



University of Aberdeen

Graduation 2025

25 - 27 November



Welcome

to this graduation ceremony

For more than 525 years, our graduates have provided the world with excellence and innovation.

Today you, our graduands, become part of that story.

Our University was founded in 1495 to be 'open to all and dedicated to the pursuit of truth in the service of others' and this purpose has successfully guided us throughout the centuries.

Our record of excellence and innovation in teaching and research, and our international outlook and dedication to ensuring our students realise their full potential, has produced countless numbers of highly skilled graduates who have gone on to make a real impact on the world.

Your predecessors did great things and among them were key figures in the Scottish Enlightenment, the founder of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, the discoverer of the mosquito-malaria theory, as well as a host of leading public figures in the UK, Scotland and overseas.

With Aberdeen being ranked among the top 20 UK universities and consistently in the UK top 15 for overall student satisfaction in the National Student Survey since 2021, you can take pride in the knowledge that you have graduated from an institution acknowledged as being one of the best in the UK.

Throughout your time studying with us, I hope you have experienced a learning environment which nurtures intellectual curiosity, where all members of our wonderful community have developed and grown. You will have been taught by researchers at the forefront of their field. You sit here having achieved success in what is unquestionably a challenging curriculum, designed to bring out the best in everyone.

Today you join our worldwide alumni family and the strong sense of belonging you will have felt on campus extends beyond graduation and beyond borders. With more than 150,000 alumni in 170 countries, you will always find a member of our University community nearby, and we work hard to keep you connected wherever you go in the future. Higher education transforms lives and our alumni stay connected because of the excellent and memorable education they have received here at Aberdeen; I sincerely hope this will also be true for all of you.

Today isn't only about our fantastic graduands, it's about the family, partners and friends who are here to celebrate alongside them. This is a special day for every single person here, whether you are in a gown or not.

On behalf of everyone at the University, I offer my congratulations to you all. The entire University community takes great pride in each and every one of you and wishes you every success in your future life and career.



Professor Peter Edwards PhD CITP FBCS FIET FRSA
Principal

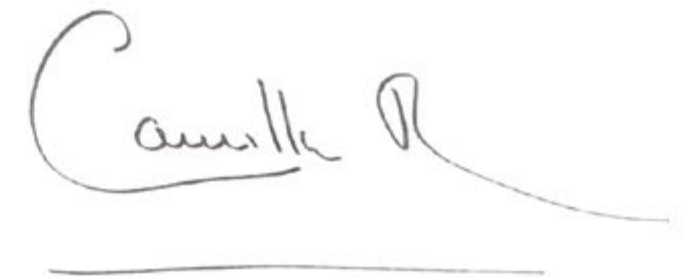


Mario Testino ©

As the very proud Chancellor of the University of Aberdeen, I am delighted to send my best wishes to all those graduating today and to take this opportunity to congratulate you on everything you have achieved.

I am sure the time you have spent here will have provided you not only with a thorough knowledge of your subject, but also with the skills that you will need as you prepare for your chosen career. I hope that it has been an enjoyable and fulfilling experience for each one of you and that you leave with a fund of memories that you will look back on fondly for many years to come.

May I also welcome your families and friends who have supported and encouraged you every step of the way. I hope that they too will enjoy this very special day.





Order of Ceremony

The Graduands' Procession

Before the ceremony formally begins, a Sacrist, bearing the gold casket containing the University's Freedom Scroll, awarded as part of the Freedom of the City of Aberdeen in 1995, leads the graduands into the ceremony. The role of the Sacrist dates back to the early days of the founding of the University in 1495.

The title "Sacrist" is a diminutive of "Sacristan" who was the officer of the church in charge of the sacristy which was the room where the sacred utensils, vestments and other movables were kept. The modern word in Scotland for the sacristy is the vestry. Next are the promoters, senior members of the academic staff who will call the individual graduands for the conferral of their degree. The audience should remain seated while the graduands enter the hall and take their seats.

