

April 15

**ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
COMMENCEMENT 2021 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

TO: Class of 2021 (August 2020, December 2020, and May 2021 J.D., LL.M., and M.Jur. Graduates)
FROM: Office of the Assistant Dean for Law Student Affairs

This schedule is also available on-line at <https://law.stmarytx.edu/student-services/commencement/>

ONLINE APPLICATION FOR GRADUATION – Gateway Portal – DEADLINE: March 1, 2021

Students who intend to graduate in May 2021 must apply for graduation through the Gateway portal (“Law” tab, “Apply for Graduation”) no later than March 1, 2021. **If you completed the online application for graduation during the fall semester, no further action is needed.** If all hours for graduation will not be completed by May, but you wish to Early Walk, please review the Student Handbook § ILC for policies and complete the form on Gateway for review and approval by Associate Dean Lampley.

ORDER ANNOUNCEMENTS – 2 – 3 WEEK DELIVERY

Order online at <http://www.cbgrad.com/school/SMULTX>

Orders are sent directly to the student’s address approximately 2 – 3 weeks after order is placed. These are announcements not invitations so they will not include ceremony details.

ORDER ACADEMIC REGALIA – DEADLINE: April 9, 2021

Order online at <https://buildagrad.com/stmarytxlaw>

Orders for tams, gowns, and hoods are made online and shipped directly to you. **ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST WEAR THE REGALIA PROVIDED BY BALFOUR. Failure to meet the April 9 order deadline may prohibit participation in the ceremony.** The regalia is a **KEEPSAKE** and is not returned after the ceremony. **PLEASE NOTE:** The Law School covers the cost of the regalia for one (1) ceremony. Students who obtained their regalia for the December Virtual Celebration and who also plan to participate in the May Commencement Ceremony must reuse their December Keepsake regalia for the May ceremony or purchase another. Balfour will open a late order window from April 10 – May 7; however, be advised that there will be a \$40 late fee that you must personally cover. May 7 is the absolute deadline for a regalia order, no exceptions, to ensure delivery of regalia in time for the ceremony.

ORDER INTERNATIONAL SASHES – INNSBRUCK, BEIJING, OR GUADALAJARA PROGRAMS

Center for International Programs – St. Louis Hall, Room 105 – DEADLINE: April 9, 2021

Students who received full academic credit in either the Austria (Innsbruck), China (Beijing), or Mexico (Guadalajara) Programs are eligible to wear a sash at the May Commencement Ceremony. Visit <http://bit.ly/SashForm2021>. The cost is \$45 for a single country or \$55 for two countries. Visit your Gateway account and make a payment to the Business Office in the appropriate amount to purchase the sash(es) for which you are eligible. Fax or e-mail the completed “International Sash Order Form – Law School Students 2021” (see bit.ly link above) to Ms. Debra Amador (her contact information is on the form) with a copy / scan of your receipt from the Business Office. Please include your shipping address in your communication to Ms. Amador.

HONOR CORDS: Members of the *Law Journal*, *The Scholar*, Order of the Barristers, Phi Delta Phi, and Laude Graduates are the only student groups eligible to wear honor cords. **Only law school approved cords and sashes can be worn at graduation. Any unauthorized cords not listed here will be removed by law administration and could prevent participation in the ceremony.** The cords can be obtained from the personnel in the Office of the Dean on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 20 and 21, 2021, between 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Atrium Room of the Law Administration Bldg. Final determination of students in the Top 10% (Harlan Society) and the Top 20% (Honors Graduates) will be made after all grades are in and processed in June. Current students and December 2020 graduates who placed in the Top 10% and Top 20% based on their Fall 2020 cumulative grade-point averages, and August 2020 graduates whose final grade-point average is within those ranges, will receive an honor cord prior to Commencement. Please note final status may change after calculation of final ranks in the summer.

INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS FOR LAW SCHOOL CLASS PHOTO – LC 100

FIESTA FAREWELL CELEBRATION

Register Today at <https://stmarytx.wufoo.com/forms/fiesta-farewell-rsvp-form/>

The deadline to register is Wednesday, April 14.

