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**From:** Bernadine Fong <fongbernadine@fhda.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 19, 2022 6:10 PM  
**To:** foothill  
**Cc:** centralservices  
**Subject:** Competing priorities in the first day week of classes

Dear Colleagues,

Foothill College values the religious diversity of our community and we are committed to working together to better support all our students and colleagues in their religious devotions.

To that end, we recognize that Fall quarter classes start during the Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashanah. Foothill College understands that this conflict makes it particularly difficult for students to properly observe Rosh Hashanah as they might be concerned about being dropped if they cannot attend the first day of class.

We ask that faculty please make allowances for any students who are observing Rosh Hashanah and not penalize or drop students who miss the first day of class on September 26 or 27. If possible, we encourage you to make notes available from those class sessions, or record the class session, if it is conducted synchronously via Zoom. We also encourage similar considerations for other religious holidays of our students.

Thank you for your consideration.

I am not sure how this calendar and opening day conflict occurred, but Foothill will work with our faculty and District colleagues to hopefully develop future calendars that allow our students and colleagues to properly observe Rosh Hashanah, if at all possible, since this is not the first time that such a conflict has occurred.

Best regards,  
Bernadine

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