The Commencement Ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 8, 2021 at 2:00 pm, with the Processional beginning at 1:45 pm (if permissible), at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center – Hall G. Please refrain from bringing or having your guests bring Banners, Balloons and any form of noisemakers into the Hall. Individuals with prohibited items will be asked to leave.

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

Graduation is a joyous and special occasion. It is a time for celebration and merriment. However, please be reminded that Commencement is a formal University function. Therefore, you are requested to maintain the order and solemnity of the proceedings. It is a courtesy we owe each other and our guests. As such, please adhere to the following:

- The University strictly prohibits “Greek strolling” of any kind during the Commencement ceremony.
- Cell phones should be placed on silent mode.
- Graduates must remain for the entire ceremony as a sign of respect for all Graduates.

**ADMISSION TICKETS FOR GUESTS**

Because we are still operating under COVID-19 guidelines (social distancing), each graduate will be given two (2) Tickets for their invited Guests, including children, to be admitted into the Convention Center. Any persons arriving without an Admission Ticket will not be admitted.
You may pick up your Admission Tickets, beginning **Friday, April 23, 2021 through Friday, April 30, 2021** from the **LIBRARY**. The Library staff will have the official lists of all Prospective Graduates and will use those lists for distributing Admission Tickets. If for some reason your name does not appear on that list, you should check with your department and/or the Registrar’s Office immediately.

**REHEARSAL**

Rehearsal will be held on **Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 1:00 pm** in the University Gymnasium. ALL graduates are required to attend Rehearsal. Important information will be provided regarding arrival instructions and parking as well as any last minute updates pertaining to the Commencement ceremony.

**ATTIRE**

In order to participate in the Commencement Ceremonies, all graduates must wear the cap, gown, and hood prescribed by the University. Suitable attire includes:

**Gentlemen**

- Dress shirt and tie (preferably white collars)
- Dark Pants
- Dark Dress Boots or Shoes

**Ladies***

- Dark dresses
- Dark shoes
*If you wear heels, you will have to walk throughout the ceremony at your own risk.

Attire that is **not** suitable: jeans, tennis shoes, work boots, flip flops, shorts.

The appropriate cap for graduates is the familiar black “mortarboard.” The mortarboard is worn straight on the head with the point of the cap in the center of the forehead. The tassel should hang to the left of the face for undergraduate and on the right for graduate students.

Decoration of the mortarboard is acceptable with exceptions. **NO** profanity, 3-D objects, dangling ribbons, and any sizable accessories that distract others and yourself from the ceremony.

**SPECIAL NOTES**

All Graduates are to adhere to the attire requirements for commencement. Graduates who do not comply with the proper attire, will **not** be allowed to participate in the Commencement ceremony.

Everyone entering the Convention Center must wear a mask and have their temperature taken. Participants or guests whose temperatures are 104 degree Fahrenheit or above will **not** be allowed into the Convention Center.

**CONGRATULATIONS** and Thank you!

Dr. Brenda Jackson  
Commencement Chair