

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT



JANUARY FOURTEENTH, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

2025

WEST LONG BRANCH, NEW JERSEY



Founded in 1933, Monmouth is a private, mid-sized, comprehensive university with a broad commitment to the liberal arts. Monmouth University offers 33 bachelor's, 24 master's, and four doctoral degree programs.

Students benefit from a rigorous academic experience, small classes, and professors who meet the highest standards for scholarship and teaching. Our students participate in more than 120 active clubs and organizations, including 15 fraternities and sororities, seven media organizations, and an NCAA Division I athletics program fielding 24 teams.

Monmouth's beautiful 170-acre coastal campus, close to New York City and Philadelphia, includes a blend of historic landmarks and state-of-the-art facilities.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Christopher D. Maher, *Chair*
Leslie N. Hitchner, *Vice Chair*
Tasha A. Youngblood Brown '97, '03M, *Vice Chair*
Stephen E. Gerard '89M, *Treasurer*
Dean Q. Lin, FACHE, *Secretary*

Miles J. Austin III '19
Michael V. Benedetto, Esq. '90
John A. Brockriede Jr. '07, '10M
John C. Conover III
Karyn F. Cusanelli '89
Mary Vaden Eisenstadt
Jeremy Grunin
Kanesha K. Jones '03

Raymond G. Klose '77
George Kolber
Mari C. Kovach '82, '86M
Patrick F. Leahy, Ed.D. (*Ex officio*)
Nancy A. Leidersdorff '97
Alaina L. Love '79
Lisa McKean
Thomas J. Michelli

Valerie Montecalvo
Tavit O. Najarian, Sc.D.
Bayaan A. Oluyadi Sr. '13 (*Ex officio*)
David A. Reale '96
Rocio F. Serey '16
Christopher W. Shaw
Mark J. Skesavage '11M
Carol A. Stillwell

LIFE TRUSTEES

Marianne C. Hesse

Harold L. Hodes '65

William B. Roberts

TRUSTEES EMERITI

Stanley S. Bey '59
Thomas D. Byer '67
Alan E. Davis, Esq.
Judith Ann Eisenberg
Alfred L. Ferguson, Esq. '13HN

Frederick J. Kaeli, Jr. '61
Henry D. Mercer, III '87, '17HN
Stephen M. Parks '68, '07HN
Charles T. Parton '01HN
Jeana M. Piscatelli '01, '02M

Michael A. Plodwick '82
Thomas A. Porskievies '82, '86M
Steven J. Pozyccki '73
Robert B. Sculthorpe '63, '15HN

CLASS OF 2025 OFFICERS

Tiffany Duffy, *President*
Isabella D'Anna, *Vice President*
Jordanna Ciaravino, *Secretary*
Jenna DeNicolo, *Treasurer*

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION 2025 OFFICERS

Tanner Purdy, *President*
Eliana Duarte, *Vice President*
Sherly Gonzalez, *Director of Finance*
Aidan Murray, *Director of University Affairs*

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT

January 14, 2025

**Richard Veit, Ph.D., RPA, Provost and Senior Vice
President for Academic Affairs, Presiding**

PROCESSIONAL.....*Pomp and Circumstance*, Sir Edward Elgar

NATIONAL ANTHEM.....Antonia Patricia Bongiorno
Monmouth University Chamber Choir

PROVOST'S WELCOME..... Richard Veit, Ph.D.

GREETINGS FROM
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES..... Christopher D. Maher
Chair, Monmouth University Board of Trustees

GREETINGS FROM FACULTY.....John Comiskey, Ed.D.
*Associate Professor, Dept. of Criminal Justice
& Vice Chair, Faculty Council*

GREETINGS TO
THE CLASS OF 2025..... Michaela T. Foley '24

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES.....Patrick F. Leahy, Ed.D.
President

PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL DEGREES

School of Education

Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies

PRESENTATION OF DEGREES IN COURSE

Wayne D. McMurray School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Leon Hess Business School

School of Education

Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies

School of Science

School of Social Work

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS.....Patrick F. Leahy, Ed.D.
President

ALMA MATER.....Antonia Patricia Bongiorno
Monmouth University Chamber Choir

RECESSIONAL..... *Trumpet Voluntary*, Henry Purcell

All commencement participants and guests are requested to remain in their seats
until all of the ceremony participants process out.

DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD 2024 RECIPIENT

Professor Chiu-Yin (Cathy) Wong

Associate Professor, School of Education

Professor Chiu-Yin (Cathy) Wong 黃超賢 earned her Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis on Second Language Education from Texas Tech University. After graduation, she joined the faculty of Monmouth University as an assistant professor in the Department of Curriculum in 2011 and was promoted to associate professor in 2017. Originally from Hong Kong, she is a multilingual speaker of Cantonese, English, and Mandarin.

Her extensive teaching experiences in Hong Kong, South Korea, Hawaii, and Texas not only enable her to enrich her classes with authentic stories but also integrate a wide range of cultural perspectives into her teaching, helping her students connect theoretical knowledge with real-world applications.

Professor Wong's aspiration to become a teacher began at the age of four. This early passion for teaching evolved into a commitment to make a significant impact on education. By focusing on training future teachers, she aims to amplify her influence, knowing that each teacher she educates can positively affect many more students.

Professor Wong has a true passion for teaching and is committed to creating a co-learning environment where the lived experiences of all students are valued. Her students often praise her as a talented instructor whose courses are well-organized and rich with content and learning opportunities.

Currently, Professor Wong's research focuses on pedagogical translanguaging in ESL and Chinese immersion settings. She was recently honored with the Research Output Award from the University of Hong Kong for her pioneering study titled "Empowering Students Through the Construction of a Translanguaging Space in an English as a First Language Classroom." Professor Wong is dedicated to normalizing multilingualism in education, a goal she diligently pursues through collaborations with fellow scholars and educators. Her scholarly articles have been featured in top-tier journals such as Applied Linguistics, ELT Journal, System, Language and Education, and the International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism.

Professor Wong resides in Monroe Township with her husband David Tsang, and is the proud mother of two children, Cynthia (6th grade) and Derek (3rd grade).



Message to the Graduating Class of 2025 from Chiu-Yin (Cathy) Wong

Dear Graduating Class of 2025,

Congratulations on reaching this incredible milestone in your lives! Your hard work, dedication, and perseverance have brought you to this momentous occasion, and it is truly a cause for celebration. As you prepare to embark on the next chapter of your journey, take a moment to reflect on the memories and experiences that have shaped your time at Monmouth University. From late-night study sessions to the friendships you've made, each moment has contributed to your growth and success.

Carry these cherished memories with you as you move forward and let them guide your future. Remember the friendships you have built here—the classmates who have laughed with you, supported you, and cheered you on. Think about the professors, counselors, and staff members who have guided and inspired you throughout your educational path; their dedication and passion for education have helped shape the individuals that you became today. More importantly, be grateful for your family; they were there every step of the way, offering unconditional love and support.

Whether you're pursuing further studies, entering the workforce, or taking a gap year to explore your interests, keep your curiosity alive. Challenge yourself to step outside of your comfort zone and explore new interests. The knowledge and skills you have gained at Monmouth University are just the beginning—there is so much more to learn and discover.

As you step into this exciting new chapter of your lives, remember to appreciate the diversity around you. This appreciation will enrich your understanding of the world and open doors to new opportunities. As you encounter people from different backgrounds and cultures, approach them with an open mind and a willingness to listen and learn. By embracing diversity, you will not only expand your own perspectives but also contribute to creating a more inclusive and harmonious society.

Best wishes on your exciting journey ahead. May your achievements be the stepping stones to even greater success.

Congratulations!



