



## Hi Fall 2023 Graduates, Families, Friends, Staff, and Faculty!!!

We're looking forward to a wonderful Fall 2023 Convocation. Here is what you need to know:

**IMPORTANT FOR Fall 2023 GRADUATES:** If you have NOT RSVP'D YES or NO for the Fall 2023 Convocation Ceremony or Reception, please email Asst Dean Owusu @ [aso@ou.edu](mailto:aso@ou.edu) ASAP!

### Where and when does the A&GS Fall 2023 Convocation take place?

- The A&GS Fall 2023 Convocation takes place on **Sat, 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM** within **Paul Sharp Concert Hall of Catlett Music Center (500 W Boyd St, Norman, OK 73019)**. We anticipate that the ceremony will conclude by **2:30 PM (or earlier)**.
- If you have requested **seating accommodations** for you or your guests, these will be honored within the facility. Please alert your guests to find a volunteer to assist in seating.

### Were ALL my guest RSVP requests honored and when will I receive my tickets?

- **YES!!!!** ALL guest RSVP requests were and will be honored
- We will have more than enough room
- Seating will be first-come, first serve, minus requested and/or necessary required accommodational seating
- We kindly ask that your guests do NOT save seats
- **There are NO physical or QR code tickets**

### What time should I arrive?

- **GRADUATES/STUDENTS:** Students/graduate candidates should arrive by **12:30 PM at CATLETT MUSIC CENTER** in order to check-in and proceed to the Graduate Robe Room to complete a Party Pics Photo Card (via **QR code**), check pronunciation name cards, adjust regalia, and line-up in procession order. There will be waters and snacks.
- **Faculty:** Faculty should arrive at **12:30 PM at CATLETT MUSIC CENTER** to check-in and proceed to the Faculty Robe Room to adjust regalia and line-up in procession order. There will be waters and snacks.
- **Guests:** Guests should arrive by **12:30 PM at CATLETT MUSIC CENTER** to find their seats.

### What do I wear?

- Caps & gowns are required for the program. If you have not done so already, you may purchase yours in the University Bookstore under the Stadium.
  - Unsure about what you need to wear? Please reference your regalia essentials and colors here:  
<https://www.ou.edu/ags/resources/graduation>
- PLEASE take your gown out from the bag to air out and IRON or steam our creases and wrinkles at least 24-48 hours before the convocation ceremony!

### Are all A&GS Graduate Students (MA, MS, and PhDs) Hooded by their Advisors?

- No. Within the College of A&GS only PhD Candidates are hooded.
  - As PhD candidates' names are called, their advisors will meet them in the middle of the stage, candidates will kneel, and their advisors will place their hoods over their head and around their neck.
- Master's students – As your names are called, your advisors will meet you in front of the seal to take photos.

### How long will the ceremony last?

- Around 1.0 hour

### Will the ceremony be Live Streamed?

- YES – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NNTj1SLCO5o>

- Anyone can watch the ceremony live on your computer or other web-enabled device.

### **Where should I park for Convocation?**

- You may park in the attached Catlett Music Center parking garage.
- However, ALL OU parking lots will be available and for free on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Please note that the Memorial Union Parking Garage is NOT free.

### **What will be contained in the DIGITAL A&GS Fall 2023 Convocation Program?**

- We will **NOT** be providing physical copies of the A&GS Fall 2023 Convocation Program.
  - A **QR code and PDF of the program** will be provided to all graduates to and guests
  - The **QR code** will also be on display within **Paul Sharp Concert Hall w/in Catlett Music Center**
- The Convocation Program will contain the order of the ceremony, and the names and degrees for ALL graduates, regardless of attendance at Convocation.

### **When will I receive my diploma?**

- About three months after graduation your diploma will be mailed to the permanent address specified on your graduation application.

### **When can I receive my graduation photos?**

- As mentioned above, each graduate will complete a Party Pics Photo Card (via **QR code**) within the Robe Room. Each card is rendered with unique registration QR Codes. Each QR is unique to the card.
  - **Graduation Selfie Photo Registration Instructions:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yqGHzmnoBs>
- Party Pics will instantaneously upload your headshot, ceremony photo and reception photos to the site where you register.

### **What if I need verification that I graduated?**

- **Undergraduate students:** *All tuition and fees to the University must be paid or a hold will be placed on your diploma and transcript.*

- IF you require paperwork to verify your completion of your degree prior to receiving your diploma or before your degree is posted to your transcript, please contact A&GS Academic Advisor, Brittney Johnson ([bjohnson@ou.edu](mailto:bjohnson@ou.edu)).
- **Graduate students:** You should contact the Graduate Office to find out when your degrees will be posted and when you can expect to receive your diploma

### **Will there be a rehearsal and what is the structure for the afternoon?**

- No, there will not be a rehearsal, but the program is not complicated and there will be A&GS staff here to provide cues when needed.

### **Are there any Health Requirements?**

- Masks are OPTIONAL within indoor areas.

### **Are there any non-Health Requirements?**

- Please be aware of, and make your guests aware of security screenings, the university's [Clear Bag Policy](#) and [prohibited items](#).
- At the ceremonies held on the Norman campus, all guests and graduates will pass through a security screening before entry to the graduation venue.
- For quicker entry, guests and graduates are encouraged to **NOT** bring bags. Only **clear bags** can be brought into the graduation venue.
- Due to security requirements, **strollers and car seats** are **NOT** permitted.

### **Will Summer and Fall 2023 Graduates and Guests be able to attend OU Commencement ceremonies in the Spring 2024?**

- NO. In the Spring 2024, the University of Oklahoma will eliminate College specific convocation ceremonies and ONLY hold multi-College Commencement ceremonies for each fall and spring semesters.
- Thus, all graduates will only be able to attend one (1) commencement ceremony of their corresponding graduation semester.
- Please find more information about Spring 2024 and changes here: <https://www.ou.edu/commencement/ceremonies/2024-may>

**Looking for additional information about Fall 2023 graduation ceremonies:**

- <https://www.ou.edu/commencement/ceremonies/2023-december>
- <https://www.ou.edu/ags/resources/graduation>