

May 2013 Commencement

The School of Continuing Studies will hold its annual Commencement Ceremony and Reception on Friday, May 17, 2013 to honor August 2012, December 2012 and May 2013 graduates of the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies (BALS), Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS), Doctor of Liberal Studies (DLS), and Master of Professional Studies (MPS) degree programs.

Ceremony: 3:30 p.m., [Healy Lawn](#) (Rain site: [McDonough Arena](#))

Reception: 5:00 p.m., [Leo J. O'Donovan Dining Hall](#)

Students: in order to participate in the 2013 Commencement Ceremony you must complete the following RSVP form: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RSVPCommencement2013>

Student and Faculty Check-In

Please arrive by 2:00 p.m. for check-in and line-up in [White Gravenor Hall](#):

- BALS - WGR 213
- DLS and MALS - WGR 211
- Human Resources - WGR 202
- Journalism - WGR 209
- Public Relations & Corporate Communications - WGR 208
- Real Estate - WGR 206
- Sports Industry Management - WGR 311
- Technology Management - WGR 204
- Platform Party - WGR 201 A/B

In the event of rain, all students and faculty should report to [McDonough Arena](#) no later than 2:20 p.m.

- ALL students - McDonough Arena Tent
- Presidential and Platform Parties - McDonough Arena East Hallway

Academic Regalia

[Please review this guide](#) to wearing your academic regalia as you prepare for the commencement activities. All faculty who are participating in commencement and candidates for graduation are required to wear the exact academic regalia for their degree (gown, cap, hood, and tassel). Due to the formality of this occasion and safety concerns regarding walking on the steps and stage, please wear appropriate footwear; flip flops, clogs and loose fitting shoes are not recommended. In addition, it is requested that men wear slacks and a dress shirt with tie. For women, slacks with a blouse, or a dress is appropriate for the ceremony. Flowers, corsages, and balloons should not be carried or worn during the academic procession and commencement ceremony.

Student Eligibility

Students eligible to participate in the 2013 Commencement Ceremony include August 2012 graduates, December 2012 graduates, and potential May 2013 graduates. BALS and MPS students who are within 6 credits of completing their coursework, and plan to complete them in the upcoming Summer 2013 semester, may also be eligible to participate in the Commencement Ceremony. Due to intensive thesis review and approval requirements, MALS and DLS students must have completed all required credits *and* have received formal thesis approval to participate in the Commencement Ceremony. Only the names of students expected to complete their coursework by the end of the Spring 2013 semester, and students who completed their coursework in August 2012 or December 2012, will be printed in the

2013 Commencement Book. Students graduating in August 2013 or December 2013 will have their names printed in the 2014 Commencement Book.

Please review graduation eligibility policies and requirements here: [academic-affairs/graduation](#)
Commencement FAQs

When is the SCS Commencement Ceremony?

The School of Continuing Studies' 2013 Commencement Ceremony is on Friday, May 17 at 3:30 p.m. on [Healy Lawn](#) (Rain site: [McDonough Arena](#)). A Reception follows at 5:00 p.m. in the [Leo J. O'Donovan Dining Hall](#).

Do my guests need to RSVP for the Ceremony?

No. However, students must indicate how many guests they will bring on student survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RSVPCommencement2013>

Are tickets required for the Commencement Ceremony?

No.

Is the Reception open to family and friends?

Yes. A Reception follows the Commencement Ceremony at 5:00 p.m. in the [Leo J. O'Donovan Dining Hall](#). Food and drinks will be provided.

How long will the Commencement Ceremony last?

The ceremony lasts approximately 90 minutes. A Reception follows at 5:00 p.m. in the [Leo J. O'Donovan Dining Hall](#). Food and drinks will be provided.

Where do I go on graduation day?

Please visit [academic-affairs/graduation#commencement](#) for the most up-to-date information about checking-in on Commencement day.

I'm a student—how do I purchase my graduation regalia?

