



Spring Commencement 2012

Office of Academic Affairs

February 21, 2012

A Note from Academic Affairs

Congratulations on your anticipated graduation! Planning for the Spring Commencement of King College in its 145th year has been underway for some time. The faculty and staff of the College recognize the significance of your commencement ceremony and have worked to make the event reflect the ethos of King College and the honor of your achievement.

It is with much excitement that we send you this newsletter detailing the event in hopes that the information provided will assist you and your families as you prepare. Should you have additional questions not addressed herein, please contact Juli Hale, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, by phone (423.652.4737) or email (AcademicDean@king.edu).

The Baccalaureate Service

By the Rev. Dr. Fred Foy Strang, Chaplain

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, some 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, many of which were preparing ministers.

At King College, this tradition continues. On May 4 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 College Baccalaureate Worship Service, you can expect a formal worship experience with a processional, 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.

Campus Accessibility

If you or a guest needs to make special arrangements because of a disability you may contact Security by phone (423.652.4333) or by email (security@king.edu). Security staff will be available throughout the weekend to offer assistance.

Schedule*

Thursday, March 15

5 p.m. Deadline to Turn in Application for Degree

Friday, March 19

12 a.m. Deadline for Ordering Caps and Gowns

Friday, April 20

5 p.m. Deadline for Ordering Invitations
Deadline for Change of Marching Status

Sunday, April 29

3 p.m. **GPS Commencement Rehearsal**
Maclellan Hall Dining Room
King College Main Campus

Wednesday, May 2

Noon Deadline for Grades from Other Institutions

Thursday, May 3

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

Friday, May 4

10 a.m. **Traditional Commencement Rehearsal**
Memorial Chapel, King College

11:30 a.m.

Faculty/Graduate Luncheon
Free to Faculty and Graduates
Maclellan Hall Dining Room, King College

Noon

Deadline to Clear Holds

6 p.m.

Graduates Line up for Baccalaureate
Fellowship Hall, First Presbyterian Church

6:30 p.m.

The Baccalaureate Service
First Presbyterian Church

8:15 p.m.

King College Symphonic Choir Concert
Memorial Chapel, King College

Saturday, May 5

9 a.m. **Graduates Line Up for Commencement**
In Front of White Hall, King College

10 a.m.

Commencement
King College Oval

*Schedule is subject to change.

Information from the Registrar

Graduates who do not plan to participate in graduation in Spring 2012 should notify the Registrar immediately. Each student's graduation fee must be paid in the Business Office before he or she is cleared to participate.

Graduating students taking courses at another institution must have final grades into the Registrar's office no later than Noon on Wednesday, May 2, if they wish to participate in the Commencement exercises. Graduates must clear all holds on their accounts by 12 noon on May 4 in order to receive their diplomas on Saturday, May 5.

You Should Also Know . . .

Because the venue for the Spring 2012 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.

Rehearsals

Attendance at Commencement Rehearsals is strongly encouraged. The GPS Rehearsal is scheduled for Sunday, April 29, at 3 p.m., and the traditional undergraduate rehearsal is scheduled for Friday, May 4, at 10 a.m. Graduates unable to attend must contact Chief Marshal Raymond H. Bloomer, Jr. (rhbloome@king.edu) for a personal briefing with one of the commencement marshals.

How to Order Caps, Gowns, & Invitations

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

<https://www1.herffjones.com/college/graduation/>.

The deadline for ordering caps and gowns is Friday, March 19. Orders after that date must be placed directly with Susan Marshall (sdmarsha@king.edu). A \$25 late will be applied to all late orders. Invitations may also be ordered through Herff Jones' website. Orders placed after April 20 will not be filled.



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