



Commencement

September 18, 2020

SCHOOL OF **PUBLIC SERVICE LEADERSHIP**

COMMENCEMENT 2020



Welcome!

It's my distinct pleasure to welcome you to Capella University's virtual commencement ceremony. All of us at Capella—our board of trustees, faculty, and staff—are honored to celebrate with you and recognize the significant accomplishments of all our graduates.

This unique moment in time touches all of us. While we wish we could celebrate your achievement together, I want to recognize that our coming together, virtually, is historic and meaningful.

Your academic achievements, determination, and perseverance have brought you to this point. The diplomas and certificates earned recognize new achievement as well as new responsibilities—to your community, profession, family, and to yourself. You have the knowledge, skill, and professional countenance to make your part of the world a better place and to serve as a role model for those aspiring to attain what you have.

As a participant in commencement, you join more than 90,000 Capella graduates who have gone before you. Many more will follow. Your success is a beacon to us all, and this commencement underscores the dedication and drive you showed throughout your studies. We stand together, better prepared, more focused, more deeply committed to making a difference in the future we share as a community.

As you move forward with your life and career, the support of Capella University remains with you. I encourage you to stay close to Capella through our Alumni Association and let us know about your achievements.

To the loved ones of our graduates: You deserve special recognition. We appreciate the unique challenges that our learners face as well as the sacrifices required of those around them. Your support and encouragement helped make their success possible. On behalf of Capella's learners, faculty, and staff, I extend our sincere gratitude and admiration.

Graduates, I encourage you to savor this moment—it is one you will long remember and cherish. Take pride in your accomplishments. We are honored to celebrate with you.

Sincerely,



Richard Senese, PhD, LP
President, Capella University

Commencement Speaker | Wes Moore

Wes Moore is the CEO of Robin Hood, one of the largest antipoverty forces in the nation. He is a bestselling author, combat veteran, and social entrepreneur. Moore grew up in Baltimore and the Bronx, where he was raised by a single mother. He graduated Phi Theta Kappa from Valley Forge Military College in 1998 and Phi Beta Kappa from Johns Hopkins University in 2001. He earned an MLitt in International Relations from Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar in 2004. He then served as a captain and paratrooper with the US Army's 82nd Airborne, including a combat deployment to Afghanistan. He later served as a White House Fellow to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

Moore's first book, *The Other Wes Moore*, provided an analysis of American stories of success and failure. It became a perennial New York Times bestseller and has been optioned by executive producer Oprah Winfrey and HBO. He has authored other bestselling books, including *The Work*, *Discovering Wes Moore*, *This Way Home*, and, most recently, *Five Days*.

Before becoming Robin Hood's CEO, Moore was the founder and CEO of BridgeEdu, an innovative tech platform that addresses the college completion and job placement crisis by reinventing freshman year for underserved students. Moore has also worked in finance as an investment banker with Deutsche Bank in London and with Citigroup in New York. He has served on numerous nonprofit and social-impact boards and is a lifetime member of the Council of Foreign Relations.

Capella University Academic Administration

Richard Senese, PhD, LP

President

Constance St. Germain, EdD, JD

Provost

Barbara Butts Williams, PhD

Executive Dean

External Relations and Partnerships

Dean Emerita, School of Business
and Technology

Heather Welzant, PhD

Dean

School of Education

Melissa McIntyre, PhD

Associate Dean

School of Education

Josh Stanley, EdD, NCC, ACS

Dean

School of Counseling and Human Services

Todd Wilson, PhD

Dean

School of Business and Technology

Cheryl Boncuore, PhD

Associate Dean

School of Business and Technology

Jennifer Straub, PhD

Associate Dean

Division of Arts and Sciences

Elizabeth Riley, PhD

Dean

Harold Abel School of Psychology

Charlyn Hilliman, PhD

Dean

School of Public Service Leadership

Elizabeth (Betty) Nelson, PhD, RN

Dean

School of Nursing and Health Sciences

Bridget Roberts, PhD

Associate Dean

School of Nursing and Health Sciences

Ying Iverson, PhD

Assistant Provost

Academic and Faculty Affairs

Curtis Brant, PhD

Dean

Research and Scholarship

Kelly Brooks

Registrar

Christy Davidson, DNP, RNC-OB

Director

Academic Success

Genevieve Feliu, PhD

Vice President

Academic Initiatives

Kate Freeborn

Director

Academic Operations

Tom Sonnek

Director

University Operations & Analysis

Board of Trustees

Eric Jolly, PhD (Chair)

