ACADEMIC ATTIRE

The colorful attire worn by graduates, faculty, trustees and officers of the University has historic roots in the distant medieval past. Dressed in cap and gown, the graduates and their professors are part of a long tradition that dates back to Paris and Bologna, Italy, to Oxford and Cambridge, England, in the days of their Catholic glory.

The exact origins of several parts of the academic garb are a bit of a mystery. Because medieval students enjoyed the status of cleric during their university years, one might guess that their attire found its inspiration in the clerical dress of medieval times. The gown seems to be an adaptation of the robe of friar or priest; the hood, of the monk’s or friar’s cowl; and the mortarboard cap of today recalls the skullcap of days when tonsured heads needed protection against the drafts of medieval classrooms.

Academic attire began to appear on U.S. campuses in the late 1890s. Since that time, its use has become universal for solemn university functions, and its pattern is highly uniform.

THE GOWNS

The gowns are three in number and styling. That of the bachelor is a yoked, closed-front garment with long pointed sleeves; that of the master has sleeves long and closed but slit just above the elbow to allow the forearms to protrude; the gown of the doctor has full, bell-shaped sleeves. Only the doctor’s gown is trimmed — with velvet panels down the front and three velvet bars on each sleeve.

THE HOOD

The hood at first seems to have been worn over the head and attached to the gown. When the skullcap was introduced, the hood was retained but detached and worn much as it is today. Each degree (bachelor’s, master’s, doctoral) has its special hood, which varies in length and, for the doctor, also in pattern. The color or colors lining the hood are those of the college or university that granted the wearer’s degree. For example, Saint Louis University is known by blue chevron on a field of white. The colored velvet binding or edging of the hood, in different widths for bachelor, master and doctor, is determined by the field of study.

THE CAP

The cap, or mortarboard, has become the universally accepted style for colleges and universities in the United States. Many European institutions still retain distinctive forms of academic headdress.

THE TASSEL

The tassel is perhaps the most iconic souvenir of academic attire. The doctor, following graduation, has the right to wear a gold tassel on the mortarboard; black, however, is perfectly proper and perhaps more common. A tolerated practice of varying the color of the tassel on the others has gained acceptance: arts, white; science, gold-yellow; philosophy, dark blue; education, light blue; business, drab; nursing, apricot; technology and engineering, orange; hospital administration, salmon; public administration, peacock blue; social work, citron; law, purple; medicine, green; theology, scarlet; and allied health professions, mint green.
Gilsinan, who served as the first Dean of the College of Public Service from 1998 to 2006. This year’s recipients are:

Ella Dotson
Elise Palmquist

J.J. O’BRIEN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT
Dr. John J. “J.J.” O’Brien taught for 46 years at Saint Louis University. He was a professor of education and American studies when he retired in 1993. After his retirement, he served as an adjunct instructor of education and director of the Graduate School’s teaching resource room. In 1967, he received the University’s Nancy McNeir Ring Award for outstanding teaching. In 1992, the University’s alumni center was named in his honor. He contributed many articles on education to magazines and professional journals. This year’s recipients are:

Sherdia Benguche
Regina Galassi

CARL A. HANGARTNER AWARD
The Carl A. Hangartner Award is given in memory of Carl A. Hangartner, S.J. whose career as a Saint Louis University Professor of Education was a tribute to the highest standards of scholarship and integrity. He is remembered for his wisdom and generosity, both as a teacher and a friend. His presence and his leadership in teacher education immeasurably enriched the lives of the people whom he touched. This undergraduate student award is based on scholarship, leadership and service, and is presented annually to graduating students who best exemplify the ideas for which he stood. This year’s recipients are:

Gwendolyn Cataldo
Colleen Hannegan

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2020 ALUMNI MERIT AWARD WINNER
Alice F. Roach, Ed.D. (Education Grad ’06)
Each year, Saint Louis University recognizes outstanding graduates of each school or college through the Alumni Merit Awards. The award is bestowed on alumni for notable achievements in their profession, community involvement, and dedication to a life that embodies the Saint Louis University mission.
### DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

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**MASTER OF ARTS IN CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

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Erin D. Polson  

Kristen M. Shipp
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Lindsay McDaniels
Christian I. Nunez
Kofi A. Oyirifi
Myles J. Urban

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TEACHING

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Anna M. Martin
Abbey C. Sarnowski
Heather S. Sasser
Stephanie S. Wissing
Charles T. Wood

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Bradley D. Griffith
Michelle McDaniel
Frederick W. Polkinghorne
Frederick W. Steele

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Faculty in the School of Education share a common mission of community outreach and service. Our faculty, students and staff are making a difference in communities throughout the St. Louis area. Working with schools, government agencies and local community groups, the school supports innovative teaching and learning through service to others.

School of Education Vision

Inspired by the Jesuit conviction that the world is good and human beings can make it a better place for all to live and grow, the School of Education educates, guides and transforms individuals and communities through its teaching, research and community engagement.
Congratulations Graduates!

The School of Education welcomes you as a new alumnus or alumna of Saint Louis University. We want to keep you informed about all the exciting events and opportunities happening on campus and in your program. Please join us on social media to stay connected to your peers.

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Facebook: facebook.com/SLUSOE

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Kathryn Mitchell Pierce, Ph.D.

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