Rules governing the wearing of academic dress by undergraduate members of the University

1. Full academic dress shall consist of a black stuff gown of the approved pattern, worn with a dark suit and black shoes, for men, or a dark skirt with a white shirt blouse and black shoes, for women; women may also wear a dark coat and may wear a soft square cap of black cloth.

2. Full academic dress shall be worn on all ceremonial occasions.

3. Students shall wear a black stuff gown of the approved pattern:

   (a) In Halls of Residence, if so required by the regulations of the Hall;
   (b) If so instructed, at oral examinations and when called for interview by an officer of the University.

4. Graduate students are expected to conform to the above rules governing the undergraduate members of the University so far as they are applicable.

Rules governing the wearing of academic dress by graduate members of the University for ceremonial occasions

1. Bachelors shall wear a black stuff gown of the Cambridge B.A. pattern. The gown of Bachelors of Medicine may be of stuff or of silk.

2. Master’s (including MSci and MEng) shall wear a black stuff or silk gown of the Oxford MA pattern, save that the sleeves shall be ended with rounded corners, and a slight concavity in the lower border without any nick in the side.

3. Doctors of Philosophy, Doctors of Education and Doctors of Medicine in undress shall wear a black silk gown of the same shape as that prescribed for Master’s.

4. Doctors of Philosophy, Doctors of Education and Doctors of Medicine in full dress shall wear a scarlet cloth gown of the Oxford M.D. shape. The facing of the gown, to a width of three inches and a half, shall be in the colour proper to the degree as hereinafter prescribed. In the sleeves the cloth shall show only for six or eight inches from the point of the shoulder downwards, the remainder of the sleeves being finished in or trimmed with silk of the colour proper to the degree.

5. Doctors in particular faculties in undress shall wear a black silk gown of the same shape as that prescribed for Masters, but with the distinction of a triangular area of scroll work in black braid above each armhole.

6. Doctors in particular faculties in full dress shall wear a scarlet cloth gown of the Oxford M.D. shape, save that the sleeves shall be entirely of cloth. The facing of the gown, to a width of three inches and a half, shall be in the colour proper to the degree as hereinafter prescribed.

7. Graduates shall wear academic caps as follows:

   (a) Graduates shall wear square academic caps of the customary ‘mortar-board’ pattern; the caps of Masters and Bachelors being covered with black cloth and the caps of Doctors with black velvet; the tassels in all cases being of black silk.
(b) Doctors other than Doctors of Philosophy, Doctors of Education and Doctors of Medicine when in full dress may wear a Doctor’s bonnet of the Cambridge pattern, viz.: a flat broad-brimmed bonnet of black velvet with a narrow cord of gold at the junction of the crown and the brim.

8. Graduates shall wear hoods of the Cambridge pattern. The hoods of Bachelors shall be of stuff or silk; those of Masters and Doctors of silk. Hoods shall in all cases be of a registered colour; which colour shall be called University red.

9. Bachelors’ hoods shall be lined as far as the visible parts are concerned with silk of a lighter shade of University red.

10. The hoods of Bachelors of Medicine and Surgery shall be lined throughout with the said lighter shade of University red, and the lining shall be bound at the edge with white silk to the depth of three-quarters of an inch.

11. The hoods of Bachelors of Law shall be lined throughout with the said lighter shade of University red and the lining shall be bound at the edge with violet silk to the depth of three-quarters of an inch.

12. The hoods of Bachelors of Music shall be lined throughout with lavender silk. The hood shall be bound at the edge with lavender silk to the depth of three-quarters of an inch.

13. Masters’ hoods shall be lined throughout with white silk.

14. The hoods of Doctors of Philosophy, Doctors of Dental Surgery, Doctors of Education, Doctors of Education Psychology, Engineering Doctorates, Doctors of Medicine and Doctors of Social Science shall be lined throughout with dark violet silk, the same being used for the facing and sleeves of the full dress gown of the degree.

15. The hoods of Higher Doctorates shall be lined throughout with salmon-coloured silk, the same being used for the full dress gown of the degree.

OFFICIAL COSTUME

1. The Chancellor’s robe shall be of black-figured satin of the pattern and with the gold ornaments customary in Chancellors’ robes.

2. A Pro-Chancellor shall wear a black silk gown of the same pattern as the undress Doctor’s gown, but with the ornaments above the sleeves and the loop and button at the back worked in gold instead of black silk.

3. The Treasurer shall wear a similar gown with a further distinction in gold on the upper part of the facing.

4. The Vice-Chancellor shall wear a full-sleeved gown of black figured satin, with the sleeves lined in University red, parted in front and looped with two loops of gold braid on each side.
5. A Pro Vice-Chancellor shall wear a gown of the same shape as the Vice-Chancellor’s, but of black corded silk, looped and buttoned in gold similarly to the Vice-Chancellor’s.

6. The Registrar shall wear a gown of black corded silk of the pattern of the Masters’ gown, but braided on the facings and over the armholes.

7. The above officers shall wear academic caps of the customary pattern covered with black velvet; the Chancellor’s cap being distinguished, according to custom, by a gold tassel and gold braid binding, and the Vice-Chancellor’s by gold braid binding.

ROBE-MAKERS TO THE UNIVERSITY

(By appointment)
Messrs. Ede and Ravenscroft Ltd., 93 and 94 Chancery Lane, London, WC2A 1DU.