Civic and Academic Processions

The audience will be asked to stand as the civic and academic processions enter. The civic procession has representatives of the civic community, which may include the Lord Provost of the City of Aberdeen, representatives of the City Council and of such other bodies as the Guildry, the Seven Incorporated Trades, the Chamber of Commerce and the Judiciary

As the academic procession enters, the audience will sing Gaudeamus Igitur. Music has always been an essential feature of the University's cultural life. Gaudeamus Igitur, a medieval student song from Germany, is sung at every Aberdeen graduation ceremony. The presiding officer is last in the procession, and is either the Chancellor, as ceremonial head of the University, the Pro-Chancellor, or the Vice-Chancellor.

The Chancellor, Her Majesty Queen Camilla, is the nominal head of the University and confers degrees on graduates.

This duty is often shared with her deputy, the Pro-Chancellor, Professor Sir Iain Torrance KCVO.

Vice-Chancellor is generally known in Scotland as the Principal, and is executive head of the University. The Chancellor and Pro-Chancellor wear gowns decorated with gold, and the Principal's gown is decorated with silver. When the Chancellor or Pro-Chancellor are present, the Principal usually wears a purple ceremonial gown.

Gaudeamus igitur

(The first and last lines of each verse are sung twice.)

Gaudeamus igitur, juvenes dum sumus.
Post jucundam juventutem,
post molestam senectutem,
nos habebit humus.
Vivat Academia, vivant Professores.
Vivat membrum quodlibet,
vivat membra quaelibet:
semper sint in flore!
Alma Mater floreat, quae nos educavit;
caros et commilitones,
dissitas in regiones
sparsos congregavit

Translation

Let us therefore rejoice, while we are young.
After the joys of youth,
after the troubles of old age,
the earth will have us.

Long live Academe, long live those who
teach. Long live each member,
long live all the members:
may they always flourish.

Let our Alma Mater flourish, which has
taught us; dear ones and comrades,
scattered in remote places,
she gathered.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The audience will remain standing until the processions have reached their places, and while the Chaplain to the University says the opening prayer.

Conferral of Degrees

All degrees are conferred in Latin, consistent with the traditions of a 500 year old university. Though the precise formula for each degree varies, the promoter seeks permission from the Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor, and from all the doctors and masters of the University, to present the various candidates for the conferral of their degree.

Permission is granted on behalf of the Senatus and the names of the individual graduands are called. To signify the conferral, the head of each graduand is touched with a small ornate cap and a Sacrist then places over their head the academic hood, or helps to gown a doctoral graduate. The hoods, lined in different colours to identify the various degrees, lend the ceremony its distinctive colour, and are worn with the gown only after graduating. Graduands receiving a Doctorate Award are robed in a scarlet gown whilst they are on the platform; all other graduands wear a black gown and are 'hooded' in their degree colour when they are on the platform.

Address to Graduates

After all the degrees have been conferred, the presiding officer will either deliver an address to the graduates or will call upon another senior member of the University or an honorary graduate to do so.

Benediction and Processions

The audience will remain standing while the Chaplain to the University pronounces the benediction and the academic, civic and graduate processions leave the hall. The inclusion of the new graduates in these processions symbolises their membership of the global University of Aberdeen community.



All degrees are conferred in Latin, consistent with the traditions of a

500+
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Graduation Ceremony

Wednesday 26 November 2025 at 10.30am

Higher Degrees and Awards By Research

Doctor of Philosophy

Fatah Elrahman Mohamed Abdelmagied
Language & Linguistics
Mark James Dunsmore Music
Nadia Stella Faconti-Christodoulou English
Yichun Feng Music
Miftah Faraj Mohammed Ghameedh
Language & Linguistics
Sirui Gong Education
Brian Keeley Film Studies
Mark Sheridan Music

