LOCAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Some local accommodations are listed for your information. Contact the hotels/motels for details.

- 1842 Inn  (800) 336-1842 / (478) 741-1842
- Baymont Inn  (478) 474-4989
- Best Western Riverside  (800) 528-1234 / (478) 743-6311
- Comfort Inn & Suites  (478) 757-8688
- Country Inn  (478) 803-8300
- Courtyard by Marriott  (478) 477-8899
- Days Inn  (478) 781-4343
- Econo Lodge  (478) 405-0106 / (478) 746-6221
- Hampton Inn & Suites  (478) 803-5000
- Hilton Garden Inn (Mercer Campus)  (478) 741-5527
- Holiday Inn  (478) 803-8200
- Home 2 Suites by Hilton  (478) 803-5300
- Homewood Suites by Hilton  (478) 477-9776
- La Quinta Inn & Suites  (478) 475-0206
- Macen Inn  (478) 746-3561
- Macen Marriott City Center  (478) 621-5300
- Quality Inn & Suites  (478) 474-4000
- Ramada Inn  (478) 788-0120
- Residence Inn Macon  (478) 475-2480
- River Place Inn  (478) 477-7477
- SpringHill Suites by Marriott  (478) 803-9300
- Towne Place Suites (844) 631-0595 / (478) 812-8322
- United Inn & Suites  (478) 745-8521
- Wingate Inn  (478) 476-8300

DIRECTIONS TO MACON CAMPUS

From I-75 South (from Atlanta): Take I-75 South to Exit #163 (Mercer University Drive). Take a left at the top of the exit ramp onto Mercer University Drive and cross over I-75. There are two entrances to campus. Turn left at the first traffic light onto Stadium Drive (Mobility Impaired Parking is accessed from this entrance), or left at the second traffic light onto College Street.

From I-75 North (from Florida): Take I-75 North to Exit #163 (Mercer University Drive). Take a right at the top of the exit ramp onto Mercer University Drive. There are two entrances to campus. Turn left at the first traffic light onto Stadium Drive (Mobility Impaired Parking is accessed from this entrance), or left at the second traffic light onto College Street.

Parking: Parking is available throughout campus. The Upper Parking Level of the University Center will be restricted to Mobility Impaired Parking only. The Lower Parking Level is restricted to the Platform Party.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, May 11, 2018
10:00 a.m.

ROTC Commissioning Ceremony

President’s Dining Room, University Center

4 p.m.

Baccalaureate Service
Willingham Auditorium

Saturday, May 12, 2018
3:30 p.m.

Commencement

Hawkins Arena, University Center

Tickets are required for admission. Candidates participating in the ceremony will receive details explaining ticket distribution. Lost guest tickets cannot be replaced. Guests without tickets will not be permitted to enter the University Center.

Mercer University prohibits the sale of guest tickets.

Guests who are unable to secure a ticket or prefer a different venue may watch live video of the ceremony in the School of Medicine Auditorium, the Science and Engineering Auditorium, or the Willingham Auditorium. The ceremony will be streamed live and can be viewed online at the Mercer website, mercer.edu.

Disability Accessibility

Please contact Katie Johnson at (478) 301-2778 or Johnson_kc@mercer.edu to request disability accommodations. The deadline for graduating students requesting interpreters or real-time transcription is April 27, 2018. Closed-captioning will be provided only at the remote sites (School of Medicine Auditorium, the Science and Engineering Auditorium, or the Willingham Auditorium). In all situations, a good faith effort will be made to provide accommodations. Mobility Impaired Parking will be available until full, with curb drop off also available. Seating reserved for persons with impaired mobility and ONE family member will have mobility impaired placards.
Important Information for Degree Candidates

CAPS, GOWNS, AND HOODS
The academic regalia will be yours to keep. It is important that caps, gowns, and hoods be uniform in appearance. It will not be possible to “borrow” regalia from previous graduates or to purchase from a different source other than Herff Jones as it will not match. Try on and press your academic regalia before the ceremony.

HERFF JONES COMPANY
The Herff Jones Company, the official supplier of graduation products, congratulates you on your accomplishments. The Herff Jones Company will be happy to assist you with the ordering of your ring or personalized announcements. You may go online for more information at: www.herffjones.com/college/mercer.

MERCER BOOKSTORE
All students will be able to pick up regalia starting April 23rd. For additional information, please feel free to contact the Mercer Macon Bookstore at (478) 301-2945. Check current Mercer Macon Bookstore hours at: www.shopmercerbears.com. The Mercer Macon Bookstore will be open Saturday, May 12, 2018, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. The Bear Market will be open two hours prior to commencement up until start of the ceremony.

