Finalists’ Degree Day
11.00 am Saturday, 26 September 2020

Registration
All graduands are required to register in College from 8.45 am but no later than 9.30 am. Registration will take place in the Chapel when all guest tickets to the degree ceremony will be distributed.

Timings
At 9.45 am there will be a short address by the Master, Judith Buchanan in the Chapel followed by a briefing given by the Dean of Degrees, Dr Huw Dorkins. Guests usually attend also. At approximately 10.20 am Graduands will leave in procession for the Sheldonian for the ceremony which starts at 11.00 am, with guests following. The ceremony lasts about 1.5 hours.

Guest tickets
Each graduand is allocated TWO guest tickets for the actual degree ceremony in the Sheldonian. It is not possible for the college to apply for extra guest tickets. If you need extra guest tickets to the ceremony please ask amongst your peers as not everyone uses their full allocation and these tickets are transferable. Sometimes spare tickets become available on the day so do please ask at registration if there are any spares. We will be livestreaming the ceremony in college for guests who do not have a ticket for the ceremony in the Sheldonian (further details below).

Degree Day Lunch
Following the ceremony, a buffet lunch (including wine) will be served at St Peter’s in the Chapel and in a marquee on Linton quad from 12.45 pm – 2.30 pm. Lunch is an informal affair for which there is no seating plan. There is a charge of £29.15 (2020 price not yet confirmed) for each lunch guest but no charge for the graduand. Each graduand may book up to a maximum of THREE lunch guests. We are unable to accommodate extra guests due to space restrictions in College.

Dress
At the ceremony candidates should wear the appropriate gown, a mortar board or soft-cap, and your preferred sub fusc from the following list:

- One of:
  a) Dark suit with dark socks, or
  b) Dark skirt with black tights or stockings, or
  c) Dark trousers with dark socks

- Dark Coat if required
- Black Shoes
- Plain white collared shirt or blouse
- White bow tie, black bow tie, black full-length tie, or black ribbon.

*Flesh coloured tights or stockings are not permissible. They must be black.

The Vice-Chancellor has asked that candidates should be warned that they may be refused admission to the degree ceremony if they are not properly dressed.

Gown Hire
Graduands should arrange in advance of the ceremony to hire the gown and hood of the degree which is to be conferred and bring these with them to the College. Gowns can be hired from the following suppliers:

Shepherd and Woodward 01865 249491; www.shepherdandwoodward.co.uk  
Varsity Shop 01865 244000; www.varstyshop.co.uk/gown-rental.html  
Walters of Oxford 01865 241848; www.walters-oxford.co.uk/academic-gowns.html

With the exception of those being awarded a DPhil, candidates should wear the gown of the degree to be received, and will don the hood of the new degree during the ceremony.

Those being awarded a DPhil should wear the gown of their previous degree. During the ceremony they will leave the Sheldonian and change into the gown and hood of their new status, which they should arrange to be hired (or bought) in advance.

Photos
Official photographers will be based inside the Sheldonian quadrangle immediately after the ceremony. Gillman and Soame, the University’s official photographers, will also be in College from 12.30 pm for individual and family photographs. There is no need to pre-book.

Ceremony Livestreaming
The ceremony will be livestreamed at St Peter’s for guests who do not have a ticket for the Sheldonian. Seating will be on a first come first serve basis on the day and subject to capacity. Seats cannot be booked. For further information about the Oxford University livestreaming service please follow this link: Livestreaming of Degree Ceremony.

The streams will not be published so cannot be viewed after the event. However, a DVD will be available to purchase after the event.

Disabled access at the Sheldonian Theatre
Guests in wheelchairs will be directed by the Security staff on the gate to the South doors facing the Divinity School, where there is a ramp. They are able to find space on the ground floor for guests seated in wheelchairs. There is usually also a small number of seats on that floor for guests who have difficulty with the stairs. There is no need to make advance reservations.

Degree Certificates
These will be available to collect from the Porters’ Lodge, directly after the ceremony.

Further information / FAQs
For further information about the ceremony and frequently asked questions please go to Degree ceremonies | University of Oxford

If you have booked a place on finalists’ degree day via Student Self Service please remember to check your junk/spam email folder for mailings sent from degreeceremonies@spc.ox.ac.uk as these contain important information about your degree day. Please add this email address to your list of preferred contacts.

For further enquiries regarding degree day arrangements please contact Catherine Shortis (catherine.shortis@spc.ox.ac.uk or +44 (0)1865 278941)