DOCTORAL CANDIDATES

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Linda Bortnick, *EdD*,

Educational Leadership

Allison Kelly Bowden, *EdD*,

Educational Leadership

Stefania M. Duarte, *EdD*,

Educational Leadership

Kristi L. Gambino-Dilonardo, *EdD*,

Educational Leadership

Nandieta D. Itwaru, *EdD*,

Educational Leadership

Christine Stephanie Kenny, *EdD*,

Educational Leadership

Krysten Nikole Paone-Hurd, *EdD*,

Educational Leadership

Leandra Ragone, *EdD*,

Educational Leadership

Denise Miele Sullivan, *EdD*,

Educational Leadership



MARJORIE K. UNTERBERG SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH STUDIES

Karen Idelle Francis, *DNP, Nursing*

Thelma Guzman, *DNP, Nursing*

Jacqueline Maria Klemann, *DNP,*

Nursing

Dorathy N. Offiah, *DNP, Nursing*



UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE CANDIDATES

Honors for January undergraduate candidates and highest-ranking degree recipients by department are included in the commencement program insert and published online at monmouth.edu/commencement.

WAYNE D. McMURRAY SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

MASTER'S DEGREES

Valerie Aristy-Reyes, MA, <i>English</i>	Nicholas Dignazio, MS, <i>Clinical Mental Health Counseling</i>	Emily Rose Miller, MS, <i>Clinical Mental Health Counseling</i>
Kaylee Rose Ma'ila Baduria, MA, <i>Criminal Justice</i>	Angelina Sabrina Esposito, MA, <i>Criminal Justice</i>	Alicia Notorio, MA, <i>English</i>
Gianna Maria Bianco, MA, <i>Criminal Justice</i>	Kevin Montgomery Flook, MFA, <i>Creative Writing</i>	Benjamin Pacuku, MA, <i>Criminal Justice</i>
Stephanie Lynn Biko, MS, <i>Clinical Mental Health Counseling</i>	Liza A. Gordon, MA, <i>English</i>	Victoria Reitz, MS, <i>Clinical Mental Health Counseling</i>
Amanda Lovette Bivins, MS, <i>Clinical Mental Health Counseling</i>	Charles W. Gravina, MS, <i>Clinical Mental Health Counseling</i>	Jelissa Reyes, MA, <i>Criminal Justice</i>
Kayla Renee Breedon, MS, <i>Clinical Mental Health Counseling</i>	McKenzie Lani Jones, MA, <i>Criminal Justice</i>	Marci Sharon Rubin, MFA, <i>Creative Writing</i>
Allison Kimberly Butchko, MA, <i>Anthropology</i>	Ashley Diane Krompiew, MS, <i>Clinical Mental Health Counseling</i>	Luke Sheski, MA, <i>Anthropology</i>
Britney Morgan Cantel, MS, <i>Clinical Mental Health Counseling</i>	Emily Rose Lang, MA, <i>Criminal Justice</i>	Emma Varga, MA, <i>English</i>
Corinne Michele Craven, MS, <i>Clinical Mental Health Counseling</i>	Cooper Ryan Lewis, MA, <i>Criminal Justice</i>	John F. Vurro, MFA, <i>Creative Writing</i>
Connor Evan DiBella, MS, <i>Clinical Mental Health Counseling</i>	Cristina A. Medlin, MA, <i>History</i>	Robert Michael Zadotti, MFA, <i>Creative Writing</i>
	Jeffrey Allen Mercer, MA, <i>Criminal Justice</i>	

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

Loujaina K. Amir, BA, <i>Psychology</i>	Nicole G. Chamberlain, BA, <i>Communication</i>	Timothy Theo Jusinski, BA, <i>Communication</i>
Gianna Mary Ancona, BA, <i>Psychology</i>	Brianna Grace Cuttle, BA, <i>History</i>	Christopher Cameron King, BA, <i>Communication</i>
Halle Lynn Bascone, BFA, <i>Fine Arts</i>	Orlando DelValle, BA, <i>History</i>	Isabella Rose Liverani, BA, <i>Criminal Justice</i>
Nicholas Allan Bashore, BA, <i>History, Education - Secondary</i>	Sarah Elizabeth Eidelman, BA, <i>Communication</i>	Julia R. Macey, BA, <i>Psychology, Sociology</i>
William A. Beauchamp, BA, <i>History, Education - Secondary</i>	Sara R. Floyd, BA, <i>Psychology</i>	Cristian Elias Maldonado, BA, <i>Psychology</i>
James Bernard Bellinger, BA, <i>Political Science</i>	Kayla Grace Gillespie, BA, <i>Art, Education - Secondary</i>	Joshua Brent Martin, BA, <i>Psychology</i>
Dominique C. Cacciamani, BA, <i>Criminal Justice</i>	Max Giunta, BA, <i>History</i>	Leila Mehmedovic, BA, <i>Communication</i>
Erin Christine Catoggio, BA, <i>Anthropology</i>	Tanner Jon Horneck, BA, <i>Political Science</i>	
	Brenaye A. Jones, BA, <i>Psychology</i>	