Mark Brown, MBA

Adrian Butler, DM

Rochelle Petermann, MS, LPC, CCMHC, NCC

Christopher King, PhD

Diane Dayson, PhD

Lori Riley, MBA

Diana Rodriguez, MBA, MEd

Richard Senese, PhD, LP

Steven Snyder, PhD

Todd Sorensen, JD (Board Secretary)

Dwaun Warmack, EdD

Harry Williams, PhD

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY 9:00 AM

Greeting Eric Jolly, PhD
Capella University Board of Trustees, Chair

The National Anthem Akilah Etienne

Welcome Richard Senese, PhD, LP
President, Capella University

Commencement Address Wes Moore

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees Charlyn Hilliman, PhD
Dean, School of Public Service Leadership

Conferral of Degrees Richard Senese, PhD, LP, President, and
Constance St. Germain, EdD, JD, Provost, Capella University

Ceremony Closing Richard Senese, PhD, LP, President, and
Capella University faculty and leadership

School of **Public Service Leadership**

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Jose Luis Bayanilla
Derwin Brewer
Kristy Brown
Belinda Hope Contreras
Tonya Cooper
Mario De Arcos
Johanna Faruq
Nina Figueroa
Evan Fischer
Katie Gleason
Aksheba Hudson
Kelsey Jochim
Lawrence Johnson
Porsche Shannel Jones
Jocelyn Anne Kabacinski
Donthaniel Keith

Kimberly Kimble
Eric Lanham
Rudolph Leake
Steven Liblick
Purnell Nichols
Angelica Sampson
Jessica Schumacher
Amber Smith
Terrence Spivey
Tommy Thompson
Daniel Turnof
David Vincent
India Whitaker
Richard Williamson
Adam K Wilson

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Daniel Anderson
Adriana Arredondo
Judith Arthur
Ashley Jo Ballweg
Lamanda Diana Beale
Linda Bentley
William Lee Bolden, Jr.
Jenise Brassell
Sharonda Marie Carson
Kaitlin Rae Chapman
Tamra Cobb
Shashonna Cole
Jennifer Copenhaver
Bradley Michael Davis
Jazmin Angelle DeRoche
Angela Dickey
Jeffrey Farmer
Roderick Flowers
Shaniece Franklin

Lacie Noel Harvey
Susan E Isham
Pamela J Jorden
Shawania Maria Marshall
Chimaine Cory Mcnealy
Andrew Irwin Melton
Todd Metcalf
Victoria J. Montanez
Mishon Danielle Montgomery
Brittany Radcliff Moyers
Janelle Nelson
Jill Christine Pelzel
Ernest Michel Pierre-Louis, Jr.
April Pinckney
John Mark Seymour
Andrea Anteria Sheard
Luis Shedrick
Ronica Lynneshia Sledge
Whitney Renea' Taylor

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION *continued*

Aaliyah Thompson
Anne Thompson
Tyrone Wilkerson

Kimberly Wilson
Emily Anne Wolf
Heather Ashlyn Wood

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Anne Marie Barland
Joseph Belardo
Denay Brown
ShRonda Lynn Carter
Chelsey Chapman
Nicole Rae Claycamp
Ashlynn Carol Day
Chasity Evans
Shannon Gildea
Amekka Johnson
Ruben W Moulton III
Teal O'Dell

Tyler John Osmanski
Julian Ospina Arroyave
Anna Pendrey
William Anthony Potter, Jr.
Adriana Reyes
Amber Rogers
Dawn Santamarina
Paula Lisabeth Speller
Dezanay Stewart
Tina M. Trinidad-Candela
Charlene Tsoodle-Marcus
Cindy y Vasquez Guzman