NAME PRONUNCIATION
If there has ever been an occasion when your name has been mispronounced, please prevent this from happening during the graduation ceremony by calling Dr. Weintraut at (478) 301-2894 between Monday, April 23rd and Monday, May 7th. Leave a message containing your school affiliation, the correct pronunciation of your name and, where necessary, the correct spelling of your name. Please pronounce your name twice, slowly and clearly. It is not necessary to leave a message if your name is fairly common, such as “James Miller,” “Mary Smith,” or “Pat Jones.”

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER
Gradimages®, the professional photographer for commencement, congratulates you on your upcoming graduation. A photographer from Gradimages® will be at your ceremony to take a candid photograph of you at your special moment of recognition. You will receive a free proof of this photo in the mail or by email within 5 to 7 days following the ceremony. After your graduation, you may order photographs online at www.gradimages.com or by calling (800) 261-2576.

GRADUATION DVDS & PHOTOS
Mercer University is partnering with gradmemory.com to provide a professional video of the graduation ceremony. This perfect graduation keepsake is available to order now. The Graduation DVD contains the complete graduation ceremony, covering all the special moments of your commencement. The DVD package can also be personalized with the graduate’s name and picture. To order, go to www.gradmemory.com. For more details, please contact GradMemory directly at support@gradmemory.com.

View or purchase event images at: http://bit.ly/murrencement

Graduation Events

BACCALAUREATE SERVICE
The Baccalaurate, a special worship service honoring all graduates of the University, will be held on Friday, May 11, 2018, at 4 p.m. in the Willingham Auditorium. Graduates wear caps and gowns. Contact the Office of Student Affairs at (478) 301-2685 for more information.

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY
Commencement will be held on Saturday, May 12, 2018, at 3:30 p.m. in the Hawkins Arena, University Center. Please refer to the "Important Information for Degree Candidates" section concerning eligibility to participate in the graduation exercises.

Recommended Attire: Men should wear dark slacks, dark shoes, and a shirt with a white collar. Women should wear comfortable dark dress shoes with a dress or skirt that does not show below the gown, or dark slacks and a blouse.

Graduates must arrive at the University Center by 2:15 p.m. and proceed to the assembly area on the Intramural Courts. Graduates must leave personal belongings with relatives or friends attending the ceremony. The Intramural Courts are not secured during the ceremony. Guests should go directly to the seating areas in the Hawkins Arena and be seated by 3:10 p.m.

NOTE: The University Center will open for ticketed guests at 2 p.m. The ceremony will last approximately two and a half hours. Ticketed guests arriving after the ceremony, which begins at 3:30 p.m., will not be permitted entry until the presentation of individual graduates.

Seated guests leaving the seating area will not be allowed to re-enter the Hawkins Arena prior to and during the guest speaker’s presentation.

Commencement Etiquette
Commencement is a special time for both the graduates and their guests. Mercer requests all participants and guests to respect the importance of this occasion and to treat it with the proper decorum.

NOTE: Food, drinks, and baby strollers/carriages are not permitted in the Hawkins Arena.

All cell phones should be turned off or on vibrate. Large gifts for graduates that can obstruct the view during the ceremony are not allowed in the Hawkins Arena. These items must be checked in at the Mercer Ticket Office across from the Hawkins Arena.

Congratulations on approaching this important milestone in your academic career! We hope the information contained in this brochure will assist you and your family in planning for the various activities surrounding commencement. Please read carefully the following statements concerning your degree requirements and eligibility to participate in the graduation ceremony. Receipt of this brochure does not certify the completion of degree requirements nor does it confirm eligibility to march in the graduation exercises.

• Students who plan to participate in the ceremony must have indicated this intention on the application for graduation submitted to the Office of the Registrar. All students who have completed all degree requirements and have properly informed the Office of the Registrar by the published deadline of their plan to participate, may march in the ceremony. Students who will not finish requirements by the end of the spring semester may march only if they have been approved by the Office of the Registrar after submitting a formal petition (see Mercer Catalog). Graduate students should contact their school/college concerning eligibility to participate.

• Honors printed in the program are based on grades earned through the fall semester preceding the ceremony. Refer to the Mercer Catalog for information on the calculation of University honors.

• The traditional cap and gown are considered formal academic attire for commencement. Mercer has provided cords and medallions to indicate specific academic honors.

• A degree will be awarded only to students who have satisfied all requirements of the University and the school/college certifying the degree.

• Diploma Covers will be distributed to all participants during the ceremony. Students who complete all degree requirements during the spring semester, and have no outstanding financial or loan obligations to the University, will receive diplomas after all requirements have been certified as complete. Students who meet requirements in a previous term have already received diplomas. For students not eligible to receive a diploma or completing after the spring semester, diplomas will be mailed to the permanent home address after degree requirements are completed and certified.

• After degrees are awarded, graduates are eligible to order, at their expense, an oversized 14”x17” diploma (covers are not available). Information and order forms are available from the Office of the Registrar.

If you have any questions concerning the completion of your degree requirements and/or whether you may participate in the commencement ceremony, please contact the Office of the Registrar at (800) 342-0841 or (478) 301-2494.