April 19 – 21 (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday), 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. and 6:00 – 6:30 p.m. for Individual Photos for Class Photo; 4:30 p.m., Reception; 5:30 – 6:00 p.m., Program

Sign up for one of the above dates for the Fiesta Farewell celebration and enjoy food and drinks in a socially distanced environment with your peers. The program will include a welcome from a member of the Law Alumni Association, remarks from School of Law Dean Patricia E. Roberts, J.D., and a presentation of the Law Ministry Service Awards by Sister Grace Walle, D.M., F.M.I. A photographer will be present to take individual photos in LC 100, to be compiled into a Class Photo, available for purchase. Class Photo includes the 2021 LAW graduates and faculty ONLY. Please dress in business attire. The photographer will not sell individual headshots to students. Payment for the class panoramic photo is \$30. Orders will be taken at the time of the photo, so bring your payment to the event. Food and drink will be served from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. ***Your St. Mary's Student ID and a mask are required for attendance.***

GUEST TICKETS: Given current social distancing requirements, seating in the Bill Greehey Arena is limited and guest tickets are required for Commencement. **All guests need a ticket to attend; children younger than 3 years do not need a ticket but are required to sit on an adult's lap.** The number of tickets for each graduate is based on the total number of graduation candidates and the available guest seating in the Arena. **For the Class of 2021, each graduate will receive 6 tickets.** There will be an e-ticket system and information about how to acquire the e-tickets will be sent via e-mail.

All guests will be required to wear masks to enter the Arena, and must remain in place throughout the ceremony.

**UNIVERSITY BACCALAUREATE MASS – Bill Greehey Arena,
University Alumni Athletics & Convocation Center**

May 14, 2021, Friday

5:00 p.m. – Assemble for the academic procession in cap and gown (hoods are to be left at home).

5:30 p.m. – University Baccalaureate Mass begins. Persons of all faiths are cordially invited.

Please check Gateway for complete information: <https://gateway.stmarytx.edu/group/mycampus/services/registrar>

GRADUATION CEREMONIES – Alumni Athletics & Convocation Center

May 22, 2021, Saturday

Times are CONFIRMED as of April 15

9:00 a.m. – JD Candidates, Section A

11:30 a.m. – JD Candidates, Section B

2:00 p.m. – JD Candidates, Section C

4:30 p.m. – JD Candidates, Sections D & E, All LL.M. Candidates, All M.Jur. Candidates

A family member is invited to join you on the floor of Greehey Arena. They will be seated behind you and will hood you at the appropriate time. Seating will be determined given current social distancing requirements

All participants will be required to wear masks to enter the Arena.

GRADUATION PHOTOS AND LIVE STREAM: Professional photographers from Flash Photography will take individual pictures of all graduates as they receive their diplomas from the University President and when they exit the stage. Order forms will be available for students to complete to receive these photos. A live stream of the Law Commencement will be broadcast. Please check the School of Law's website for more information.

<https://law.stmarytx.edu/student-services/commencement/>

JOINT DEGREES: Students who earn a joint degree are welcome to attend the University Commencement on Saturday, May 15, 2021, at 1:30 p.m. Please note the Masters diplomas are mailed out approximately 2 weeks following that ceremony. For the Law Commencement on May 22, the joint degree is included in the law program and announced when the joint graduate crosses the stage. ***Please contact Ms. Olfers, yolfers@stmarytx.edu, to confirm your joint degree and ensure this accomplishment is part of the law ceremony.***

GRADES: Final grades for the Spring 2021 semester are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 18, 2021. You can view your grades on Gateway to monitor individual grades, which are processed by the Director of Student Records shortly after the faculty enter the data. Subject to completion of all degree and University requirements, you will officially graduate from St. Mary's University School of Law with the effective date of May 22, 2021. Certification of our May 2021 law graduates – LL.M., J.D., and M.Jur. – will occur once all grades, all classes, for the semester are processed and posted. We anticipate this to be no later than June.

MAILING DIPLOMAS: Students will receive their diplomas after we have certified all of our May 2021 graduates. The Law School will schedule “Diploma Pick-Up Days” for 2 days in June. Graduates who do not attend Commencement will have their diplomas mailed to the address provided with the online application. For a change of address, send written notification to Ms. Olfers at yolfers@stmarytx.edu; be sure to include your Student ID number in your message.

ABA GRADUATION SURVEY: As part of our ABA-accreditation, the law school must collect post-graduation employment information from each graduate. This information is submitted anonymously and in aggregated fashion; all personal information is kept confidential. Please go to the “Jobs and Job Offers” tab of CORE and update your profile with your post-grad plans, including if you are seeking. Access your CORE account [here](#).