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Alumni Officer



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December 2023

MA Ceremony: Saturday 27 April 2024

Undergraduates who matriculated in 2017 and have graduated with a BA are now able to book to take the MA degree on **Saturday 27 April 2024**. The degree can be taken in person or in absence and the ceremony will be followed by a formal reunion dinner in College that evening.

The exact timing of the ceremony will only be known the week before the event, but the Trinity Hall contingent usually proceeds to the Senate House late morning. If you decide to take your MA in person, we will be taking a group photo before the line-up, and the line-up itself will be in College at least half an hour before the ceremony, although the timings may change quite dramatically this year so please wait until the final confirmation before you make definitive arrangements for the day. On the day itself, make sure you arrive in Cambridge in good time and that you observe the dress and gown code as explained in the Academic Dress guidelines (included in this pack) otherwise you may not be allowed to proceed. Up to two guests can join you for the ceremony.

Following the ceremony, the College will serve refreshments for all graduands and your guests. The refreshments will be free for alumni. The day will end with a formal dinner in Hall for members of 2017. Previous MA dinners have been very popular, and we hope this one will be well-attended too. Space in the Dining Hall, as I'm sure you remember, is rather restricted, so it will be possible to bring one guest, but this will be on a first come-first served basis, with priority given to alumni. There will be a seating plan for the dinner, so please indicate on the booking form who you would like to sit with. We will do our best to accommodate all requests.

If you wish to take your MA (either in person or in absence) and attend the dinner, the cost will be £67.50. If you do not wish to attend the dinner, the cost of taking your MA, whether in person or in absentia, will be £20.00. You do not need to take the MA to be able to attend the dinner.

As term will have started, there is no accommodation available in College. You can book a hotel or B&B room via the **Visit Cambridge website** (www.visitcambridge.org) or visit the **Cambridge Rooms** site (www.universityrooms.com/en-GB/search/accommodation/in/Cambridge) that includes accommodation at other Colleges and of course there are many airbnb options. If you have a University **CAMCard** you can get discounts on selected accommodation, including **the Møller centre** at Churchill College. These are listed on their website at www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/benefits/camcard. If you don't already have one, you can apply for a CAMCard online from the above link.

If you wish to take your MA on this occasion, please complete the online booking form that can be accessed from www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/college-events/ma-2017/ no later than Thursday 11 April 2024.

This is the first official reunion for the Trinity Hall class of 2017 and we look forward to welcoming you back to College in the spring.

With best wishes,

Liz Pentlow

Gown Rental or Purchase

The following is a list of various sources for gown rental or purchase in Cambridge.

Please check individual websites for information about rental charges and purchase prices.

Ede & Ravenscroft (www.edeandravenscroft.co.uk)

70-72 Trumpington Street (corner of Silver Street)
Cambridge, CB2 1RJ

Tel: 01223 861854 or 01223 350048

Email: student@edeandravenscroft.co.uk

Online booking available at www.gownhire.co.uk

Opening hours: Mon-Sat: 9am-5.30pm

Ryder & Amies (www.ryderamies.co.uk)

22 King's Parade
Cambridge, CB2 1SP

Tel: 01223 350371

Email: sales@ryderamies.co.uk

Online booking available at www.ryderamies.co.uk/shop/robe-rentals/

Opening hours: Mon-Sat: 8.30am-6pm, Sun: 10am-6pm

For purchase only -

A E Clothier (<http://aeclothier.co.uk/58-gowns>)

5 Convent Drive
Waterbeach
Cambridge, CB25 9QT

Tel: 01223 864121

Email: sales@aeclothier.co.uk

Online, email or telephone orders only

<http://aeclothier.co.uk/55-hoods-and-accessories> shows you the hood you will need depending on the degree that you hold

ACADEMICAL DRESS

Dress at Congregations: advice to those proceeding to degree as instructed by the Proctors of the University of Cambridge.

The following rules apply to academical dress worn by those proceeding to degrees:

- 1) A person who already holds a degree or degrees of Cambridge University wears the gown and hood of the highest degree he or she has already received from this University.
- 2) Under no circumstances should the academical dress of another university be worn by the graduand.
- 3) The only form of head-dress which may be worn with academical dress (and the use of head-dress is optional) is the square, unless an exception is made for religious reasons. Graduates may not, however, wear a square in the Senate House; it must be carried.
- 4) Men will wear bands, except when national or religious dress (see over) would not allow it.

You must also pay attention to your non-academical dress as, unless you are correctly dressed, it will not be possible to present you for a degree. Your Praelector or Presenter is able to offer further advice on dress.

Dress Option One

A dinner jacket or black, very dark grey or very dark blue lounge suit. These must be dark enough not to contrast obviously with a black gown.

A plain, long-sleeved, collared, white shirt.

Formal black shoes. Sandals are not permitted.

Unpatterned black or very dark grey socks.

White bow-tie and bands must be worn.

Dress Option Two

A black, very dark grey or very dark blue skirt suit or trouser suit, or a dark skirt without a jacket, or a dark, long-sleeved dress. These must be dark enough not to contrast obviously with a black gown.

A plain, long-sleeved, white shirt or blouse (unless a long-sleeved dress is worn).

Formal black shoes. Sandals are not permitted.

Unpatterned black, nearly-black, or natural coloured hosiery.

A white bow-tie and bands may be worn (optional) but only with a properly collared white shirt.

A black cassock may be substituted for a dark suit, skirt or dress in either Dress One or Two, but it must be worn with either a white bow-tie and bands or a clerical collar and bands.

Headdress

The square cap, or 'mortarboard', is optional for graduands at Cambridge. If you do decide to wear one on the day, you should take it off and carry it in your left hand inside the Senate-House.

Jewellery

Conspicuous jewellery and hair accessories are not permitted.

National/religious dress

National or religious dress may be worn in exceptional cases by both men and women with academic dress, as an alternative to the dress indicated above. As an example: a person who wears a turban as part of their everyday attire will be allowed to wear the turban to his graduation. Hood and gown are still worn, but bands may not be appropriate. Praelectors need to get approval for national or religious dress from the University Proctors so all parties involved (Alumni Officer, Praelector, Proctors) will need to be informed well before the date of the Congregation.