
2019 FALL
COMMENCEMENT
INFORMATION

IN PREPARATION FOR THE DECEMBER 14, 2019 CEREMONY



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE
UNIVERSITY™

2019 FALL COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION

MVSU holds two graduation ceremonies each year, taking place at the end of spring semester and fall semester. As your excitement builds in anticipation of the event, and as you make plans for graduation, we would like you to remember that the commencement ceremony is for you and every other graduate. We ask you to respect your fellow classmates and thank you in advance for your cooperation.

COMMENCEMENT ATTIRE

Wearing the traditional academic gown and mortar board is required for participation in Commencement. Beneath the academic regalia, men are to wear a dress shirt (preferably white) and tie, dark slacks, and clean, black dress shoes. Women are to wear a black dress or a black skirt and blouse, and clean, black, closed-toe dress shoes. Dresses and skirts should be no longer than the academic regalia's gown. Women's earrings should be small, studded pearls. Earrings will not be allowed for men. NO athletic wear shoes will be allowed.

REHEARSAL

Graduation rehearsal will be on Friday, December 13th, at 1:30 p.m. at the R. W. Harrison Complex. All graduates should attend. We will conduct a brief run-through of the program, show you how to play your part during the ceremony, and answer your questions.

TIME AND PLACE

Gates to the R. W. Harrison Complex will open at 8 a.m. MVSU ushers, marshals and police/security will be available to answer questions and direct guests and graduates. Graduates should report to the Lackey Recreation Center at 8:30 a.m. to receive last-minute instructions and line-up cards from their Department Chairs. Guests should enter the R. W. Harrison Complex using the front entrance. Commencement ceremonies will begin promptly at 10 a.m. with the processional beginning 25 minutes prior.

All Masters Students regardless of major, and all undergraduates should report to the Lackey Recreation Center for lineup.

GRADUATION PARKING

The following areas have been identified for visitor parking on the day of graduation in order of preference:

- Jacob Aron Student Union Parking Lot
- Sutton Administration Building Parking Lot (One-way traffic)
- Lawn across the street from Robert Harrison Complex, pending weather
- Lawn across the street from William A. Butts Social Sciences Building, pending weather
- Industrial Technology Education Building Parking Lot, South Side

Parking for persons with disabilities will be located in the parking area adjacent to Rice-Totten Stadium. A disability tag or decal will be necessary. An identified area for the loading and unloading of persons with disabilities will be in the front of the Rice-Totten Stadium.

CEREMONY CONDUCT

Graduates, please set an example for your guests. To show respect for and to honor all our graduates, we ask participants to remain in their seats throughout the entire ceremony. Graduates will exit as a class to recessional music.

Guests will not be allowed onto the floor at anytime before and during the ceremony. Ushers and security guards will be stationed in various areas and will ask guests to remain off the floor during the ceremony. A professional photographer will take your photograph as you receive your diploma. Your family and friends may take photographs of you from their seats; they will not be allowed onto the floor to take photos.

When the commencement ceremony begins, your tassel is on the right side of the mortarboard. When your degree has been officially conferred during the ceremony, you move your tassel to the left side of the mortarboard. Graduate students' tassels are worn on the left (as your initial degree has been conferred.) The movement of the tassel represents the symbolic power of the academic mace. The academic mace, originally a weapon of war, traced back to ancient Greece government, is used to symbolize the power the university has to confer degrees.

Upon receipt of your degree, pause briefly and look at the photographer in front of you for the official commencement photograph.

V.I.P. (VERY IMPORTANT PROCESSES) FOR GRADUATION CLEARANCE

- Inform your instructors that you are a candidate for fall graduation. Final exams for graduating students are 12/2-12/4/19, and final grades are due on 12/5/19.
- You must have fulfilled all degree requirements to participate in the December Commencement. Grades of “I” (incomplete) or “IP” (in progress) will render you ineligible to participate.
- Honors designations require a minimum of 60 credit hours “in residence.” This means that 60 credit hours must have been earned at MVSU.
- All students who received Federal Aid must complete “Exit Loan Counseling” at studentloans.gov and submit the confirmation number (provided at the end of the session) to the Office of Financial Aid.
- The deadline to order your cap and gown is November 22, 2019. Payment must be provided at the time you are measured and your order is placed. The regalia rental for C2C (Complete to Compete) graduates has been paid. C2C graduates must visit the Camus Bookstore to be measured prior to the deadline. To retrieve your cap and gown (12/9-12/13/19), you must present valid photo ID.
- Graduates will be allowed up to 2 hours after the Commencement Convocation concludes to check out of the residence halls. A fine will be assessed for any damages or for a room left in disarray. Non-payment of the fine will result in a hold on all student records.
- Graduates must “clear” Career Services (submit an electronic copy of your resume), the Library (clear all fines and return all resources), and Community Service (provide documentation of hours performed).

PHOTOGRAPHY

Professional photographer, Ralph Smith, will take your photograph as you receive your diploma. You may order photographs from www.deltaweddings.com or by contacting him at (662) 207-1254.

Mr. Smith will also take departmental photographs beginning at 8 a.m. as outlined in this document. Please email news@mvsu.edu to submit information regarding your hometown newspaper or drop off the included form to Communications and Marketing.

WHO TO CONTACT:

For questions about graduation ceremony logistics (start time, location, parking, reception details), contact Dr. Curressia M. Brown (cbrown@mvsu.edu) at (662) 254-8374 and (662) 254-3609, respectively.

COMMENCEMENT GROUP PICTURE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2019 ~ SUTTON ADMINISTRATION FRONT STEPS

Graduates must be dressed in full regalia in order to participate in the group photograph. Department professors are welcome to join their students for the group picture. Pictures will be taken in 10-minute increments. It is recommended that you arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled group picture as each group will be photographed during its allotted time.

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

(both graduate & undergraduate students)

8 a.m.	ACCOUNTING
8:10 a.m.	BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
8:20 a.m.	ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

(both graduate & undergraduate students)

8:30 a.m.	CRIMINAL JUSTICE
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DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

8:40 a.m.	ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION

8:45 a.m.	SPORT ADMINISTRATION
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DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATIONS

8:50 a.m.	MASS COMMUNICATIONS
9:05 a.m.	CONVERGENT MEDIA
9 a.m.	SPEECH COMMUNICATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

(both graduate & undergraduate students)

9:10 a.m.	SOCIAL WORK
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(both graduate & undergraduate students)

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

9:20 a.m.	HISTORY & GENERAL STUDIES
9:30 a.m.	POLITICAL SCIENCE
9:40 a.m.	PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
9:50 a.m.	SOCIOLOGY
9:55 a.m.	RURAL PUBLIC POLICY AND PLANNING

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

(both graduate & undergraduate students)

10 a.m.	EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
10:10 a.m.	ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
10:20 a.m.	MATHEMATICS
10:30 a.m.	MUSIC
10:40 a.m.	SCIENCE
10:50 a.m.	HPER

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES

11 a.m.	ENGLISH
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DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

11:10 a.m.	ART
11:20 a.m.	MUSIC

DEPARTMENT OF MATH, COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCES

11:30 a.m.	COMPUTER SCIENCE
11:40 a.m.	MATHEMATICS

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL SCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL

(both graduate & undergraduate)

11:50 a.m.	BIOLOGY
12 p.m.	CHEMISTRY
12:10 p.m.	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
12:15 p.m.	BIOINFORMATICS