Sukkot

Tradition: Judaism
October 2, 2020

Sukkot is the fall harvest festival that lasts for a week. The eighth day, Sh’mini Atzeret, functions as the conclusion of Sukkot but is also a separate festival. The ninth day is Simchat Torah.

During this time Jews build a temporary structure called a Sukkah (booth) and shake the lulav (palm branch) and etrog (citron) as a way to acknowledge the God of nature.

We conclude the festivals by rejoicing with the Torah as we conclude the annual reading and beginning it all over again.

What’s on the menu?

Unlike other holidays, Sukkot has no traditional dishes. On campus many students will take part in programs such as “Sushi in the Sukkah,” “Subs in the Sukkah,” “Pizza in the Hut.”

What is the mood of this holiday?

(we realize that holidays are multilayered and complex; we are simply checking off a few moods to give people a tiny sense of the overall tone of the day)

- ☑ Celebratory
- ☐ Mournful
- ☑ Fun
- ☐ Reflective
- ☐ Serious

Greet your neighbor!

Chag Sa-may-ach which literally means Happy Holiday. Though some Jews will say the more traditional greeting Mo-a-dim L-Sim-cha which means a Joyous Season

Campus Climate Considerations, some celebrating the holiday are...

- ☐ fasting
- ☑ traveling
- ☑ managing family expectations/obligations
- ☑ busy with holiday preparations/rituals

Student accommodations might include:

- Assignment modifications, Excused absences,
- Other Accommodations (ask your classes!)

Work-Restricted?

Jewish observance begins at sundown before the full day of the holiday. Traditionally no work is done during this time including driving which can result in time away from campus. The first 2 days of the holiday and the last 2 days include no work at all while the intermediate days are joyous but class work can still be done.

This fact sheet is part of DU’s new Religious Inclusivity Initiative. It is designed in consultation with scholars and practitioners and is meant as a practical go-to ‘beta’ resource, not a comprehensive or definitive presentation of any religion or holiday. Want to recommend a change? Want to suggest another holiday to feature? Contact Prof. Sarah Pessin & Andrea Stanton at cjo@du.edu

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