BA: Bachelor of Arts
BFA: Bachelor of Fine Arts

MA: Master of Arts
MFA: Master of Fine Arts

MS: Master of Science

Elizabeth Mendez-Mejia, <i>BA, Psychology</i>	Selene L. Ramirez, <i>BA, Spanish, Education - Secondary</i>	Christina N. Sutera, <i>BA, Communication</i>
Alice Mesonzhnik, <i>BA, Psychology</i>	Ceilie Marie Reynolds, <i>BA, Political Science</i>	Mia Karen Szostek, <i>BA, Anthropology</i>
Makayla Grace Monachino, <i>BA, Psychology</i>	Christina Rodriguez, <i>BA, English</i>	Sheku Ahmed Tonkara, <i>BA, Music</i>
Christian Tomas Murillo, <i>BA, Psychology</i>	Nicole Belissa Rojas, <i>BA, Political Science</i>	Sarah Rose Wardach, <i>BA, Criminal Justice</i>
Jessica Arianna Orlick, <i>BA, Criminal Justice</i>	Sophia Elizabeth Sericolo, <i>BA, Criminal Justice</i>	Zachary John Welch, <i>BA, Criminal Justice</i>
Lincoln Pereira, <i>BA, History, Education - Secondary</i>	Samantha Lucia Spencer, <i>BA, Communication</i>	Andrew Arthur White, <i>BS, Homeland Security</i>
Michael Angelo Pezzano, <i>BA, English</i>	Ryan Stefanik, <i>BA, Communication</i>	Andie Rae Zaikov, <i>BA, English, Education - Elementary K-6</i>
Sophia Rita Polos, <i>BA, Communication</i>	Anya Josephine Stuckert, <i>BA, Communication</i>	
Julie Patricia Prokop, <i>BA, English</i>		



LEON HESS BUSINESS SCHOOL

MASTER'S DEGREES

William Edward Argo, <i>MBA, Business Administration</i>	Carissa Anne Civitello, <i>MBA, Business Administration</i>	Adrian Nesheim Roseth, <i>MBA, Business Administration</i>
Samantha Grace Basso, <i>MBA, Business Administration</i>	Julianne Marie Mack, <i>MBA, Business Administration</i>	John Michael Seyda, <i>MBA, Business Administration</i>
Taylor Dean Boorse, <i>MBA, Business Administration</i>	Jacob T. Manna, <i>MBA, Business Administration</i>	Austin D. Staulcup, <i>MBA, Business Administration</i>
Gabriel Busato e Silva, <i>MBA, Business Administration</i>	Ashley Ryanne Navin, <i>MBA, Business Administration</i>	

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

Domenick Acerra, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>	Mia Alexa Cordova, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>	Lauren Nicole English, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>
Maria A. Alayon, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>	Ella Jean Crossman, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>	Harrison Wallace Haas, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>
Emily Marie Baker, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>	Frank Nicholas Daddato, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>	Lukas Kalinauskas, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>
Antonina Marie Braun, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>	Sara Rose DeForest, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>	Wing Yin Lam, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>
Joseph Anthony Ciervo, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>	Annabella Marie DiTota, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>	Jake Kekoa Londin, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>
Clare Elizabeth Ciliberto, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>	Daniela Donicova, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>	Philip Michael Long, <i>BS, Business Administration</i>