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Robert Elwood Altland
John K Bartz
Christopher Adam Block
Chad Hovde
Nicole Jodie Krokosz
Vladimir Lindor
Carli M Luppold

Joanna Miller
Megan A Pfefferkorn
Tylee Omar Tulsa
Erick Well
Tiffany Leann Wood
Jack Workman

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC SAFETY

Nicholas Clark-Rankin

Deonia Goldsborough

DOCTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Erick N Gracia - Galiano

Puerto Rico Certified Airport Hurricane Response Plan Effectiveness After Hurricane Maria

Mentor: Misti Kill

Anna Pelevina

Mobile Integrated Health High Frequency Utilizer Program Impact on Fire Rescue Readiness

Mentor: Mary Lannon

DOCTOR OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Dana Cunningham

Millennial African Americans' Views on Police: A Generic Qualitative Study

Mentor: Courtney Andrews

Tamara F Mitchell

A Qualitative Study: Stakeholder Opinions About Effectiveness

Mentor: Courtney Andrews

Richard W Helser, Jr.

Demographics and Performance: A Quantitative Evaluation on the Effectiveness of Job Readiness Training

Mentor: Debra Hurd

Richard Rietz

Education and Discipline: A Quantitative Study of Law Enforcement in Florida

Mentor: Robert Wright

Holly Diane Henderson

Plan, Do, Check, Act: Fostering Process Improvement in Young Adult Programs

Mentor: Courtney Andrews

Katherine M Sotnik

Direct Service Worker Perceptions: Describing Public Value From Work Experiences

Mentor: Courtney Andrews

Shakina T. Jones

Exploring the Training Needs of Youth Development Workers in Children's Residential Settings

Mentor: Thomas Poulin

Kimberly Steide

Antecedents and Contributors to Organizational Performance, the Role of Employee Engagement

Mentor: Karen Versuk

Russell James McCray

Administrative Ethical Procedures and Practices in Social Services: Customer Service Satisfaction Impact

Mentor: Bonnie Yeager

Michae Wiley

Gun Violence Among Youth: A Program Evaluation of Training Procedures for a Youth Mentoring Program

Mentor: Courtney Andrews

Sonia Yvette Mercado

Community-Based Participatory Action for School Readiness Program Enhancement: An Exploratory Case Study

Mentor: Kennedy Maranga

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PUBLIC SAFETY

Christopher J Barber

Negative Media Portrayals of Officers and Their Potential to Influence Rural Officer Behavior

Mentor: Rebecca Paynich

Miguel Bautista, Jr.

Emergency Responders' Perceptions of Environmental Health Hazards and Personal Protection in Responses

Mentor: Mary Lannon

Stan Brandon

Exploring the Lived Experiences of Probation Officers' Efforts to Reduce Recidivism

Mentor: Pete Conis

Paula Ruth Brennan

Female Correction Officers' Perception of Stress: A Qualitative Study

Mentor: Rebecca Paynich

Djuna Burks

Casa Leaders Perception of Leadership Style Effectiveness While Working With Volunteers

Mentor: Harold Cohen

Vanessa Cospes

Perceptions of Law Enforcement Officers With a Criminal Justice Degree Regarding Mentoring

Mentor: Ronnie Wallace

Elliot Scott Davis

A Qualitative Study of How Body Armor Impacts Risk-Taking of Prehospital Providers

Mentor: Michael OConnor

Katina Heckard

A Qualitative Examination of Probation Officers' Perception of Female Offenders' Reentry Challenges

Mentor: Ronnie Wallace

John W Johnson

Quantitative Analysis of Social Support and Correctional Leaders' Perception of the Job

Mentor: Michael Brown

Allen Seiyefa Kigigha

An Examination of the Impact Social Media Has on Disaster Communication

Mentor: Misti Kill

Leah Ghee Littlefield

Perceptions of Higher Education Importance in Emergency Manager Preparedness, Readiness, and Effectiveness

Mentor: Bonnie Yeager

Andrew R. Magee

Law Enforcement Perceptions of NIMS Training in Preparation for Local Natural Incidents

