

Proposed Faculty Senate Revision to the Policy for Standard Class Meeting Times

The purpose of this proposal is to propose an amendment to the policy for standard class meeting times.¹ Under the current policy, it is stated that “[s]tandard scheduling times for classes (course sections) provide students with maximum flexibility, allow departments to meet unique needs and to more efficiently utilize space.” There are several reasons the current policy does not meet its stated objective, as it does not allow scheduling of classes from 10:45 am to 11:30 am on Tuesday and Thursdays.

1. The 10:45 – 11:30 am open block appears to exist for historical reasons, not serving any practical purpose in 2025. Eliminating the 45-minute gap in the morning ensures that standard scheduling times are fully determined based on rational and practical reasons.
2. Data from the [National Center for Education Statistics](#) indicates that a significant portion of students, particularly those enrolled in part-time programs (74%), are employed. Additionally, a substantial number of full-time students (40%) are also employed. K-State is not exempt from the reality that many students work to support their education and living expenses. By eliminating the 45-minute gap in the morning, students will gain greater flexibility in their schedules for internships, part-time, or full-time work.
3. Faculty and students have indicated that afternoon classes are significantly less desirable, creating a challenge for faculty to maintain student motivation and engagement. This has resulted in an overextension of faculty resources.
4. The K-State Strategic Plan envisions expanding enrollment significantly by 2030. To accommodate this growth, efficient resource allocation, particularly in classroom space, is crucial. Eliminating the 45-minute morning gap will enable departments to meet the diverse needs of a growing student population and optimize space utilization.

Accordingly, the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee proposes that the 10:45 am to 11:30 am gap on Tuesday and Thursdays is eliminated and the following modification is made to the Policy for Standard Class Meeting Times. As per the table shown below, the proposed change involves implementing a 7:15 am commencement time on Tuesdays and Thursdays (courses begin at 7:30 am on M/W/Fs), with adjustments to the early morning class periods to allow students sufficient time between classes. Under this proposal, the current class period beginning at 8:05 will shift to begin at 7:15 and the 9:30 class period will shift to start at 8:40. This would allow the addition of a class period from 10:15-11:20, thus eliminating the existing gap from 10:45-11:30. Under this proposal, no adjustments would be needed for courses that begin after 11:30 on Tuesday and Thursday. These adjustments would allow for more classes to be scheduled in the mornings, while student engagement is greater. By increasing the number of morning offerings and eliminating the gap in course scheduling, students will be more likely to have blocks of time in the afternoon that enable part-time employment.

| Tu/Th | Current | Revised |
|-------|-----------|-----------|
| AM | | 7:15-8:30 |
| | 8:05-9:20 | 8:40-9:55 |

¹ Policy for Standard Class Meeting Times: https://www.k-state.edu/capp/documents/Policy-on-Standard-Class-Meeting-times_121002_110904_020805_111219.pdf

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|----|-------------|-------------|
| | 9:30-10:45 | 10:05-11:20 |
| | 11:30-12:45 | 11:30-12:45 |
| PM | 1:05-2:20 | 1:05-2:20 |
| | 2:30-3:45 | 2:30-3:45 |
| | 3:55-5:10 | 3:55-5:10 |
| | 5:30-6:45 | 5:30-6:45 |
| | 7:05-8:20 | 7:05-8:20 |
| | 8:30-9:45 | 8:30-9:45 |