

A background image featuring a blue sky with wispy clouds. In the upper right, a black graduation cap with a tassel is visible. In the lower right, the silhouette of a person in a graduation gown is shown, with one arm raised. A large, semi-transparent red rectangle covers the middle-left portion of the image, serving as a background for the text.

# *Class of 2018*

SPRING  
COMMENCEMENT  
NEWSLETTER

# A Note from Academic Affairs



Congratulations to our Spring Graduates! Planning for the Spring Commencement of King University in its 151st 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.

We hope that the information provided in this newsletter will assist our King Community, including graduates and their families, as they prepare. Also, please refer to [graduation.king.edu](http://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 27 at 6:00 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.

CLASS OF 2018

# 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.

Students in a Master or Doctoral program are not eligible for academic honors. Students within these programs are required to maintain an A/B level GPA at all times during their program.

## HONORS FOR GRADUATION CEREMONY:

**The GPA at the end of 10 weeks, during the student's last semester, will be used to announce anticipated honors during commencement exercises. Students who are approved to march early will not have expected honors announced.**

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.



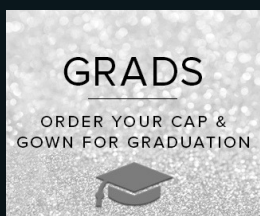
# ARE YOU READY?

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 10. 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.





# 2018 SCHEDULE

**Friday, March 2: 5 p.m.**

Deadline to turn in 'Intent to Graduate' form  
To complete the online form [click here](#)

**Wednesday, March 10: Midnight**

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

**Monday, April 16: 5 p.m.**

Deadline for ordering invitations

**Friday, April 20: 5 p.m.**

Deadline for change in marching status or name

**Sunday, April 22: 3 p.m.**

Traditional & GPS Commencement Rehearsal  
Passport to Graduation  
Student Center Complex

**Tuesday, April 24: 6 p.m.**

Nurses Pinning Ceremony  
West Park Baptist Church  
Knoxville, Tennessee

**Thursday, April 26: 6 p.m.**

Nurses Pinning Ceremony  
First Presbyterian Church  
Bristol, Tennessee

**Friday, April 27: 5:30 p.m.**

Graduates line up for Baccalaureate  
Fellowship Hall, First Presbyterian Church

**6 p.m.**

The Baccalaureate Service  
First Presbyterian Church

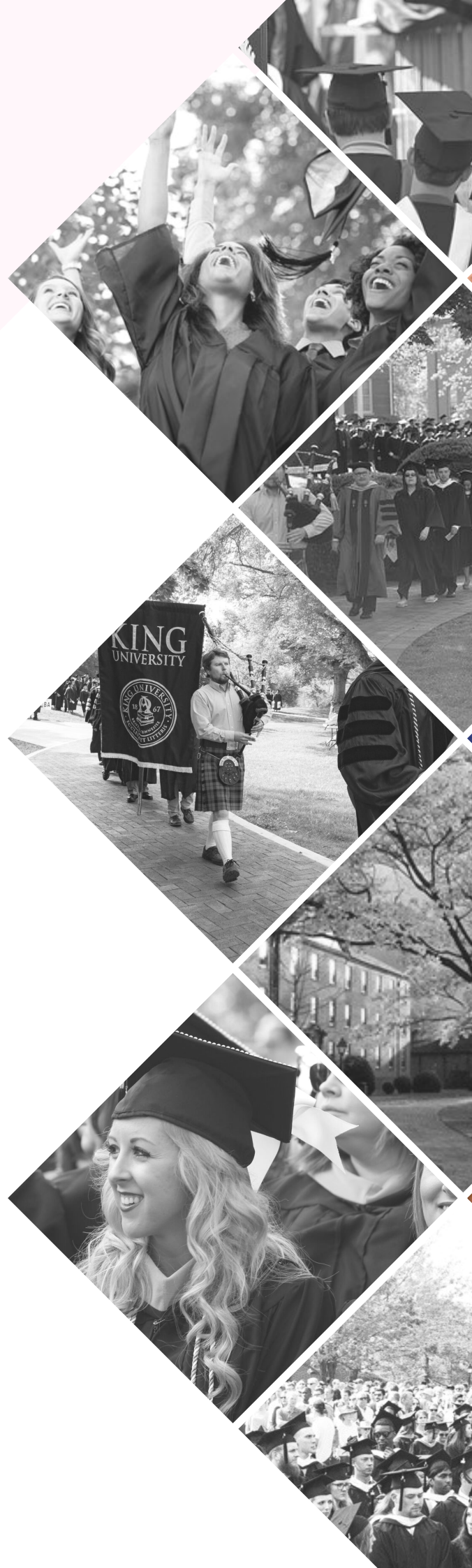
**Saturday, April 28: 9 a.m.**

Graduates line up for Commencement  
White Hall

**10 a.m.**

Commencement  
The Oval

**\*Schedule is subject to change.**



# Deadline for Grades from Other Institutions

Students taking courses from another institution within their graduation semester need to be aware that grades for such courses are due on the Wednesday, April 25th by 5:00 pm.

Failure to meet this deadline could not only hold up conferral of the degree but also the release of transcripts. Students are responsible for making arrangements with professors at other institutions to complete course requirements early if that is necessary in order to meet the King University deadline.

## 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](mailto:academicdean@king.edu) no less than two weeks before Commencement.

## Accommodations

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

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

## You Also Need to Know...

Because the venue for the Spring 2018 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, 2018 at <http://security.king.edu/event-parking>.





# You Made It!

## Now Let's Celebrate!

Graduation Rehearsal is more than a rehearsal. It's a time to

*Celebrate!*

Join us on Sunday, April 22nd at 3 p.m.  
Student Center Complex

### For your 'Passport to Graduation'

As a graduating senior, the Passport to Graduation is your one-stop shop in preparation for the big day, allowing you to celebrate your accomplishments while also making sure there are no hiccups in preventing you from receiving your diploma.

### Food, Fun, and Doorprizes!!

Kids Zone: Meet Twister

Receive 10% Discount on all  
merchandise at the  
Tornado Alley

**\*Discount only applies on April 22nd**