Master of Research

Linguistics

Owen Nigel Eatough with Distinction

Arts & Social Sciences

Higher Degrees and Awards Taught Programmes

Master of Science

Rosalin Kate Bannerman with Distinction
Aisha Sadyrova

Global Business Communication

Ahmed Abdulla Al- Abdulmalek with Commendation
Khawla Nasser Al-Balooshi
Abdulla Yousef Al-Hor with Commendation
Aljazi Saeed Al-Khayareen
Latefa Ghanim Al-Mohannadi with Commendation
Cenyang Huang

TESOL

Liping Hu with Commendation
Eden Isabelle Johnson with Commendation
Jingyi Kong
Bingyue Li
Dinara Narbekova with Commendation
Chenqi Wang with Commendation
Biyuan Ye
Yu Zhou with Commendation

Translation Studies

Iona Frances Ann Browning with Distinction
Emma Drummond with Distinction
Theresa Elizabeth Fettes with Distinction

Master of Letters

Creative Writing

Shireen Al Qasas with Commendation
Sophia Elizabeth Bohley with Distinction
Eleanor Isabella Campbell with Commendation
Syeda Hajra Gilani with Commendation
Ayushi Pandya with Commendation

English Language and Literature

Meredith Mae Champagne with Commendation

Ethnology and Folklore

Taylor Morgan Palmer with Distinction
Emma Frances Russell with Commendation

Film, Visual Culture and Arts Management

Olivia Jade Briggs with Commendation
Oliver Mackenzie

Literatures, Environments and Places

Francesca Hilary Antonia Fiorella Acton-Bond with Distinction
Anna Fleur Elizabeth Austin with Commendation
Hazel Lindsay Hunter with Commendation

Master of Music

Alexandra Rose Christie with Commendation
Abby Alexina Kelly with Distinction
Catherine O'Rourke with Distinction
Stephanie Grace Purdie with Commendation
Sage Phipps Smith with Commendation
Bingyu Wang
Euan Kerr Will with Commendation
Benjamin Williams with Commendation
Mengyuan Xiahou

Undergraduate Degrees and Awards

Master of Arts
Honours Degrees

English

Kathryn Anderson
Abigail Forrest

English-History

Amelia-Jane Rogers *with First Class Honours*

Spanish and Latin American Studies

Rosa Michelle Nuñez Etherington
with Distinction in Spoken Spanish

Bachelor of Music
Honours Degrees

Sebastian James D'Souza
Miriam Jean

Education

Taught Programmes

Master of Science

Studies in Mindfulness

Mhairie Alvarez Miller *with Commendation*
Anna Connor *with Commendation*
Sophie Helen Davis *with Commendation*
Mairead Farrell *with Commendation*
Niall Heron
Vicky Hoyle *with Distinction*
Sarah Victoria Nearney *with Commendation*
Jean-Claude Caesar Annie Ohms *with Distinction*
Eva Rodellas Fontiguell
Emma Watson *with Distinction*

Master of Education

John Murray Burnett
Jonathan Francis Cotterill

Early Years

Natasha Jayne Brown *with Commendation*
Julie Ingrid McDonough *with Commendation*
Hazel Murray *with Distinction*
Kimberley Riddell *with Commendation*
Iona Margaret Watt *with Distinction*
Rhana Webster *with Distinction*

Inclusive Practice

Andrew Mclachlan Heron

Pastoral Care, Guidance and Pupil Support

Kay Ann Taylor
Lydia Jane Willetts
Alexander Wilson *with Distinction*

Postgraduate Diploma

Person-Centred Counselling

Andrea Elder
Corine Elisabeth Kooij *with Distinction*
Gemma Moore *with Commendation*

Undergraduate Degrees and Awards

Master of Arts

Educational Studies

Leigh Arlene Bain
Megan Taylor
Keira Thompson

Honours Degrees

Education

Kirsty Stephanie Bruce
Jamie Coventry
Caitlin Gallacher
Lucy Ann Martin
Ellie Kathleen Riley

Bachelor of Arts

Professional Development

Charlotte Rebecca Dalgarno

Professional Graduate Diploma
in Education (Primary)

