

**College of Arts & Sciences
Class of 2024
Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement
Schedule and Information**

**Baccalaureate Mass in Celebration of all members of the
Class of 2024 (graduate and undergraduate)
Friday, May 17, 2024
Christ the King Chapel
*Mass begins 4:30 p.m.
Doors open at Christ the King Chapel at 3:45 p.m.***

PLEASE NOTE:

- Tickets are not required for the Baccalaureate Mass
- Graduates **do not** process
- Graduates, their families, and guests will sit together for the Mass
- Academic Gowns only are worn for the Mass
- Do not wear your academic hoods or caps for the Mass
- Caps and hoods will be worn only at your commencement exercises

**College of Arts & Sciences Commencement Ceremony
(graduate and undergraduate)
Saturday, May 18, 2024
Koessler Athletic Center**

**Tickets ARE REQUIRED for the ceremony.
Graduates **DO NOT** need a ticket to enter Koessler.**

PLEASE NOTE:

- Families and friends of the graduates are invited to relax under the tent on the upper Koessler parking lot until doors open for general seating at 9:00am.
- Refreshments will be available outside under the tent on the upper Koessler parking lot for families and guests following the ceremony.
- Shuttle services will be provided throughout the day to various parking lots on campus.

- 9:00 a.m. Graduate check-in, line up, donning of gowns, and directions to all graduates
Report to the Patrick Lee Center (behind the Koessler Athletic Center)
Doors open for guest seating (**tickets required**)
- 9:45 a.m. Academic Procession begins.
All guests must be seated in the gym by this time. Graduates, faculty, and platform party
move from their meeting areas to the entrance of the gym.
Color guard, marshal, and the procession will enter the main floor of the gym.
- 10:00 a.m. Commencement exercises begin.

Reminder: Caps & gowns **MUST** be picked up from the bookstore beginning May 8th (When you pick up your tickets for the ceremony, you will be given a form to take to the bookstore to get your cap and gown.) Only in case of an emergency will extra caps, gowns, and hoods be available in the assembly area on the day of the ceremony.

Additional Instructions

Please read the following carefully to avoid questions or problems on the day of the Ceremony!

- Once you arrive, follow the signs to the assembly area in the Patrick Lee Center. **ONLY GRADUATES WILL BE ALLOWED BEYOND THIS POINT.** You will sit alphabetically according to your degree. Please consult the posted seating charts for your seat assignment; there will be staff members available to assist you.
- Please do not bring any personal items (e.g., coats, purses) with you into the assembly area as you will not be returning there after the ceremony.
- Once you are at your seat, please arrange your cap, gown, and hood. Marshals and assistants will help you in setting your hood so that the colors are properly displayed.
- The marshals for each section will line up the candidates in the proper order for the academic procession. It is extremely important that you remain in your assigned order throughout the academic procession. The marshals and their assistants assigned to your section will direct you to your seat in the gym.
- Once you have reached your seat in the gym, **REMAIN STANDING. DO NOT SIT AT THIS TIME!**
- At the beginning of the National Anthems, **MEN will remove their caps. Remain standing until after the Invocation.** After the invocation sit down and men replace your caps.
- At the direction of the Academic Vice President, stand up as a group as he recommends you to the President for conferral of degrees. After this, be seated and follow the directions of your marshals.
- Your name will be read as you walk across the stage.
- You will receive your diploma cover from the President.
- When receiving your diploma cover, take it with your left hand and shake hands with the President with your right hand. Continue to walk across the stage, down the stairs, and follow your marshal to your original seat.

- You will receive your diploma from your marshal as you return to your seat.
- When directed by the Academic Vice President, move the tassel from the right front corner to the left front corner of your cap.
- During the Benediction, MEN will remove their caps. After the Benediction, men will replace their caps for the recession.
- At the end of the ceremony, the platform party and faculty will recess out of the gym first. Graduates will then recess outside of Koessler to meet family and guests.
- Please do not leave programs, instructions, or other articles on the seats or floors of the gym.
- If you arrive late to the ceremony, you may forfeit your right to sit with your peers and you may not receive your degree in the proper order. **Please report by 9:00 a.m.**
- Designated accessibility seating will be available in the main gym.
- Please remember that all guests wishing to enter the main gym must have a ticket (including wheelchair guests and children).
- American Sign Language interpreters will be positioned on the left-hand corner of the stage to interpret the entire ceremony.
- Please leave all personal belongings with your family and guests.