

# College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Commencement Ceremony 2008

The College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Commencement ceremony will be held on Friday, May 9, 2008 at 1:00 pm in the Center for the Arts, Mainstage Theatre on the North Campus. A reception will immediately follow the ceremony. Eligible candidates will receive notification via email in February regarding commencement details. Additional commencement ceremony information will be available throughout the spring semester at [2008 College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Commencement Ceremony](#).

## Participation Policy

**Requests for ceremony participation exceptions are subject to approval by the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Office as presented in the policy below:**

This ceremony is for College of Arts and Sciences Masters and Doctoral students with degree conferral dates of September 2007, February 2008 and June 2008. It is expected that students participating in graduate commencement ceremonies will have completed all degree requirements. In extraordinary circumstances, a department chair, with the written agreement of the student's graduate committee, may petition the CAS Associate Dean for Graduate Affairs to allow a student who has not completed all requirements to participate in commencement ceremonies. The Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, in consultation with the cognizant Associate Dean for the student's academic area, will decide on the petition.

## Registration

**Eligible candidates are required to register online by April 4, 2008 to participate in the ceremony.** Online registration begins in mid-February. Please visit [2008 College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Commencement Ceremony](#) for more details.

**Do I have to register to participate in the ceremony?** Yes.

**When is the ceremony registration deadline?** April 4, 2008.

**How do I register for the ceremony?** Beginning in mid-February, visit [2008 College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Commencement Ceremony](#). There you will find a link to the online registration form with complete instructions.

**Is online registration the only way to register for the ceremony?** Yes. Paper-based registration is not available.

**Can I still register to participate in the ceremony if my degree conferral date is not September 2007, February 2008 or June 2008?** Not without approval from the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Office. For details on the exceptions approval procedure, please see the [Participation Policy](#).

**When will I receive information on commencement details?** Eligible candidates will receive initial notification via email in February. A second email

notification will be sent out to registered candidates in April (after the registration deadline). Details will also be available at [2008 College of Arts and Sciences Commencement Ceremony](#).

**How do I order academic apparel for the ceremony?** Through the University Bookstore located on the North Campus. For out-of-town orders, call 716.645.3131. Credit cards are accepted. **Note:** The College of Arts and Sciences does not handle student academic apparel orders.

**When will participating faculty members receive final commencement day details?** Details will be sent out by early May.

**Will there be a professional photographer at the commencement ceremony?** Yes. [Chappell Graduation Images](#) is the contracted photography studio. Photography information will be included in an email notification to registered candidates in April. Proofs will be mailed to each student about one week following the commencement ceremony. All post-ceremony inquiries must be made directly to [Chappell Graduation Images](#).

**Is the ceremony videotaped and available for purchase?** Yes. The Video Order Form will be included in an email notification to registered candidates in April and it will be available at [2008 College of Arts and Sciences Commencement Ceremony](#).

**Do my guests need tickets to attend the ceremony?** No. Tickets are not required and there is not a limit on the number of guests you can invite.

**Where should my guests park?** In any of the public lots surrounding the Center for the Arts building. Passengers can be driven directly to the Center for the Arts main entrance to disembark before parking. **Note:** Please advise guests not to park in handicapped parking areas unless appropriate.

**Is the Center for the Arts – Mainstage Theatre handicapped accessible and is special handicapped seating provided?** Yes. Center for the Arts staff will be on site to help facilitate seating in the handicapped seating sections. Assistive listening devices are also available. Questions can be directed to Center for the Arts at 716.645.6259.

**Do I need to make prior requests for handicapped guest seating?** No. Once your guest arrives on site, any of the Center for the Arts staff can be asked to assist with seating.

**What if I am a participating candidate or faculty member with special needs (visually or physically impaired, etc.)?** Please notify the commencement contact person as early as possible and the necessary arrangements will be made.

**How long is the ceremony?** Approximately 90 minutes to 2 hours.

**Are all candidates announced during the ceremony?** Yes. Each candidate is announced as he/she crosses the stage. Doctoral candidates are also hooded and their dissertation titles are read while onstage.

**When will I receive my diploma?** The **Student Response Center** mails all diplomas to the address on record within six weeks of commencement.

**Note:** Students are responsible for making address changes.

### **Contact**

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