Shannon Barbara Adie
Rianna Cox
Winston Ho
Jennifer Holtrust
Kelly Lovemore
Sharon McCarroll
Catriona MacVinish
Lauren Elizabeth Morrison
Evelyn Fumbi Oshin
Natasha Reid
Julie Smith
Nataliia Umantsiv
Rui Zuo

Professional Graduate Diploma
in Education (Secondary)

Caitlyn Macdonald
Thomas Lloyd Provistali-Main



Graduation Ceremony

Wednesday 26 November 2025 at 10.30am

Before Ceremony

A selection of organ music will be played before the ceremony, concluding with *Prelude to the Te Deum* by Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1643-1704)

Interlude

Loch Lomond

Andrew Lang

After Ceremony

Pipe Major Julie Brinklow will pipe out the procession

March in F major – Louis Lefébure-Wély (1817-1869) will be played by the organist.

Stuart Muir Director of Chapel and Ceremonial Music *Organist*
Connie McLean *Mezzo-Soprano*

Graduation Ceremonies

Honorary Degrees

The words used by the Chancellor (or Pro/Vice-Chancellor) are:

“I make and constitute you, declare and proclaim you, Doctor and Master of Sacred Theology*, as a sign of which I place this cap upon your head, and pray to God, supreme in goodness and power, that this act may be blessed and of good augury”.

*The above words are used for the Degree of DD: differing words are used for other degrees (see below).

Higher degrees

Before presenting graduands, the Promoter seeks the permission of the Chancellor (or Pro/Vice-Chancellor) to do so, saying:

“My Lord Chancellor (or Mr Pro/Vice-Chancellor), Doctors and Masters, and the whole University, I present to you this candidate (these candidates), who has (have) been approved on examination, to be promoted to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy*”.

If the same Promoter goes on to promote candidates for other degrees, the promoter omits the opening words, saying “I also present to you...”

The Chancellor (or Pro/Vice-Chancellor) replies: “The Senatus assenting, let him (them) be promoted”.

The Promoter then says “Let (name) come up”.

To the first graduand in each degree the Chancellor (or Pro/Vice-Chancellor) says:

“By the authority which the most high and mighty Princes have in the fullest measure bestowed on this beneficent University I make you Doctor and Master of Philosophy*, as a sign of which I place this cap upon your head and pray to God, supreme in goodness and power, that this act may be blessed and of good augury”.

To graduands after the first the Chancellor (or Pro/Vice-Chancellor) says: “I make you also”.

*The above words are used for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy: differing words are used for other degrees (see below). In conferring degrees of Master, the words “Doctor and” are omitted.

Undergraduate Degrees

The same words are used for the presentation of the recipients of Undergraduate as for Higher degrees except that “Master” or “Bachelor” is used in place of “Doctor” and “Master”.

When both non-Honours and Honours graduands in the same degree are being presented, the Promoter, before calling the first graduand with Honours says, “Those who have earned Honours”.

If both Honours and Pass degree graduands in the same degree are being presented, the Promoter, before calling the first graduand with a Pass degree says “Those who have satisfied the examiners”.

The degrees of MA and BSc may, in certain circumstances, be conferred on members of the University staff, in recognition of long service and/or exceptional merit. When asking permission to present such graduands, the Promoter says “...I present to you this man/woman who has distinguished him/herself over many years in the service of the University, to be promoted to the degree of Master of Arts [or Bachelor of Science]”. The same procedure is then followed and the same formulae used as in other cases in which the degree of MA [or BSc] is conferred.

Professional Diplomas

Following the model above, the same words are used for the presentation of the recipients for a Diploma as for Degrees, except that Diploma is used in place of Doctor, Master, Bachelor.

Note: The Latin words used by Promoters may vary slightly, according to the numbers of graduands presented, and whether they are male or female.

Degrees

Below are the degrees currently awarded by the University in the form (accusative case) in which they appear in the formula of conferral: in each case, an English translation is given.

