Application Deadline | Admission Notification | Enrollment Opens | Enrollment Deadline | "Late-Add" / Drop Deadline [†] |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|---------------------|---|
| Open Enrollment | 8/26-8/27 | <i>n/a</i> | <i>n/a</i> | 8/27 | F 12/4 | Before Second Class Meeting |
| Limited Enrollment | 8/26-8/27 | M 11/16 | F 11/20 | F 11/20 | F 12/4 | Before Second Class Meeting |

Open-Enrollment Courses:

A011P Pittinsky, A101 Kalt, A111R Mapp, A310G Boudett, AH210A Snow, H811C Lesaux, HT123 Blatt, HT107 Star, T210M Sommers, T211P Boix-Mansilla and Chua

Limited-Enrollment Courses Which Require Advance Permission of Instructor:

A111G Hess, H110G della Chiesa, H610J Gardner, S010J Tivnan, S305 Tishman, T210Z1A Al-Adeimi

Limited-Enrollment Courses are "starred" () in their online HGSE Catalogue entries. Most of these courses will only be limited if student demand exceeds the number of available spots; otherwise all interested students are admitted.*

[†]Students who wish to add or drop January Term courses via the Student Portal after the 12/4 registration deadline must have the instructor's and advisor's permission and will incur a \$50 fee. This fee will not be charged if enrollment for a course is completed on time (by 12/4) at HGSE and then that course is dropped because the student receives 1) notification of acceptance to an HGSE limited-enrollment course after 12/4 or 2) notification of acceptance to a cross-registered course after 12/4. Please contact the Office of the Registrar for details.