Ryan Long, *BS,
Business Administration*
Daniel Patrick Maiers, *BS,
Business Administration*
Cade Mason Manyak, *BS,
Business Administration*
Jackson Henry Miles, *BS,
Business Administration*
Madison S. Mills, *BS,
Business Administration*
Colin Frederick Murnane, *BS,
Business Administration*
Brandon Michael Neff, *BS,
Business Administration*

Justin Scott O'Bannon, *BS,
Business Administration*
Angela Cecilia Ospino, *BS,
Business Administration*
Nikitas N. Pahountis, *BS,
Business Administration*
Frank Thomas Passantino, *BS,
Business Administration*
Francesca Rose Pedi, *BS,
Business Administration*
Veronica Renee Perrotti, *BS,
Business Administration*

Shane Edward Quinn, *BS,
Business Administration*
Candice Costa Rocha, *BS,
Business Administration*
Christopher A. Rouse, *BS,
Business Administration*
Anthony J. Tucci, *BS,
Business Administration*
Charles J. Vainella, *BS,
Business Administration*
Alexa J. Wittmann, *BS,
Business Administration*



SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

MASTER'S DEGREES

Titilola Adewumi Anibijuwon, *MEd,
Education*
Allison Helene Betts, *MEd, Education*
Sarah E. Byrnes, *MEd, Education*
Emily Breanne Dasari, *MEd, Education*
Brittany Haley Davis, *MAT, Education -
Elementary K-6*
Kathrine N. Ferrari-Dolan, *MSEd,
Education - Special Education*
Jamie Lynn Hayes, *MSEd,
Education - Principal*
Margaret Mary Heckel, *MSEd,
Educational Counseling*
Kyle Richard Homer, *MSEd,
Educational Counseling*

Christopher M. Landry, *MSEd,
Education - Special Education*
Sarah Levi, *MSEd, Education -
Special Education*
Leanne Mercadante, *MSEd,
Education - Special Education*
Kylie Ann Miranda, *MSEd,
Educational Counseling*
Skylar Raquel Morgan, *MEd, Education*
Melissa Maria Nava, *MSEd,
Educational Counseling*
Antonia Pacillo, *MSEd,
Educational Counseling*

Benjamin Persky, *MSEd,
Educational Counseling*
Mya Nicole Pinkevicz, *MSEd,
Educational Counseling*
Jessica Lauren Rubman, *MSEd,
Educational Counseling*
Autumn R. Slocum, *MSEd,
Educational Counseling*
Alexa Marie Steensen, *MSEd,
Educational Counseling*
Nikia Way Khan, *MEd, Education*
Samantha L. Wickett, *MSEd,
Educational Counseling*

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

Cora D. Artrip, *BS, Health and Physical
Education, Education - Secondary*
Nicholas Allan Bashore, *BA, History,
Education - Secondary*
William A. Beauchamp, *BA, History,
Education - Secondary*
Alexandra Jolie Bianchi, *BA,
Education - P-6*

Chloe Amanda Frisch, *BS, Health and
Physical Education, Education -
Secondary*
Kayla Grace Gillespie, *BA, Art,
Education - Secondary*
Anastasiya Levytska, *BS, Mathematics,
Education - Elementary K-6*
Lincoln Pereira, *BA, History,
Education - Secondary*

Selene L. Ramirez, *BA, Spanish,
Education - Secondary*
Mikayla Lynn Sottile, *BA,
Education - P-6*
Joseph David Ventresca, *BS, Health
and Physical Education, Education -
Secondary*
Andie Rae Zaikov, *BA, English,
Education - Elementary K-6*

BA: Bachelor of Arts
BS: Bachelor of Science

MAT: Master of Art in Teaching
MEd: Master of Education

MSEd: Master of Science in Education



MARJORIE K. UNTERBERG SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH STUDIES

