

COMMENCEMENT_2010 | Regalia (Caps, Gowns & Attire) Information

All students wishing to participate in commencement exercises must wear a cap and gown. Commencement regalia for Bachelor of Fine Art candidates include a bachelor gown and keepsake cap and tassel. Commencement regalia for Master of Fine Art, Master of Arts in Teaching and Master of Arts in Art Education candidates include a master gown, keepsake cap, tassel, and master's hood. Note: Regalia rental is covered by student graduation fees. There is no additional cost.

Regalia Wearing Tips:

- Use low heat and take extreme care when ironing the gown.
- Keep the gown on a hanger to avoid new wrinkles.
- Do not pin jewelry to the gown.
- Wear the mortarboard with the point between the eyes and level, parallel to the ground.
- Arrange the tassel to the left before the conferring of the degrees.

Additional Information:

The types of academic gowns differ depending on the kind of degree that has been earned. The understated variations in their style and cut indicates the type of diploma received. For example a bachelor's gown is untrimmed, has pointed sleeves, and reaches only to the knees.

It's designed to be worn closed and is never worn at any time other than commencement.

The master's gown is also typically untrimmed, but has closed sleeves in the shape of an arc. The master's hood is usually three and a half feet long and six inches shorter than the hoods of scholars who hold doctorates. The hood is "worn around the neck with the thin velvet panel in front and the larger panel in back. The inside lining is folded outward down the back to expose the school colors. The lining of the hood is the official color or colors of the university conferring the degree (which for MCA are silver and light blue) and the velvet trim color indicates the discipline in which the degree was earned." Although the bachelor and master gowns are very much alike, the full-length sleeves of the master's gown are characterized by a long crescent shape, which extends below the cut at the base of the sleeve itself. Master's gowns, like the bachelor's is usually black and may be worn open or closed. Oftentimes it is worn as part of a teacher's everyday dress in academies as well as formal events such as commencement.

Source:

Academic Costume Code & Ceremony Guide: www.acenet.edu/faq/costume_code.html

Arbiter Online—The History of Academic Regalia: <http://media.www.arbiteronline.com/media/storage/paper890/news/2004/04/22/News/The-History.Of.Academic.Regalia-2216729.shtml>

Commencement: Regalia: www.wmich.edu/commencement/regalia.html

History of Academic Regalia: www.guildonline.net/guildbiz/gownhire/history.asp

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