



Professor Richard Dance
The Praelector

January 2023

Proceeding to the Degree of MA 'in person'
Congregation on 25 March 2023

The Congregation at which St Catharine's, by tradition, will present most of its candidates for the Degree of MA will take place on Saturday, 25 March 2023.

Exact timings will not be published until a few days before the event, but the congregation will probably begin between 2.00 and 4.00 pm.

The Timetable will be posted on the Noticeboard by the Porters' Lodge.

Please be sure on your arrival to check and note the precise timing of events prior to Graduation. **This could vary by as much as an hour.**

- Graduands must plan to be ready and properly dressed for the ceremony by 1.30.
- Light refreshments will be available to purchase in Hall.
- **Please Note**, there may be other events taking place in College the same weekend, so graduands with overnight accommodation are encouraged to vacate their rooms as early as possible.

The University's official guidelines on dress at graduation may be consulted here:

<http://www.cambridgestudents.cam.ac.uk/your-course/graduation-and-what-next/degree-ceremonies/academic-dress>

Dress - Option 1

- A plain, dark suit (preferably black; dinner jacket suits are permitted). The suit must be dark enough not to contrast obviously with the black gown.
- A plain, long-sleeved white shirt (ordinary collars or winged collars are permitted), and white bow tie over academic bands (which should be worn over the top of the hood band).
- Plain black formal shoes (sandals and trainers are not permitted), and unpatterned black socks.
- Heavy jewellery should not be worn.
- Please also wear a BA gown and hood, and **NOT your undergraduate gown** (except candidates who hold a higher Cambridge degree, who should wear the gown and hood of that degree).

Dress - Option 2

- A plain, dark (preferably black) skirt suit, or trouser suit, or skirt without a jacket, or long-sleeved dress. These must be dark enough not to contrast obviously with the black gown, and skirts and dresses should reach *at least* to the knee.
- A plain, long-sleeved, white shirt/blouse (unless a long-sleeved dress is worn).
- Shoes must be unpatterned, black and formal (i.e. *not* sandals, trainers or sling-backs, and nothing with very high heels or decoration; toes should not be visible). Please remember that you will need to kneel during the ceremony.

- Stockings/tights should be plain and of a dark or neutral colour. Bare legs are *not* permitted, and elbows should be covered.
- Heavy jewellery and conspicuous hair-grips should not be worn; earrings may be plain studs only.
- A white bow tie and academic bands may be worn (optional) but only with a properly collared white shirt. NB if a white bow tie and bands are worn with trousers they must be worn with a matching jacket.
- Please also wear a BA gown and hood, and **NOT your undergraduate gown** (except candidates who hold a higher Cambridge degree, who should wear the gown and hood of that degree).

NB safety pins are very useful for keeping the hood in place! Please also note that handbags are not permitted.

Clerks in Holy Orders may wear a cassock and clerical collar with bands (clerical bands are acceptable); dark trousers should be worn by men.

Gown Hire At: www.edeandravenscroft.com/cambridge

If you have any doubts about what is suitable, please contact the Tutorial Office. (Note that the Proctors are now much stricter about the dress code and failure to comply with these regulations will mean you cannot be presented, so it is therefore important that you check with us well in advance if you have any queries.)

Guest Tickets:

- All guests require a ticket for entry into the Senate House and Senate House grounds, this includes children and babies in prams.
- Each graduand can apply for 2 guest tickets. (If numbers permit then additional tickets may become available, but cannot be guaranteed.)
- If a guest has a disability which will require them to have a ground floor seat or wheelchair space, please email the Tutorial Office. For any enquires relating to disabled access and special arrangements, please contact the [University Marshal's Office](#).
- Tickets will be available for collection from the Porter's Lodge upon arrival.
- Please keep your tickets safe as we do not have any spares.

Live streaming:

A live stream of the event will be provided to allow family and friends to view the ceremony – a link for this will be circulated in advance. By attending, you are giving consent to being included in the live stream.

There is only limited shelter for those queuing to enter the Senate House; it would therefore be prudent for visitors to bring umbrellas.

Eve of Graduation Dinner on Friday, 24 March 2023 **(7.00 pm for 7.30 pm)**

Dress for dinner will be formal (black tie and dinner jacket or equivalent).

Those who are graduating the next day do not wear gowns.

Diners are requested to remain seated throughout the duration of the meal.

Please submit your application form and payment online before 1 March 2023.

The College regrets that dinner and accommodation are only available to those taking their degrees in person.

The Governing Body regrets that it is not possible to provide any parking facilities.