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

Cora D. Artrip, <i>BS, Health and Physical Education, Education - Secondary</i>	Mikayla Brielle Machado Leal, <i>BS, Health Studies</i>	Vincenza Sophia Palma, <i>BS, Health Studies</i>
Sarah Burchman, <i>BS, Health Studies</i>	Emily Grace Manfredi, <i>BS, Health Studies</i>	Matthew Wayne Puglisi, <i>BS, Health Promotion</i>
Matthew Irwin Clark, <i>BS, Health Promotion</i>	Mikayla Allana Marrero, <i>BS, Health Studies</i>	Danielle Nicole Schneider, <i>BS, Health Studies</i>
Chloe Amanda Frisch, <i>BS, Health and Physical Education, Education - Secondary</i>	Taylor Ann Martin, <i>BS, Health Studies</i>	Claudia Paige Ugliarolo, <i>BS, Health Studies</i>
Emma Jane Gehringer, <i>BS, Health Studies</i>	Courtney C. Nuzzolo, <i>BS, Health Studies</i>	Joseph David Ventresca, <i>BS, Health and Physical Education, Education - Secondary</i>
Frantzline Immacula Jeanty, <i>BS, Health Studies</i>	Kendal Anne O'Neill, <i>BS, Health Studies</i>	
	Sierra Marie Ortiz, <i>BS, Health Studies</i>	



SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

MASTER'S DEGREES

Alonso E. Aguilera, <i>MS, Information Systems</i>	Jacqueline M. Ferro, <i>MS, Data Science</i>	Kiran Siddha Ramjisingh, <i>MS, Computer Science</i>
Francisco Erramuspe Alvarez, <i>MS, Software Engineering</i>	Frances Ann McLaughlin, <i>MS, Data Science</i>	Jonathan Paul Williams, <i>MS, Computer Science</i>
	Shobharani Polasa, <i>MS, Data Science</i>	

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

Devin Robert Brattvet, <i>BS, Software Engineering</i>	Justyce Nyree Graham, <i>BA, Computer Science</i>	Alicia Ortiz Sanchez, <i>BS, Computer Science</i>
Jaime Castrillon III, <i>BS, Biology</i>	Anastasiya Levytska, <i>BS, Mathematics, Education - Elementary K-6</i>	Madison Maryann Pellerito, <i>BS, Chemistry</i>
Andrea Maria Freije Trochez, <i>BS, Chemistry</i>	Raymond Liu, <i>BA, Computer Science</i>	Kailey Marie Rouse, <i>BS, Chemistry</i>
Brandon Allen Goings, <i>BS, Biology</i>	Drew Bella Mattia, <i>BS, Biology</i>	



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

MASTER'S DEGREES

Amelia Nicole Braeske, *MSW*,
Social Work

Michelle Gerald, *MSW*,
Social Work

Priscilla M. Ojeda, *MSW*,
Social Work

Stephanie Mary Virginia Popper, *MSW*,
Social Work

Alyssa Nicole Ramos, *MSW*,
Social Work

Dana Marie Schladebeck, *MSW*,
Social Work

Brittany L. Tom, *MSW*,
Social Work

Jacalyn Sophia Weiss, *MSW*,
Social Work



HONORS SCHOOL

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

Julia R. Macey, *BA*, *Psychology*,
Sociology

Madison Maryann Pellerito, *BS*,
Chemistry

Lincoln Pereira, *BA*, *History*,
Education - Secondary

Monmouth University Alma Mater

Music by: Beethoven
Lyrics by:
Louis P. Nappen '90, '92

Moderato



1. Sym - bol of our skills and vir - tues her - ald of our
2. Gro - wing with each ge - ne - ra - tion, for - ming ties that



di - gni - ty; with these prai - ses we sa - lute you
will re - main. For - ging true our lives foun - da - tions



Mon - mouth U - ni - ver - si - ty Soar - ing from the
with each goal that we at - tain.



Jer - sey shore u - pon the wind, our wings un - furl'd.



High a - bove the o - cean's roar, the Blue Hawks rise to meet the world.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

The history of academic dress reaches far back into the earliest days of the oldest universities. A statute of 1321 required that all “Doctors, Licentiates, and Bachelors” of the University of Coimbra wear gowns. In England, in the second half of the 14th century, the statutes of certain colleges prescribed the wearing of a long gown. In the 16th and 17th centuries in Europe, the wearing of a robe often signified a degree candidate’s political or religious affiliation; in the northern universities and those of the British Isles, the robes signified that tuition and boarding fees of the wearer had been paid and also entitled them to special immunities in civil law, as well as providing them warmth at lectures and chapel.

