

2024 EXSS Department Graduation Ceremony Information

Sunday, May 12th @ 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

doors open at 2:00p/tickets not required

Carmichael Arena | 310 South Rd | UNC Campus

Please note, if you do not successfully complete all your degree requirements in time for a May graduation date, you are still permitted to participate in EXSS' departmental ceremony. All December, May and August graduates are welcome! (If you are a December or August graduate and did NOT submit an RSVP by March 8th, please email that exssgraduation@unc.edu) you will be attending).

Student Regalia

Regalia is encouraged but not required to attend the ceremony. Regalia will be available for in-person purchasing (readily available at time of purchase) March 20, 2024, at the Grad Fair and in-store at UNC Student Stores the following day. The Grad Fair is being held at the Carolina Club from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

These regalia are meant to be a cost-effective and eco-friendly option for graduating students. The online/shipping option for this regalia takes approximately two weeks to be delivered. The in-store option is available immediately at

time of purchase. Cap and gown (regalia) is available for purchase [online](#) (shipping only). Anyone who would like to purchase in-store will be able to do so starting Thursday, March 21, through Commencement weekend. Individual stoles and tassels are available for purchase [online](#), at the Grad Fair on Wednesday, March 20, and in-store starting Thursday, March 21.

Diplomas

At the end of June, diplomas will be mailed to the student's home address as it is listed in ConnectCarolina. Graduates who need immediate proof of graduation may download a certified electronic diploma (for a fee). Your diploma will be printed with the diploma name as listed on your ConnectCarolina account. Graduates requiring special handling (summer pick-up, FedEx, international delivery) for their diploma must contact the Office of the University Registrar.

Photography

Professional photographers from Photo Specialties™ will be at the ceremony to photograph each student as they are receiving their mock diploma onstage and at the backdrop at the bottom of the stairs as you are exiting the stage. Free proofs will be sent to you via your email address on file. There are no fees for reviewing the proofs and there is no obligation to purchase photographs. Please check your junk/spam folders in case the email is inadvertently sent there.

Guest Information

Guests should arrive to *Carmichael Arena* between 2:00 and 3:00 pm. The entrance facing Hooker Fields is the main entry point. All guests are welcome to attend the ceremony. No tickets are necessary and there is no restriction on the number of guests invited per each graduate. No refreshments will be available at the ceremony.

- Please do not block Carmichael driveway, the driveway is used for ADA golf cart to drop people off and pick people up

Carmichael Arena Entry Policy

The following items will not be permitted in Carmichael:

- Alcoholic beverages
- Artificial noise makers
- Balloons
- Camera lenses larger than 55 mm/2 inches
- Explosives
- Fireworks
- Folding chairs
- Illegal drugs
- Laser pointers
- Pets (except service animals)
- Weapons of any kind

Accessibility Seating and Parking

Seating for patrons with disabilities is available upon entry into the arena on the concourse level. The first two rows below the main ADA seating area on the concourse level will be reserved for overflow ADA seating.

Accessible parking for guests is available in the Cobb Deck. Golf carts will pick up guests needing assistance from the lot and drop them at Carmichael main entry point.

If you have a guest that needs a wheelchair, please contact exssgraduation@unc.edu.

Guest Parking

Parking for guests will be available in most lots on UNC's Campus. Parking information can be found [here](#).

*Visit maps.unc.edu for an interactive map view

Student Information

Name Cards

Thursday, May 9 and Friday, May 10 9:00a-12:00p:

Pick up your name card from the lobby of Fetzer Hall. This is a mandatory task. DO NOT LOSE THIS CARD, you will need to present the card to the Reader to have your name read as you cross the stage.

* If you are unable to pick up your card from Fetzer Hall during the times indicated, it will be available to pick up at the ceremony.

Ceremony Programs

A commencement program will be placed on each chair for the graduate to have during the ceremony and as a keepsake.

Guests may view the program via a QR code that will be displayed in the lobby and on the video boards.

Graduate Seating

Graduates will need to be seated by 2:50pm.

- A Junior Marshal will be assisting with seating to ensure there aren't any empty chairs in a row.

Please note that the first two rows of the RIGHT-SIDE set of chairs (when looking at the stage) are reserved for PhD/Master Program graduates.

Earey Winner, Senior Honor Theses Winners, and Teaching Award student presenter- please be seated in the RIGHT-SIDE set of chairs (when looking at the stage) toward the front and on the aisle if possible (for being called to the stage purposes).

Ceremony Breakdown

The ceremony will begin with a welcome address by the Chair, Dr. J. Troy Blackburn, and introduction of the EXSS Faculty and then will go as follows:

- Acknowledging Graduate Student Research Awards: Award Winners will line up at the bottom of the RIGHT-SIDE stairs when prompted. After leaving the

stage (BY THE LEFT-SIDE), please stop at the backdrop for a photo before returning to your seat.
NOTE: You don't need your name card for this part.

- Acknowledging Patrick Earey Award Winner:
Award Winner will proceed to the stage by the RIGHT-SIDE when prompted. After leaving the stage (BY LEFT-SIDE), please stop at the backdrop for a photo before returning to your seat.
NOTE: You don't need your name card for this part.
- Awarding of Honor cords:
Please make your way to the RIGHT-SIDE of the stage to wait once the Earey Award Winner has entered the stage. After leaving the stage (BY THE LEFT-SIDE STAIRS), please stop at the backdrop for a photo before returning to your seat.
NOTE: DON'T LEAVE YOUR NAME CARD, TAKE IT WITH YOU AS YOU CROSS THE STAGE, YOU WILL NEED IT WHEN AWARDING THE DEGREE PORTION OF THE CEREMONY.
- Excellence in Teaching Award:
The presenter will rise and go to the stage once Dr. Blackburn has indicated for you to do so.
NOTE: You do not need your name card for this.
- Awarding of Degrees:

YOU NEED YOUR NAME CARD

PhD students:

At the prompt from the Junior Marshal, you will make your way to the right-side of the stage and hand your name card to the Reader and proceed to cross the stage when your name is read. You will receive a recognition award and handshake from your mentor and have your picture taken. Exiting the stage, please stop at the backdrop for a photo before returning to your seat.

Master's students:

At the prompt from the Junior Marshal, you will be directed out of your seats by the outside aisle.

Proceed to the right-side of the stage to form a line. You will hand your name card to the Reader and proceed to cross the stage when your name is read. You will receive a mock diploma and handshake from the DGS and have your picture taken. Exiting the stage, please stop at the backdrop for a photo before returning to your seat.

- Undergraduate students:

At the prompt from the Junior Marshal, graduates are **escorted from the middle aisle** to the right-side of the stage to form a line. You will hand your name card to the Reader and proceed to cross the stage when your name is read. You will receive a mock diploma and handshake from the DUS and have your picture taken. Exiting the stage, please stop at the backdrop

for a photo before **returning to your seat by way of the outside aisle.**

Conclusion of the Ceremony

The side doors (North/Student doors and South/Media doors), along with the main entrance will be used as exits. The North/Student door, and South/Media door exits do not have ramps, only stairs.

Please disperse in a timely manner.

Department Contact

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The Department of Exercise and Sport Science
wishes you the best in your future endeavors!