Mentor: Scott Kerwood

Fernando Patrice McMillan

Skid Row 2000-2015: Gentrification in Relation to Aggravated Assault and Robbery

Mentor: Stephen Verrill

Scott Melligan

Hurricanes Floyd and Matthew: The Lived Experiences of Small Business Owners

Mentor: Misti Kill

Angela Denise Richardson

Examining Leadership and Emotional Intelligence of Police Leaders in Rural Policing Agencies

Mentor: Nathan Moran

Frieda Elena Sanders

Emergency Responder Preparedness Perceptions Concerning Hazmat Releases in the South Atlantic Region

Mentor: Thomas Poulin

Jonelyn Andrea Whales

Emergency Managers' Perception of Terrorism and its Influence on Preparedness

Mentor: Michael Brown

Liza Marie Vaughan

Aspects of Disaster Risk Reduction and Hazard Mitigation Planning in Emergency Management

Mentor: Harold Cohen

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

Heather Adams
Rebecca Luann Anderson
Jacquelyn Barney
Karisha Biggers
Diana Blandon
Caronda Bond
Arsheika Lakeyia Booker
Angelia D Bowles
Roderick Eugene Brown, Jr.
Jennifer Brownfield
Sara M Bundy
Alexis Candelaria
Laquetta Clark
Latasha M Colbert
Ashley Nicole Collins
Zachariah A Creekmore
Ulrike Dabney
Emann Davis
Samantha DeJesus
Jocelyn Marie Farrar
Allie Dawn Fetty
Linda G Gardepe
Robert George
Kayla Green
Sharon Green
Jennipha Gregory
Shannon Hance
Kelsey Harfert
Sashagaye Monisha Higgins

Julia Holly
Corina Hopkins
Christina Louise Hull
Elisha Jackson
Alysia C Jacobs
Kara Caprie Johnson
Jennifer Jolliffe
Kenya Tarnice Jones
L'Shanna Klein
Melissa Ann Koster
Nikki Nefertiti Longshore
Mercy Luguterah
Christie Malitz
Benjamin Medina-Atkinson
Shannon Jean Meyers
Chelsea Mikesell
Samantha Jo Murphy
Keisha Monik Owten
Tia Perez
Nara Pezolano
Mia Piper
Jerri Morine Prescott
Perla Ivette Quintanilla
Angela Marie Reid
Melissa Sara Resnick-Erik
Erica Richardson
Deanna Ruocco
Keniesha Russell
Linda Simon

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK *continued*

Rebecca Linda Sotero
Taylor Stacy
Jamie Ann Stein
Kendra Sutherland
Dakota Brittany Torres
Emily Grace Underwood

Kalie Marie Van Kirk
Katrina Denise Walton
Madison Wilkerson
J-Ada Maria Wyatt
Lisa Lanelle Wyly

DOCTOR OF SOCIAL WORK

Uzochi Achinefu

Living With a Child With Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD): Caregivers' and Clinicians' Insights

Mentor: Ruth Ahlman

Kimberly Sue Bayes-Bautista

Moral Injury Study With Post 9/11 Former Enlisted Veterans Diagnosed With PTSD

Mentor: Robin Ersing

Lindsey Renee Bernier

The Exploration of Services for Veterans in a Local Community

Mentor: Kelley Reinsmith-Jones

Teneeshia Boyd

Examining the Perceptions of Supported Employment for Individuals With Disabilities

Mentor: Nancy Sidell

Christine Maria Brown

Addressing High Truancy Rates in an Urban School: An Action Research Study

Mentor: Nancy Sidell

Awilda Colon

Intimate Partner Violence Among Caribbean, Spanish-Speaking Latina Survivors: Social Workers' Experiences

Mentor: Annette Anderson-Engler

Lauren Debose

Exploring Stakeholders' Experiences in a Student Assistance Program to Reduce Interpersonal Violence

Mentor: Andrew Quinn

Sartreina M. Dottin

Making Faith-Based Mental Health Services More Visible and Accessible Through Action Research