In order to participate in the Commencement Ceremony, students must be dressed in the correct academic regalia. We suggest wearing business casual attire under your gowns. As part of your attire, we highly recommend wearing shirts or blouses with a button-up collar, which helps keep your hood in place.

Students are responsible for purchasing their own regalia from the Georgetown Bookstore on the below dates:

Wednesday, March 20 and Thursday, March 21

11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

OR

Monday, May 13 - Thursday, May 16

9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

- The hood for the Master of Professional Studies degree is peacock blue.
- The hood for the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree has a white velvet trim on the edges of a black hood.

- The hood for the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies degree has a white velvet trim on the edges of a black hood and is a shorter version of the master's hood.
- The hood for the Doctor of Liberal Studies degree has a wide band of white velvet on a black hood. The doctoral gown has horizontal black velvet stripes on the sleeves.

Cap and gown rental is not offered for students.

I'm a student—can I purchase regalia without visiting the campus bookstore?

In order to participate in the Commencement Ceremony, students must be dressed in the correct academic regalia. We suggest wearing business casual attire under your gowns. As part of your attire, we highly recommend wearing shirts or blouses with a button-up collar, which helps keep your hood in place.

Students are responsible for purchasing their own regalia. If you wish to purchase your regalia via mail order, you can do so by following the instructions below:

Please call (800) 548-5452 to place a mail order for regalia with the campus bookstore. Regalia will be shipped directly to you. No online ordering is available at this time.

Bookstore contact for mail orders:

Krystal Cone

Email: 0873gm2@ghcg.follet.com

- The hood for the Master of Professional Studies degree is peacock blue.
- The hood for the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree has a white velvet trim on the edges of a black hood.
- The hood for the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies degree has a white velvet trim on the edges of a black hood and is a shorter version of the master's hood.
- The hood for the Doctor of Liberal Studies degree has a wide band of white velvet on a black hood. The doctoral gown has horizontal black velvet stripes on the sleeves.

Cap and gown rental is not offered for students.

I'm a faculty member—how do purchase my graduation regalia?

The Director of Events will be reaching out to all faculty shortly with rental directions for graduation regalia. The Dean's office has agreed to pay for faculty rental regalia this year. Please note, however, that if a member of your faculty does not return their regalia, your department will be billed.

If you or your faculty would like to *purchase* custom-made regalia, you are welcome to do so at your own expense. To do this, you must call Jostens directly at 800-854-7464. Details and photos can be found at www.jostens.com/college/special

When do I pick-up graduation announcements?

Each student receives 10 graduation announcements free of charge (these are generic and do not include your name). Students can pick these up after April 1 from their program manager or director. Students will receive an email directly from their programs with specific information regarding pick-up.

If students would like personalized graduation announcements, they must order these themselves through the Jostens website: <http://college.jostens.com/jostens/index.jsp?affiliateld=1037616>

When should my family and friends arrive to Healy Lawn?

Commencement Ceremony seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Seating will begin after the conclusion of the Business School's 12:30 p.m. ceremony (approximately 2:00-2:30 p.m.), which is before SCS's ceremony. There are plenty of seats on Healy Lawn to accommodate everyone's guests, and in the event of rain there are plenty of seats in McDonough Arena. All guests should be in their seats by the start of the procession at 3:15 p.m.

What will the weather be like?

The weather in Washington, D.C. in May is often warm and humid. There is also chance of rain. All guests should dress appropriately and bring an umbrella in the event of rain.

I have a difficult last name—how can I ensure it is pronounced correctly?

When students arrive on Commencement day, they will be given a note card on which to write their name phonetically. They will hand this card to the announcer before they cross the stage.

When do I get my diploma?

Diplomas will be distributed in-person immediately following the Commencement Ceremony. If students do not pick-up their diploma on Commencement day, it will be mailed to them. A specific pick-up location is TBA.