DD
Sacrosanctae Theologiae Doctorem
(Doctor of Sacred Theology)

DPT
In Theologia Practica
(Doctor in Practical Theology)

LLD
Utriusque Iuris, tam Canonici
quam Civilis, Doctorem
(Doctor of both the Laws
– Canon and Civil)

DHC
Doctorem Honoris Causa
(Doctor by Reason of Honour)

DLitt, MLitt
In Litteris Doctorem/Magistrum
(Doctor/Master in Letters)

EdD, MEd, BEd
In Arte Mentis Disciplinae Doctorem/
Magistrum Baccalaureum
(Doctor/Master/Bachelor in Art
of Mental Training)

DMus, MMus, BMus
In Musica Doctorem/Magistrum/
Baccalaureum
(Doctor/Master/Bachelor in Music)

DSc, MSc, BSc
In Scientia Doctorem/Magistrum/
Baccalaureum
(Doctor/Master/Bachelor in Science)

EngD, MEng, BEng
In Studiis Fabrilibus Doctorem/
Magistrum/Baccalaureum
(Doctor/Master/Bachelor in
Engineering Studies)

MD
In Medicina Doctorem
(Doctor in Medicine)

DCE
Doctor Communitatis Europaeae
(Doctor of the European Community)

PhD, MPhil
In Philosophia Doctorem/Magistrum
(Doctor/Master in Philosophy)

DUniv/MUniv
Universitatis Doctorem/Magistrum
(Doctor/Master of the University)

MRes
In Arte Investigationis Magistrum
(Master in the skill of research)

MBA
In Negotiis Administrandis Magistrum
(Master in Administering Businesses)

MLE
In Oeconomia Agraria Magistrum/
Baccalaureum
(Master in Agrarian Economics)

MScEcon
In Scientia Oeconomiae Magistrum
(Master in the Science of Economics)

MTh
In Sacrosancta Theologica Magistrum
(Master in Sacred Theology)

LLM, LLB
In Utroque Iure Magistrum/
Baccalaureum
(Master/Bachelor in both Laws)

MPH
In Valetudine Commune Magistrum
(Master in Common Health)

ChM
In Chirurgia Magistrum
(Master in Surgery)

MMedSci, BScMedSci
In Scientia Medica Magistrum/
Baccalaureum
(Master/Bachelor in Medical Sciences)

MA, BA
In Artibus Liberalibus Magistrum/
Baccalaureum
(Master/Bachelor in Liberal Arts)

MBus
In Negotiis Magistrum
(Master in Business)

MChem
In Scientia Chymica Magistrum
(Master in Chemical Science)

MGeol
In Scientia Geologica
(Master in Geology)

MPhys
In Scientia Physica Magistrum
(Master in Physical Science)

MSci
In Arte Scientia Magistrum
(Master in the skill of Science)

BScBioMedSci
In Scientiis ad Medicinam et Vitam
Physicam Pertinentibus Baccalaureum
(Bachelor in the Sciences pertaining
to Medicine and Natural Life)

BScEng
In Scientia Fabrili Baccalaureum
(Bachelor in Engineering Science)

BD
In Sacrosancta Theologia
Baccalaureum
(Bachelor in Sacred Theology)

BTh
In Theologia Baccalaureum
(Bachelor in Theology)

MBChB
In Medicina et Chirurgia
Baccalaureum
(Bachelor in Medicine and Surgery)

BMedSci
In Scientia Medicinae Baccalaureum
(Bachelor in the Science of Medicine)

BDS
In Dentium Chirurgia Baccalaureum
(Bachelor in the surgery of teeth)

BDentSci
In Scientia Odontologiae
Baccalaureum
(Bachelor in the Science of Dentistry)

PGDE
Diplomae Graduae et Professionalis
in Educatione
(Professional Graduate Diploma in
Education)

DPLP
Diplomae in Regulis Consuetudinis
Professionalis de Lege
(Diploma in Professional Legal
Practice)

PgDip
Diplomae Graduae in Consilio
Privato (In Person Centred
Counselling)

Old Aberdeen Campus

Some of you will have studied in Old Aberdeen, the historic heart of our University, where our traditional buildings combine with state of the art facilities for learning, research and recreation.