When American colleges and universities desired to adopt some suitable system of academic apparel, a conference held at Columbia University in 1895, made up of representatives from various institutions, drew up a “By-Law, Regulation, or Statute” for the establishment of a suitable code of academic dress for colleges and universities in the United States. This code, with modifications made in 1959 by the Committee on Academic Costumes and Ceremonies of the American Council on Education, is still in force; the costumes and colors, trimmings, and patterns you will see are traditional, and interpret both the degree and field of learning. The bachelor’s gown, designed to be worn closed, has pointed sleeves; the master’s gown, which may be worn open or closed, has an oblong sleeve open at the wrist that hangs down in the traditional manner. The rear part of its oblong shape is square cut, and the front part has the arc cut away. The doctoral gown has bell-shaped sleeves. It may be worn open or closed.

Black is the recommended color for all academic gowns. Bachelor’s and master’s gowns are untrimmed. Doctoral gowns are faced with black velvet, with three bars across the sleeves; the color of the velvet may also be that which is distinctive to the degree, agreeing with that of the edging of the hood. In the 1960s, many American land-grant universities adopted the British and the Scottish tradition of using the official school color(s) for the robes of their doctoral recipients—for instance, Yale: sky blue; Harvard: crimson; University of Pennsylvania: scarlet and blue; Columbia: slate gray; Rutgers: scarlet and black.

The colors you will see in the hoods of our faculty represent the various fields in which the degrees were taken:

Apricot: *Nursing*

Brown: *Fine Arts*

Citron: *Social Work*

Crimson: *Journalism*

Dark Blue: *Philosophy*

Golden Yellow: *Science*

Green: *Medicine*

Lemon-Yellow: *Library Science*

Light Blue: *Education*

Orange: *Engineering*

Pink: *Music*

Purple: *Law*

Sage Green: *Physical Education*

Salmon Pink: *Public Health*

Scarlet: *Theology*

Yellow-Brown: *Commerce, Business, Accountancy*

White: *Arts, Letters, Humanities*

The hoods, differing in length for the three degrees—bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral—are lined with the official colors of the university or college conferring the degree, usually with one color forming a chevron pattern over the other. Hoods are edged and bound with velvet or the color appropriate for the degree. You will see in our procession many hoods edged with dark blue, representing doctor of philosophy.

Mortarboards are the approved headgear. The tassel, worn on the left side of the cap, may be gold if the holder has a doctoral degree.



Dear Members of the Class of 2025:

On behalf of the Monmouth University Alumni Association, welcome to the alumni family—a vibrant network that boasts over 59,000 Hawks in 50 states.

Today marks a new and exciting chapter in your connection to Monmouth University—one that will continue to grow with your professional and personal development. We want you to remain engaged with your alma mater, and share in your accomplishments, no matter where your achievements take you.

Stay connected by creating and updating your alumni contact record at monmouth.edu/stayconnected to receive the Monmouth Monthly alumni e-newsletter, invitations to alumni events and networking gatherings, and alumni discounts. Visit monmouth.edu/careerdevelopment to search for job opportunities and build your professional network.

Congratulations once again and we look forward to welcoming you to the alumni association.

Bayaan Oluyadi Sr.

Bayaan Oluyadi Sr. '13
President, Alumni Association Board of Directors

WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

Upcoming Events for Alumni

monmouth.edu/alumnievents

Save the date for Wine and Stein.

Start a new tradition and celebrate with your fellow alumni, Saturday, June 7, 2025.

Follow us on social media

 @MonmouthUniversityAlumni

 @MonmouthAlumni

 @MonmouthAlumni

 @Monmouth University

[MONMOUTH.EDU/STAYCONNECTED](https://monmouth.edu/stayconnected)

alumni@monmouth.edu



West Long Branch, NJ 07764-1898