Mentor: Sara Frederick-Holton

Amber Jolene Getsay

Skills Needed by First Responders Who Encounter People With Autism Spectrum Disorders

Mentor: Ruth Ahlman

Ashley Glover

Stakeholders' Perceptions of a Mentorship Program: Appreciative Inquiry

Mentor: Annette Anderson-Engler

Robin Dee Gredinger

Assessing How Utilization of Systems Can Decrease Truancy: A Participatory Action Research Study

Mentor: Rena Palloff

Chetara D. Hampton

Barriers to Services for Depressed African American Women in the Mississippi Delta

Mentor: Brian Roland

Stacy Hankey

Parents' and Educators' Ideas About Improving Elementary Students Attendance via Collaboration

Mentor: Nancy Sidell

Terese Hayes

Engaging Men in Clinical Social Work Mental Health Services: A Case Study

Mentor: Thomas McLaughlin

Tamiko Hill

Impact of Mentoring on Behaviors Among Black Youth

Mentor: Dorothy Farrel

Jacquelyn Rebekah James

Social Worker Perspectives on the Nonadherent Aging Dialysis Patient

Mentor: Kelley Reinsmith-Jones

Robert Jesiolowski

Global Grassroots: Developing Service Learning Curriculum for Online BSW Higher Education Programs

Mentor: Thomas McLaughlin

Kwanita Johnson

Appreciative Inquiry Action Research: Improving Trauma-Focused Training in Urban Schools

Mentor: Elisa Kawam

Makeesa Johnson

Addressing Unmet Needs of Female Caregivers of Older Adults: Action Research Study

Mentor: Rena Palloff

Treniece Jones Morrise

School Social Work-Teacher Collaboration to Ensure Inclusive Education for EBD Students

Mentor: Amy Cappiccio

Naomie S. Joseph-Micliz

Licensed Clinical Social Workers: Examining Change in Knowledge and Value of Mental Health Stigma

Mentor: Louise Quijano

Kelly Marie Kessel

Barriers to Domestic Violence Disclosure in the Emergency Department: Action Research

Mentor: Robin Ersing

Melissa Landram

Increasing Hospital Nurse's Confidence and Ability in Appropriately Assessing for Suicide

Mentor: Thomas McLaughlin

Charles Livingston

Building an Awareness of Elderspeak in Nursing Home Staff: An Appreciative Inquiry

Mentor: Thomas McLaughlin

Kathryn Lynch

Measuring the Effectiveness of Workforce Development Programs for Survivors of Domestic Violence

Mentor: Thomas McLaughlin

Veronica Molina

Exploring the Value of Onsite Wellness Programming for Child Welfare Workers

Mentor: Lynn Hackstaff

Joel Onyekachi Nwoke

Subsaharan African Immigrants and Intimate Partner Violence: Development of an Effective Educational Program

Mentor: Tobi DeLong Hamilton

Rudo Tatenda Blessmore

Nyamapfumba

Understanding How Spirituality Impacts African Americans' Perceptions of Hospice: Appreciative Inquiry
Mentor: Ruth Ahlman

Deborah Perkins

Gender-Specific Services for Women Released From Prison: An Appreciative Inquiry
Mentor: Tobi DeLong Hamilton

Shannah C Pinkston

Staff Perception of Needs for Dialysis Clients: A Participatory Action Research Project
Mentor: Ruth Ahlman

Kathy Lynn Quick

Building a Multilayer Caregiver Support System Using an Action Research Approach
Mentor: Ruth Ahlman

Dore Silvey

Fundraising for Non-Profit Organizations With Settings in Low-Income Communities
Mentor: Nancy Sidell

Karnesha Lasharon Smith

The Impact of Media on African American Adolescent Mental Health and Behavior
Mentor: Dorothy Farrel

LaQuetta Solomon

Participatory Action Research Improving African American Pastor's Practices Related to Congregant's Distress
Mentor: Dorothy Farrel

Eileen Therese Tehan

An Action Research Study to Understand Homelessness in a Rural United States County
Mentor: Kay Carter

Ginger Lynette Tillman

Engaging Stakeholders: Promoting and Supporting Early Childhood Education for Children With Disabilities
Mentor: Ruth Ahlman