Old Aberdeen is home to our revolutionary new Science Teaching Hub which has been designed to inspire collaboration between the Chemistry, Medical Sciences, Biological Sciences and Geosciences students who study there. Nearby is the state of the art Sir Duncan Rice Library which opened in 2012. Over eight floors the library houses the largest of the University’s modern collections – including Arts, Humanities, Sciences and Social Sciences, and historic collections of rare books, manuscripts and archives in the Special Collections Centre.

Just across the road is the Aberdeen Sports Village, the premier sports facility in the North-East of Scotland. It is open to students, staff and the public with facilities for athletics, football, swimming, hockey, squash, martial arts and boxing.





The AFG College with the University of Aberdeen

Opened in 2017, the AFG College with the University of Aberdeen is a multi-million pound facility in Doha that is a partnership between the University and the Al-Faleh Group for Educational Services (AFG).

Since its launch, the College has attracted hundreds of students each year to study a range of University of Aberdeen programmes at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. Among its state-of-the-art facilities are a fully equipped learning resources centre, IT suites, and teaching and learning space equipped with interactive screen technology.

As part of our Aberdeen 2040 International commitments – our vision to guide the University through the coming decades – we teach and research across borders and in Qatar provide the same academic experience as that afforded our students in Scotland.

The University continues to expand its networks and partnerships, seeking new opportunities for international and intercultural exchange and to offer more transnational education, enabling learning across the globe with key partners.

Foresterhill Campus

Many of our graduates will have spent the majority of their time at our Foresterhill Campus, the largest healthcare campus in Europe.

The Foresterhill campus provides for the provision of high-quality health services, education and research and is owned jointly by the University and NHS Grampian.

The Institute of Medical Sciences (IMS) is a unique, cross-school institution that supports and coordinates research within the School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition.

Foresterhill is also home to the state of the art Rowett Institute of Nutrition and Health, which aims to address the big issues of our time, including food inequalities, food security and obesity, as well as the sustainable development of Scotland's food industry.



A message from our Alumni team

Congratulations

on your graduation day!

For many of us, the years we spend as students are the best years of our lives. New friendships are formed, a new independence gained, and probably quite a few life-changing experiences along the way too. Your graduation day is a special day and marks the achievement of what it has all been for, however, your university experience doesn't end here.

Now that you have graduated you join a community of over 150,000 Aberdeen graduates living in 170 countries. Our aim is to add continual value to your experience of being a graduate of the University of Aberdeen. We want to hear your success stories and are here to help you stay in touch with fellow alumni and to keep you informed about what's happening here at the University.

As an Aberdeen graduate you are part of a warm and supportive global community of successful individuals. By staying in touch with the University you can benefit from networking with your fellow alumni around the world, take inspiration from their career journeys, exchange ideas in your chosen field, catch up with old friends and receive invitations for exclusive events and opportunities for lifelong learning.

You'll find that the benefits of studying at Aberdeen extend well beyond your graduation. Wherever your life takes you, you will always be an Aberdeen graduate. We have some very active regional and interest-based alumni Chapters and Clubs around the world and we host a variety of events to help you stay connected with the University and one another.

You can stay in touch by visiting abdn.ac.uk/alumni or facebook.com/AberdeenUniversityAlumni

There are also lots of other ways you can get involved once you have graduated, like becoming an alumni volunteer or donor. Generous donations have supported student activities and developments that add extra value to student experience.

There are many exciting projects on the horizon for the University and its students. We would like to invite you to support these now or in the future and help students following in your footsteps to enjoy and take full advantage of the Aberdeen experience.

For more information, please visit abdn.ac.uk/giving





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