ADMISSION TO MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE 2020

Date
I shall present graduands at the MA Congregation on Saturday 21 March 2020 at 11.00 a.m. You may take your degree in person or in absence.

Lunch
If you are taking your degree in person, I invite you to lunch as a guest of the College. You may bring up to three guests to lunch at your own expense; the current charge, including wine, is £31.50 per head. Pre-prandial drinks will be served for you and your guests at 12.15 p.m. on the Back Lawn (or in the Chetwynd Room and Keynes Hall if wet), followed by lunch at 12.45 p.m. in Hall.

The Catering Department will be happy to provide for vegetarian or other special dietary requirements provided that you supply the necessary details on your application form. Please note that last-minute requests (for example, during the service of lunch itself) for non-standard meals risk difficulty and embarrassment to staff as well as food wastage, and cannot normally be met; in order to avoid disappointment for yourself or your guests you are asked to bear this particularly in mind.

Robing and Rehearsal
Whether or not you take lunch, if you are graduating in person you must arrive in College by 10.00 a.m. dressed for the ceremony and with your robes, in order to meet with the Praelector to robe and rehearse prior to the ceremony. This will take place in the Chetwynd Room.

Guests
Your guests (a maximum of 3) may attend the Congregation; they should arrive at the Senate House at least 15 minutes before the ceremony is due to start. Guest tickets are essential and will either be sent to you after the application closing date or left at the Porters’ Lodge by prior arrangement. The King’s part of the Congregation is usually over fairly quickly: you leave the Senate House on the conferral of your degree, but your guests will be asked to remain in their seats until there is a suitable adjournment (usually around half an hour).

IMPORTANT: Praelector and graduands are obliged to arrive at the Senate House at strictly specified times. It is YOUR responsibility to arrive punctually in College as indicated above. Any graduand missing at the roll call will be assumed absent and will be removed from the list.
Dress regulations for the ceremony are strict and must be adhered to exactly; the overall effect must be formal and tidy. **If you are inappropriately dressed, the Proctors may refuse to allow your degree to be conferred in person,** thus leading to your exclusion from the Congregation.

**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 (not cream) shirt.
- Formal, *entirely* black shoes. Sandals and boots 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 similarly coloured skirt with jacket or cardigan, or a similarly coloured long-sleeved dress. All these must be dark enough not to contrast obviously with a black gown.
- A plain, long-sleeved, white (not cream) shirt or blouse (unless a long-sleeved dress is worn).
- Formal, *entirely* black shoes. Sandals are not permitted. The heels should be low enough for you to walk across lawns, cobbles and the slippery marble of the Senate House floor, and to kneel and stand up again unaided.
- Black boots should not be worn with a skirt but plain black ankle boots are acceptable when worn with full length trousers.
- Unpatterned black or natural coloured hosiery.
- A white bow-tie and bands (optional) may be worn *but only with a properly collared white shirt*.
- The skirt or dress must be of decent length and no more than 10cm above the knee.
- Trousers must be full length and formal in style.

**All Graduands**
- No head-dress is permitted, except for religious reasons in which case it must be black or white.
- No decorative belts.
- No bags of any variety.

**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, including facial piercings, and hair accessories, is not permitted during the graduation ceremony inside the Senate House.
**GOWNS AND HOODS** Tie, bands, gown and hood may be hired from:

- **Ryder and Amies**
  - 22 King's Parade
  - Cambridge CB2 1SP
  - Tel: 01223 350371

- **OR**

- **Ede and Ravenscroft**
  - 71/72 Trumpington Street
  - Cambridge CB2 1RJ
  - Tel: 01223 861854

The total cost ranges from £26 to £33. **It is vital that you arrive at the rehearsal appropriately dressed, having collected any hired apparel.**

You are required to wear the gown and hood of your highest prior Cambridge degree. For the majority of you that will be a BA or MPhil degree, but if you are in any doubt please contact the Praelector’s Secretary by email (praelector@kings.cam.ac.uk).

**Trinitarian Formula:** The Vice-Chancellor admits graduands to their degrees ‘in nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti’. Those with an objection to this Trinitarian formula are asked to inform the Praelector’s Secretary, Victoria Zeitlyn, by email (praelector@kings.cam.ac.uk). The alternatives are ‘in nomine Dei’ (in the name of God) or omitting the formula altogether.

**OUTSTANDING DEBTS TO THE COLLEGE**

Please note that it is College policy **NOT** to allow anybody with outstanding debts to the College to attend graduation.

Professor Nicholas Marston
Praelector

Nov 2019