Venita Ann Torres-DeLeon

Intergenerational Disconnect of Parental Bonding: Boarding School Experience of Northwest Native Americans
Mentor: Ruth Ahlman

Kimberley Bret von Baeyer

Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing (EMDR) as a Treatment for Chronic Pain
Mentor: Dorothy Farrel

Joe Nathan Walker

Evaluating the Effectiveness of Sexual Harassment/Assault Training on a Joint Military Installation
Mentor: Kelley Reinsmith-Jones

Amanda Elizabeth Westfall

Recidivism: An Action Research Study of Social Workers' and Defense Attorneys' Perspectives
Mentor: Brian Roland

Lauren Seguin Zwirn

Facilitating Resilience in Social Workers: An Action Research Approach
Mentor: Dorothy Farrel

Commencement Programs

This program is not an official graduation list. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy in this commencement program, printing deadlines sometimes prevent inclusion of candidates' names or may contain the names of persons who have not yet completed their graduation requirements. Graduates are listed once for each degree and/or certificate they have earned. Therefore, multiple listing of an individual indicates they have earned more than one academic credential. Degrees and honors will be awarded only upon successful completion of all requirements. This printed program, therefore, should not be used to determine a student's academic or degree status. The University's official registry for conferral of degrees is the student's academic record, maintained by the Registrar's Office, 225 South 6th Street, 9th Floor, Minneapolis, MN 55402.

Alumni Association and Career Services

Congratulations on your graduation from Capella University.

Today marks an incredible achievement, but it's only the beginning. The Capella University Alumni Association offers resources to help you keep moving forward. Whether you're looking for professional development opportunities, career services, or ways to continue your academic research and growth, you can turn to us for support in this next stage of your journey. Visit us on Alumni Campus (capella.edu/welcomealumni) for help in creating and implementing a strategy to achieve your unique career goals.

We wish you the best in all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,
Alumni Association and Career Services

The Capella University Mace Origin and Use

At commencement, a mace symbolizes the authority of the Capella University president to award degrees. The mace precedes the president and chancel party in the ceremonial procession. Capella University's mace has been in use since 2000. The head of the mace is a copper representation of the globe, topped by the Capella University emblem and motto. The globe is supported by a carved wooden shaft, is nearly three feet in length, and weighs four pounds.

In medieval times, the mace was a fighting weapon effective at penetrating armor in battle. Composed of a shaft adorned with a heavy head studded with blades, the mace came to be associated with the protection of the sovereign rulers of England and France and was carried by the king's serjeant-at-arms and other royal bodyguards. As long-range weapons were developed, such as the long bow and the musket, the mace became a ceremonial object.

In the 13th century, the mace was featured in processions of city mayors and other dignitaries, and academic institutions began to use the mace in the pageantry of ceremonial occasions. Today, the British House of Commons and the U.S. House of Representatives have official maces as do most universities and colleges in the United States and abroad.



Academic Regalia Origin and Use

The academic regalia worn today originated in the Middle Ages. The distinctive gown served to set the faculty and students apart from other citizens. Until after the Civil War, students at most American universities wore caps and gowns daily. They varied in design until they were standardized by the American Intercollegiate Commission in 1894. Bachelor's gowns were to be made of worsted material with pointed sleeves; master's gowns of silk with long, closed sleeves; and doctor's gowns of silk with longer sleeves, faced with black velvet from neck to back, and with three velvet bands around each sleeve above the elbow. Hoods are made of the same materials as the gowns, the length varying with the degree. The lining of the hood identifies the highest degree-granting university by its colors. Capella University's regalia colors are red and black.

The border of the hood indicates the academic disciplines in which the degree is earned:

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD—all disciplines)

Royal blue Philosophy

PROFESSIONAL DOCTORATE, MASTER'S, BACHELOR'S DEGREES, AND CERTIFICATES

Drab	Business
Lemon yellow	Technology
Light blue	Education and Counseling
Peacock blue	Public Service Leadership and Human Services
Apricot	Nursing
Salmon pink	Health
Gold	Psychology
Citron	Social Work

Academic Honors

Many of our graduates are wearing colored cords to signify that they are honors recipients. They have earned this distinction by maintaining a high grade point average and by completing other requirements for university honors.

