The Graduate School at the University of Notre Dame hosts a Commencement ceremony specifically for doctoral and master's students. (Architecture, business, law, and the ESTEEM program hold separate ceremonies.) Graduate School students who graduated in August 2011 or January 2012, or who are eligible candidates for graduation in May 2012, are invited to participate in both the Graduate School ceremony on Saturday, and the University Commencement exercises on Sunday, but the hooding of Ph.D. recipients and the conferral of graduate degrees take place during the Graduate School program.

Gregory E. Sterling, dean of the Graduate School, will preside over the ceremony. Fr. John Jenkins, president of the University, the academic officers, and the college deans will be in attendance.

Venue

The 2012 Graduate School Commencement Ceremony will take place Saturday, May 19, at 10:00 a.m. in the Compton Family Ice Arena, on the south edge of campus. Immediately following the ceremony, graduates and their guests are invited to enjoy light refreshments at the reception on the arena’s upper level.

RSVP Required

Guest tickets are not required for the Graduate School Commencement Ceremony; however, eligible graduates and candidates must notify the Graduate School whether they intend to participate by Saturday, March 31. To submit your RSVP, you must complete the online response form at: http://graduateschool.nd.edu/rsvp. If your plans change, please notify the Graduate School as soon as possible at ndgradschool@gmail.com.

Commencement Weekend: Schedule of Events*

**Saturday, May 19**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 A.M.</td>
<td>Assemble for academic procession in the Compton Family Ice Arena auxiliary rink; use main entrance and proceed downstairs. Guests enter through the main doors and proceed up one level to the seating area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:40 A.M.</td>
<td>Academic procession. (Cap and gown attire required.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.</td>
<td>Graduate School Commencement Ceremony, main arena.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 A.M.</td>
<td>Indoor reception on the arena’s upper level, immediately following the ceremony. Light refreshments will be served.</td>
</tr>
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**Sunday, May 20**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 A.M.</td>
<td>University Commencement Ceremony, Notre Dame Stadium. Guest tickets are required for admission to the University Commencement Exercises. See the Registrar’s Commencement website: <a href="http://commencement.nd.edu">http://commencement.nd.edu</a>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Information subject to change; be sure to check [http://graduateschool.nd.edu/graduation](http://graduateschool.nd.edu/graduation) for updates.
Diploma and Commencement Program
Degree candidates who are graduating in May 2012 should review their information on the degree candidate list under the student information section of the Registrar’s Commencement website at http://commencement.nd.edu. Students should verify the correct spelling of their name, degree, and hometown for both the printed Commencement program and the diploma. If information needs to be changed, the request must be received by the Office of the Registrar, 300 Grace Hall, no later than Friday, March 22, or a $75.00 fee will be assessed.

Beginning in early June, in-absentia diplomas will be mailed to the home address on file with the Registrar’s Office. Please contact the Registrar’s Office if you need to update the address on file. Students are not required to attend the Graduate School’s Commencement Ceremony to receive their diploma.

Cap and Gown
Students and recent graduates who are planning to participate in the Graduate School Commencement Ceremony are required to wear a cap and gown.

The Office of the Registrar will host a Graduation Fair on March 21 at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Assistance will be available if you are unsure of your size. If you cannot attend the Graduation Fair, you may order your cap and gown through http://ndgraduate.com. The last day to rent doctoral regalia or purchase a master’s cap and gown is April 27.

If you have questions about your regalia, please call the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore at (574) 631-8495, Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Master’s Gowns
Beginning in 2012, master’s students will purchase recyclable caps and gowns. Following the ceremony, you may either keep your cap and gown or donate them via recycling bins which will be located around campus. Master’s students will keep their tassel and hood.

Doctoral Rental Gowns
Doctoral students who have elected to rent a doctoral gown may pick up their gown on Thursday and Friday, May 17 and 18 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore.

Please return rented gowns to the bookstore during normal bookstore hours by Saturday, May 25.

The Graduate School Commencement Ceremony
Faculty and students who are participating in the ceremony should use the main entrance for the Compton Family Ice Arena and assemble in the lower-level auxiliary rink no later than 9:00 a.m.

Marshals will line up participants and will lead the procession into the main arena at 9:40 a.m.

Doors will open for guest seating at 8:30 a.m. Guests should enter through the main doors and proceed upstairs to the seating area.

Graduates and degree candidates, please secure your valuables during the ceremony or leave them with your guests. The Graduate School and the Compton Arena cannot guarantee their safety if you leave them in the assembly area.

Photographer
GradImages will be the official photographer for Saturday’s ceremony. Graduates will have an opportunity to order photos from the photographer at a later date.