Who is our graduation speaker?

Georgetown University announces all graduation speakers through the Office of Communications. This announcement is made in early May.

Update: SCS's 2013 Commencement speaker is Gerald M. "Jerry" DeFrancisco, president of humanitarian services for the American Red Cross. More details can be found [here](#).

I am an Advanced Professional Certificate student—will I participate in the Commencement Ceremony?

No. APC students will receive their certificates at SCS's 2013 Tropaia Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, May 15, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in [Gaston Hall](#) with a reception in [Dahlgren Quadrangle](#) immediately following. More information about Tropaia can be found here: [academic-affairs/graduation#tropaia](#)

Where should people park during Commencement weekend?

Parking during Commencement weekend is challenging. Please review the following for tips on parking and traveling to campus: <http://commencement.georgetown.edu/travel-and-parking/>

There is limited handicapped parking in the Southwest Quad garage. When possible, guests should drop off their handicapped family member close to the Commencement site and then park the car. There will also be a shuttle bus for handicapped attendees running continuously from the main gate to various sections of campus all day on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Do you provide wheelchairs or handicapped seating during the Commencement Ceremony?

Yes. Wheelchairs are provided free of charge during graduation. Students will need to RSVP via the online survey, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RSVPCommencement2013>, if a family member or friend requires wheelchair rental during the ceremony. There is a reserved seating section for wheelchairs (Healy Lawn: on the audience right side of the stage closest to Healy Circle; McDonough Arena: on the audience's left side by the bleachers and the band). Each guest requiring a wheelchair can bring one attendee with them to this section.

How will I know if there is a rain call?

If you have questions about the status of the Commencement Ceremony, you may check the University's main web page ([Georgetown.edu](http://www.georgetown.edu)), the inclement weather page, <http://www.georgetown.edu/operating-status/index.html>, or call the inclement weather line: (202) 687-7669 for updates.

Can I get pictures or a video of me walking across stage?

Yes. Ordering information will be available on the SCS graduation website when available.

Note: A live webcast of the Commencement Ceremony will be available at: <http://www.georgetown.edu/news/webcasts.html>

What do most guests wear for to Commencement exercises?

Traditionally, guests wear business or business casual attire.

What is the Tropaia Awards Ceremony and when is it?

The School of Continuing Studies' Tropaia Awards Ceremony celebrates the outstanding contributions and achievements of students, faculty, staff and alumni. Each of Georgetown University's schools holds an annual Tropaia exercise to honor outstanding members of the Georgetown community. At SCS's Tropaia Ceremony, awards are given to outstanding students, faculty and staff and an alumnus; Doctor of Liberal Studies candidates are presented with their hoods; and students in the Advanced Professional Certificate programs receive their certificates.

The School's 2013 Tropaia Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in [Gaston Hall](#) with a reception in [Dahlgren Quadrangle](#) immediately following. All SCS students, faculty, staff and alumni and their families and friends are invited to attend the ceremony.

[Click here to RSVP.](#)

More information about Tropaia can be found here: [academic-affairs/graduation#tropaia](#)

What other activities can I participate in during graduation week?

The annual Baccalaureate Mass will be held Sunday, May 19, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. on [Healy Lawn](#) and includes an academic procession of students (undergraduate and graduate) and faculty.

The annual Commencement Brunch will be held on Sunday, May 19, 2013 at 10:45 a.m. in the [Leavey Center Ballroom](#). All graduates and their guests are welcome to attend.

Do you have information about area hotels and restaurants?

Hotels and restaurants will be heavily booked, and we recommend you and your guests make reservations as soon as possible.

Where can I find a map of the Georgetown campus?

Please visit: <http://maps.georgetown.edu/>

Where can I find more Commencement information online?

The Georgetown University Commencement website has up-to-date information: <http://commencement.georgetown.edu/>

What if I have more questions or need additional information?

You can email: scsgrad@georgetown.edu