

Date

First Middle Last Name

Street address 1

Street address 2

City, State, Zip

Greetings,

Congratulations on your academic success. The Meek School is working to make commencement on May 14 a special day.

There are morning and afternoon events, with a brunch for you and your guests in between.

First, we assemble in front of Farley Hall no later than 8:30 a.m. for a 9 a.m. ceremony in the Grove. Students, in cap and gown, process from Farley to a reserved seating area; the order is not important. Friends and family may sit anywhere in the Grove, except, of course, areas roped off for graduates. (26,000 chairs will be in place.)

In the event of bad weather, the morning event is delayed 30 minutes and moved to The Pavilion. There is no student procession if the morning event is moved. All may sit where seats are available.

The Meek School invites graduates and their guests into Farley Hall after the morning ceremony. It is an opportunity for you to congratulate friends and visit with faculty.

For the afternoon ceremony, which starts at 2:30 in the Ford Center for Performing Arts, you must be at the center no later than 1:30 p.m. You will be lined up to process onto the stage in alphabetical order. During the event, you will walk across the stage, receive your diploma cover while your “graduation tweet” is being read to the audience.

Speaking of that, before May 5 please provide Dean Jennifer Simmons what you would like to have read about you, your career, your plans, your thanks – in 140 characters.

Gowns and hoods (for master’s) may be rented from the campus bookstore. Our tassel color for all degrees is crimson. Honors cords for cum laude recognition are available from Shannon Dixon in the Meek School office the week before graduation. Cords from other organizations (Honors College, KTA, ...) are provided by those organizations.

To better preserve the commencement experience, while also protecting our guests by adhering to the safety code, seating for your guests in the Ford Center will be **by ticket only. Tickets are free, but required.**

- The Ole Miss Box Office in the Student Union has a list with your names.
- Four tickets may be picked up by you (with ID) on May 2-11 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Call or write the Box Office if you need your tickets mailed.
- The Box Office telephone number is 662-915-7412. The website is <http://olemissboxoffice.com/> (note .com not .edu)
- Additional tickets may be requested at the Box Office, and will be available as the Box Office decides.
- Please see Q&A enclosed for more ticket information.

Commencement day is a great day at the University of Mississippi, but it is a busy day with thousands of people, many unfamiliar with the campus, moving around to many event venues.

We expect sufficient seating to be available inside the Ford Center, but in the event of overflow, the adjacent Studio Theatre will be available for remote viewing.

Please spend some time with the www.commencement.olemiss.edu website and provide the link for your guests. It includes information on a variety of topics, parking being one of the more important.

Congratulations!

Will Norton, Jr.
Professor and Dean