Starting May 2018, the University Commencement ceremonies will carry the title "University Commencement" but also identifying individual participating colleges. With the expanding number of graduates at each ceremony, nothing is more important than allowing each student to walk across the stage and be individually recognized by name among the applause of his or her family and friends.

**University Commencement**

Friday, May 11, 2018  
2 p.m. at NRG Arena

**IMPORTANT:** All graduation candidates report to NRG Arena **promptly at 1 p.m.**

Tickets are not required for the University Commencement.

**Parking**

Parking Map for NRG Arena. Parking rate is $12 per space "Cash Only". ADA Parking (Blue Lot) and assistance will be available for ADA guests through the back of NRG Arena.

If you have further questions please contact Sandra Sierra at 713-743-1045.
Commencement Speaker

BASF executive and distinguished chemical engineer Heidi Alderman will serve as the spring 2018 commencement speaker.

Click here [4] to learn more about Heidi Alderman

Unable to Attend Commencement? Stream It Live!

To view the live streaming version of the University commencement, please click here [5].

Graduation Deadlines

Friday, February 23: End of regular filing period to apply online for Spring 2018 graduation with non-refundable $25 fee. Go to myUH (Peoplesoft) to apply.

Friday, March 23: End of late filing period to apply online for Spring 2018 graduation with non-refundable $50 fee. Go to myUH (Peoplesoft) to apply.

Undergraduate Students

If you plan to participate in the University Commencement, reservations are required. RSVP forms available here [6], complete and submit the form: ?Yes? if attending or ?No? if not attending the ceremony. Forms must be completed by Tuesday, April 4, 2018.

Graduate Students

If you plan to participate in the University Commencement, reservations are required. RSVP forms available here [7], complete and submit the form: ?Yes? if attending or ?No? if not attending the ceremony. Forms must be completed by Tuesday, April 4, 2018.

PhD Dissertation and Master Thesis students must submit your first draft for review two weeks before you defend or the latest by Thursday, April 19, 2018 to Miranda Vernon-Harrison in Room E421-D3. Graduation candidates must successfully defend the thesis/dissertation by Thursday, May 3, 2018. After being approved by Miranda Vernon-Harrison, your thesis or dissertation must be submitted for binding to her by Thursday, May 10, 2018.

Fall Grad Fair

The bookstore will host a Graduation Fair on February 20-22 from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. It will be held in the bookstore in the UC, lower level, or call them at 713-748-0923.
Caps and Gowns

All graduates participating in the Commencement ceremonies are required to wear academic regalia. Graduation regalia may be ordered at the UH Bookstore Graduation Fair or directly from Herff-Jones online at www.herff-jones.com/college/uh [8]. Graduate can pre-order gowns online now.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prices for UH Custom Student Keeper Gown Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor Unit (Cap, gown, tassel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Unit (Cap, gown, tassel, &amp; hood)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Hood only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cap only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tassel only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mega Tassel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honor Cords</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gratitude Stoles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prices for UH Custom Student Doctoral Gown Rentals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(All doctoral gowns should be returned to representatives after the ceremony)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral custom rental unit (Tam, gown, hood, and tassel)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Invitation

Students may order personalized announcements from Herff Jones at the UH Bookstore Graduation Fair or directly from Herff Jones at 281-379-3825 or www.herff-jones.com/college/graduation [9].

Cougar Spirit Cord

The Cougar Spirit Cord [10] is a red and white honor cord that graduating Coogs wear at the commencement to show pride and support for your university. More information here [10].

Graduation Photo Ordering Information

View the flyer! [11]

Every graduate is photographed at the ceremony and will receive a free proof in the mail and by e-mail after the ceremony.

Ways to order:

1. Pre-order before graduation for discount pricing at FlashPhotography.com with Department Code: DP4
2. Order online after you receive your proofs
3. Call us at 214-443-9393
Undergraduate Students: Graduating with Academic Honors

Academic honor is determined upon final completion of all degree requirements.

Undergraduate students who complete their degree requirements under catalogs beginning in Fall 2010 will graduate with the stated academic honors if they achieve the following grade point averages earned in the last fifty-four (54) hours (all of which must be A, B, C,? letter grade courses) completed at the University of Houston. Grades of S, U, I and W are not assigned grade point values and are not used in the computation of the grade point average. (See Catalog for Honors [12].)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Point Average</th>
<th>Honors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.90 to 4.0</td>
<td>Summa Cum Laude (with highest honors)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.70 to 3.89</td>
<td>Magna Cum Laude (with high honors)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.50 to 3.69</td>
<td>Cum Laude (with honors)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further, the honors calculation will include all hours completed in the semester in which the first of those final fifty-four (54) hours was completed.

Undergraduate Students: Walking with Academic Honors at University Commencement

For the graduation ceremony, the final semester is not factored into the calculation because final semester grades are not completely posted until after the ceremony.

Honors announced during the graduation ceremony are calculated using the last 54 hours less the number of hours taken in the final semester.

After the graduation ceremony and when final semester grades are fully posted then honors eligibility is recalculated using the final 54 hours. This will then be the official honors if any that will be listed on the transcript and diploma.

Commencement Program

Unless privacy protected, all student names will be included in the Commencement Program regardless of participation. Every effort is made to include the names of all official graduates in the printed Commencement Program. We also will include any honors earned by the student. However, please be aware that the program is not an official document with regard to eligibility for graduation or any honors conferred. Inclusion of a name in the program is not a guarantee of graduation or honors.

Photography

There will be a professional photographer on stage during the ceremony who will take photos of each graduate. You will receive proofs at the mailing address on your walk card. You will then be able to order photos directly through the commercial firm. The website link for the professional photographer: www.flashphotography.com [13]. Please ask your family and guests to take their photographs from their seats or before/after the ceremony. The Fire Marshall asks that we keep the aisles of the Hofheinz Pavilion clear at all times.
Diplomas

Degrees will not be posted to transcript until the college checks your Spring 2018 grades.

Allow about 6 to 8 weeks from May 11, 2018 for Spring 2018 grades to be checked, degrees to post to transcripts and diplomas to be mailed.

Additional Questions

If you have any questions regarding the University Commencement celebration you may contact:

- Undergraduate students may contact Shirley Mate in Room E421-D3 or call 713-743-4208
- Graduate students may contact Miranda Vernon-Harrison in Room E421-D3 or call 713-743-3395

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Links:
[1] https://www.egr.uh.edu/current-students/commencement