



THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Commencement / Doctoral Hooding Ceremony

Following is the protocol for identification of the hooding faculty, and the procedures that will be used for doctoral candidate/committee chair procession, seating, and hooding during the December and May Commencement ceremonies.

- ◆ The “major professor” selected to hood the doctoral candidate has been identified as the chair of the student’s advisory/dissertation committee. This faculty member holds the rank of Member on the Graduate Faculty.
- ◆ When a student’s committee has been identified with co-chairs, the co-chair holding the rank of Member on the Graduate Faculty will be selected to hood the student.
- ◆ When a student’s committee has been identified with co-chairs each holding the rank of Member on the Graduate Faculty, both will be invited to hood the student.
- ◆ When a student’s committee chair is unable to attend Commencement, a committee member who holds the rank of Member on the Graduate Faculty will be selected by the Graduate School Dean to hood the student.
- ◆ Doctoral candidates and committee chairs will assemble in the same room.
- ◆ Doctoral candidates will be lined up according to their unit and degree/discipline, with the committee chair selected to hood them lined up in front of the student.
- ◆ The doctoral candidates will carry the doctoral hood over their arm during the processional and be seated next to their committee chair in the student section.
- ◆ When the candidates are called to the platform, candidates and their committee chairs will rise and approach the platform together, as lined up by unit, Ph.D. candidates, followed by Ed.D. candidates, then D.M.A. candidates.
- ◆ As the student’s name is called, the committee chair will move into position, stepping onto a platform placed on the stage. The student will move to the designated spot on the stage in front of the committee chair. The student will hand the doctoral hood to his/her committee chair, then turn and face the audience. The committee chair will place the hood over the student’s head; the student will turn, shake the committee chair’s hand, and process across the stage.
- ◆ If a committee chair has more than one student to hood, the committee chair will remain in place until all his/her student’s have been hooded, then exit the platform and return to his/her seat with the students.
- ◆ If a committee chair has both a Ph.D. and an Ed.D. candidate to hood or Ph.D. and D.M.A., the Graduate School will determine the seating arrangement.
- ◆ Following the ceremony, the committee chairs will recess with the students.