Baccalaureate degrees with honors are conferred upon students who have earned the following grade point averages:

- *summa cum laude*, 3.850–4.000 GPA (gold cord)
- *magna cum laude*, 3.750–3.849 GPA (silver cord)
- *cum laude*, 3.500–3.749 GPA (cardinal cord)

Master's degrees with honors are conferred upon students who have earned a grade point average of 3.850 or higher. These graduates are wearing a bronze and gold double cord.

FlexPath

Although they do not wear honors cords, our FlexPath graduates should be commended on their outstanding achievement. Capella's Academic Recognition Policy is founded solely upon achievements in grade point average, which is factored with an A-F grading system and a course's credit value. Because FlexPath is competency based, direct assessment, and self-paced, it has neither A-F grading nor fixed terms (which standardizes academic credit). So even though FlexPath requires strong academic performance, learners in this delivery model are not eligible for formal academic recognition.

Military Honors

In recognition of their service to our country, active-duty and veteran military-affiliated graduates may wear a red, white, and blue military cord with their regalia. This cord was created by Jostens and was introduced for the first time at Capella's Winter 2016 commencement ceremonies.

Please join us in thanking these graduates and their families for their service and sacrifice.

Alpha Phi Sigma

Congratulations to the honor society members of Alpha Phi Sigma! Your dedicated pursuit and successful attainment of your respective degrees will allow you to make a difference in your communities as future practitioners, educators, researchers, and leaders. Alpha Phi Sigma Honor Society distinguishes undergraduate and graduate students for academic excellence in the criminal justice field. The goals of Alpha Phi Sigma are to honor and promote academic excellence, community service, educational leadership, and unity. On behalf of the Alpha Phi Sigma, we applaud you for reaching this important milestone!

Epsilon Pi Phi

Congratulations to the honor society members of Epsilon Pi Phi! Today, we recognize the accomplishments of the undergraduate, graduate and doctorate honor society members of Epsilon Pi Phi of Capella University, School of Public Service Leadership. Epsilon Pi Phi Honor Society distinguishes undergraduate and graduate students for academic excellence in the field of emergency management, homeland security, disaster research and science, criminal justice, and continuity management disciplines. On behalf of the Epsilon Pi Phi, we applaud you for reaching this important milestone.

About Capella University

Capella University offers undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs in the fields of business, counseling, education, human services, information technology, nursing, psychology, public administration, public health, public safety, and social work, with 47 degrees programs and 123 specializations. Capella University was founded in 1993, and today serves more than 39,000 learners in all 50 states and 49 countries or territories.

Capella University is named for the twin star Capella, which is a pair of stars orbiting a common center. The name represents our philosophy of learning as a dynamic and collegial partnership between Capella and our learners.

Our Mission

The mission of Capella University is to extend access to high-quality bachelor's, master's, specialist, doctoral, and certificate programs for adults who seek to achieve their personal and professional potential. This mission is fulfilled through innovative programs that are responsive to the needs of adults and involve active, engaging, challenging, relevant learning experiences.

Educational Philosophy

At Capella University, we believe education transforms people's lives and society—immediately and permanently. The innovative, intentionally designed competency-based education we offer enables adult learners to meet challenges in their careers, lead and make new contributions in their disciplines, and reach their professional and personal goals. Our educational pathways respect existing expertise and allow learners to focus on what is essential, as they gain new competencies and expand on those they already have. The credentials they earn are signs of the professional relevancy, quality, and immediate applicability of their educational experience at Capella University and help to create new opportunities in the future. As partners in their education, we proudly serve the lifelong learning ambitions that allow our learners, alumni, their many communities, and our broader society to thrive.

Accreditation

Capella University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Higher Learning Commission contact information: <https://www.hlcommission.org>, 800.621.7440

Capella University

Capella Tower 225 South Sixth Street, Ninth floor
Minneapolis, MN 55402

