



Spring Commencement 2017

Office of Academic Affairs

Feb. 20, 2017

A Note from Academic Affairs

Congratulations to our Spring Graduates! Planning for the Spring Commencement of King University in its 150th year has been underway for some time. The faculty and staff of the University recognize the significance of your commencement ceremony and have worked to make the event reflect the ethos of King University and the honor of your achievement.

It is with much excitement that we circulate this newsletter detailing the event in hopes that the information provided will assist our King Community, including graduates and their families, as they prepare. Also, please refer to graduation.king.edu.

The Baccalaureate Service

Some of our upcoming graduates may be wondering what is “baccalaureate” or more specifically *the Baccalaureate Worship Service*? The word *baccalaureate* itself refers to an educational credential or qualification. With regard to the worship service, liturgical scholars trace its origins back to Oxford University in the 1400s when graduates were required to deliver a sermon as part of their degree qualification. This traveled to early American Universities and continues as part of national graduation passage events.

At King University, this tradition continues. On April 28 at 6:30 p.m., in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church, we will gather for a worship service that will celebrate and give thanks to God for the learning, wisdom, and preparation for service graciously given during your course of study. Here at the King University Baccalaureate Worship Service, you can expect a formal worship experience with a processional of both faculty and students from all programs, hymns, special music offerings, prayers, the reading of Scripture, and a message relating God’s Word to this momentous occasion in your life.

Your family and friends will want to be in attendance! In light of our mission and vision, the Baccalaureate Worship Service is not only appropriate, but a vitally important testimony of who we are and Whose we are.

Schedule*

Tuesday, February 28

5 p.m. Deadline to turn in application for degree
<https://my.king.edu/DocumentManagementSystem/Upload?docid=48>

Sunday, March 8

Midnight Deadline for ordering caps and gowns
\$25.00 late fee for orders after this date

Friday, April 10

5 p.m. Deadline for ordering invitations

Monday, April 14

5 p.m. Deadline for change in marching status
or name

Sunday, April 23

3 p.m. **Traditional & GPS Commencement Rehearsal**
Maclellan Hall Dining Room

3:30 p.m.

Faculty/Graduate Reception
Maclellan Hall Dining Room

Tuesday, April 25

6 p.m. **Nurses Pinning Ceremony**
West Park Baptist Church
Knoxville, Tennessee

Thursday, April 27

6 p.m. **Nurses Pinning Ceremony**
First Presbyterian Church
Bristol, Tennessee

Friday, April 28

6 p.m. **Graduates line up for Baccalaureate**
Fellowship Hall, First Presbyterian Church

6:30 p.m.

The Baccalaureate Service
First Presbyterian Church

Saturday, April 29

9 a.m. **Graduates line up for Commencement**
White Hall

10 a.m.

Commencement
The Oval

*Schedule is subject to change.

Information from the Registrar

Graduates who do not plan to participate in graduation in Spring 2017 should notify the Registrar immediately. Graduating students taking courses at another institution must have final grades into the Registrar's office no later than 5 p.m. on May 3, if they wish to participate in the Commencement exercises. Those that cannot meet this deadline must contact the Registrar's Office immediately.

Each student's graduation fee and other outstanding balances must be paid in the Business Office before he or she receives their diploma.

Academic Honors

Academic honors will be determined by the undergraduate student's King grade point average. In addition, certain departments also require honors candidates to undergo an external examination. Graduates who have completed a *minimum of 62 semester hours of graded coursework at King* (excluding PLA, and pass/fail credits) will be eligible for the following Latin honors:

- GPA meeting or exceeding 3.500: *cum laude*
- GPA meeting or exceeding 3.700: *magna cum laude*
- GPA meeting or exceeding 3.900: *summa cum laude*

Students who have completed 48-61 hours of graded coursework at King with an institutional grade point average of 3.70 or higher will graduate *With Distinction* in their given field. *Graduate & Professional Studies (GPS)* students completing a *single program*, such as the Bachelors of Business Administration, will *not* meet the minimum semester hour requirement to receive honors other than *With Distinction*. Final honors will be noted on the diploma. Summa cum laude graduates will receive a gold honor cord as they cross the platform during commencement exercises.

Rehearsal

Attendance at Commencement Rehearsal is required for all graduates. Rehearsal for all students (traditional and GPS) is scheduled for Sunday, April 23 at 3:00 p.m. in the Maclellan Hall Dining Room. A reception for graduates and faculty will be held immediately following rehearsal. Also, the Tornado Alley Shoppe will be open from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Graduates who need to be excused must contact Chief Marshall Craig Streetman at wcestreetman@king.edu.

How to Order Caps, Gowns, & Invitations

Graduates are responsible for ordering their caps and gowns from Herff-Jones' website:

<http://www.herffjones.com/college/king/>

The deadline for ordering caps and gowns is March 8. Orders after that date must be placed directly with Susan Marshall (sdmarsha@king.edu). A \$25 late fee will be applied to all late orders. Cap and Gown collection or delivery options will be announced at a later time by Susan Marshall. Invitations may also be ordered through Herff Jones' website.

Family Diploma

A graduating student who has a parent or guardian that is a member of the King University faculty, staff, or Board of Trustees may request that the parent deliver the diploma case during commencement in lieu of the President. The student should make the request in writing to The Office of Academic Affairs academicdean@king.edu no less than two weeks before Commencement.

You Should Also Know . . .

Because the venue for the Spring 2017 Commencement Ceremony is outdoors, guests do not need tickets to attend. The ceremony will be held rain or shine; however, for safety reasons, umbrellas will not be permitted in seating areas.

Campus Accessibility

If you or a guest needs to make special arrangements because of a disability, please visit the King University Security "Event Parking" webpage [after April 1, 2017 at http://security.king.edu/event-parking](http://security.king.edu/event-parking).

Accommodations

Several hotels are located within a few miles of our campus. The following hotels offer a special King University rate.

Courtyard by Marriott
3169 Linden Dr.
Bristol, VA 24201
(276) 591-4400

Hampton Inn
3299 W. State St.
Bristol, TN 37620
(423) 764-3600