Live Web Stream and Professional DVDs
The Graduate School ceremony will be streamed live on the Internet for friends and family who are not able to attend in person. For more information, please check the live stream page at http://commencement.nd.edu/live-webcast.
2012 Graduate School Commencement Ceremony

Professional DVDs of the Graduate School ceremony, the University ceremony, the Commencement Mass, and other events may be ordered through the Registrar’s Commencement website at http://commencement.nd.edu.

Instructions for Graduates

Degree Candidates
All degree candidates should arrive at the Compton Family Ice Arena no later than 9:00 A.M. and proceed to the check-in tables in the lower-level auxiliary rink.

After checking in, look for the appropriate banner designating the assembly area for your degree. Marshals will line you up in alphabetical order by degree. Names are announced in this order; it is extremely important that you line up in the proper order.

At the appointed time, marshals will lead you in a procession to your seat in the main arena. At the conclusion of the ceremony you will process out, following the same order in which you entered.

Instructions for Master’s Degree Recipients
At the direction of the marshals, you will rise from your seat and walk to the steps to the right of the stage. A marshal will direct you onto the stage. As your name is announced, you will walk to the middle of the stage and receive your diploma. After shaking hands, you will exit the stage via the east steps, and return to your seat.

Instructions for Ph.D. Recipients
At the direction of the marshals, you will rise from your seat and walk to the steps to the right of the stage. A marshal will direct you and your adviser onto the stage. As your name is announced, you will walk to the middle of the stage, where your adviser will place the hood over your head and you will receive your diploma. After shaking hands, you will exit the stage via the east steps, and return to your seat.

Instructions for Faculty Who Are Hooding
All faculty advisers should arrive at the Compton Family Ice Arena no later than 9:00 A.M. and proceed to the check-in tables in the lower-level auxiliary rink.

After checking in, please join your advisee in the line for Ph.D. recipients. Marshals will line you up, along with your advisee, alphabetically by college. At the appointed time and at the direction of the marshals, you will process into the main arena. Advisers will sit beside their advisees (student enters row first).

At the proper time, when directed to do so by the marshal, accompany your advisee to the steps on the right hand side of the stage. Take the hood from your advisee and arrange it so the side with the velvet trim is on top. As Fr. Jenkins presents the diploma, place the hood over your advisee’s head and follow him or her across the stage and back to your seat.

At the end of the ceremony you will process out of the arena, following the same order in which you entered.

If you are hooding more than one student and time permits, you will be directed to return to the line-up area and wait for your next student. If you will be hooding the next student in line (or one shortly thereafter), after hooding the first student, you will turn around and walk back to the stairs to meet your next student.

Instructions for Faculty Members of the Audience
Faculty who are not hooding students, but wish to observe the ceremony from the audience, should arrive at the Compton Family Ice Arena no later than 9:15 A.M. and proceed to the lower-level auxiliary rink.

Faculty audience members will gather in the designated area; no check-in is required. At the appointed time and at the direction of the marshals, you will process into the main arena. At the end of the ceremony, you will process out of the arena, following the same order in which you entered.

Protocol for Ph.D. Graduates

Cap and Hood: Remove your cap before approaching the stage. As you approach the stage, hand your hood to your adviser.

On-Stage: When your name is called, proceed across the stage first and pause at the mark just before reaching Dean Sterling and Fr. Jenkins. Bend your knees slightly and wait for your adviser to place the hood over your head. Do not lean forward.

Diploma and Handshake: Once your adviser has placed the hood, continue forward to accept your diploma and shake hands with the administrators.
Directions
From the north: The University is located just south of the Indiana Toll Road (Interstate 80/90). Exit I-80/90 at Exit 77 and turn right onto Indiana 933. Make a left at the fourth stop light (Angela Boulevard). Past Eddy Street, there will be two opportunities to turn left and enter the parking lots near Compton Arena; the first is immediately before the arena, and the second is at the Leahy Drive stoplight. Follow signs to the visitors’ parking lots, southwest of the athletic fields.

From the south: Take U.S. 31 north, which becomes Indiana 933 just south of the city of South Bend. Stay on Indiana 933 through downtown South Bend to Angela Boulevard. Past Eddy Street, there will be two opportunities to turn left and enter the parking lots near Compton Arena; the first is immediately before the arena, and the second is at the Leahy Drive stoplight. Follow signs to the visitors’ parking lots, southwest of the athletic fields.

Parking
The parking lots between the Joyce Center and the Compton Family Ice Arena will be open for Saturday’s ceremony. Limited handicapped parking will be available near the Compton Arena.

For more information, please see contact Notre Dame Parking Office at (574) 631-5053 or parking@nd.edu.

Guest Accommodations
For information regarding off-campus hotels, or on-campus meals and accommodations during Commencement weekend, please visit the families and guests section of the Registrar’s Commencement website at http://commencement.nd.edu.

Additional resources and visitor information can be found online at http://www.visitsouthbend.com.