Commencement at Whittier College is a very special event. We are proud of our graduates and look forward to celebrating your academic accomplishments. We want to make Commencement a positive and memorable day for you and your guests.

**COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY**  
**FRIDAY, MAY 16TH AT 9:00 AM**  
**MEMORIAL STADIUM**

**GRADUATES ARE REQUIRED TO CHECK-IN AT 8:00 AM**  
**ON THE BASEBALL FIELD**

**GRADUATES, PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION THOROUGHLY!**

**DRESS CODE**

Graduates are required to arrive dressed in their cap and gown and any additional pre-approved academic regalia (i.e. honors cords, society cords, etc.) Graduates who do not arrive in cap and gown will not be permitted to participate in Commencement ceremony. Extra caps and gowns will not be available.

Bachelor of Arts candidates: The tassels of your cap should be on the RIGHT side of your head.  
Master of Arts candidates: The tassels of your cap should be on the LEFT side of your head.

**TIMELINE**

8:00 AM  
Graduates must check-in with staff on the baseball field. Upon checking-in, you will be given a card with your name and placement number. Placement numbers will be painted on the field, are assigned alphabetically, and may not be changed.

8:30 AM  
Graduates are required to assemble on their placement numbers for attendance and procession to Memorial Stadium. It is extremely important that you remain on your placement number once attendance has been taken. This is the order in which you will be called to receive your diploma.

Graduates who arrive late, are not present during attendance, or who have left from their placement number will risk being excluded from Commencement ceremony.

8:45 AM  
Procession to Memorial Stadium. Procession will be led by Faculty Marshals. It is very important that you follow the direction of the Faculty Marshals.

9:00 AM  
Commencement ceremony begins!

Once graduates arrive at Memorial Stadium, be sure that you have a seat and that no spaces are left empty. You will remain standing for Invocation. Men should remove their caps for Invocation and Benediction.
Following the welcome from the President and the Board of Trustees and Alumni, speakers, and the conferral of honorary degrees, the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty will call graduates by name in placement number order. Master of Arts candidates will be called first, followed by Bachelor of Arts candidates. The first standing row should proceed as directed by the Faculty Marshal.

When your name is called, advance onto the stage towards the President. Receive your diploma with your LEFT hand, shake hands with your RIGHT, and then proceed across the stage towards the opposite end of the row from where you started. The line of graduates will continually move up so that each graduate returns to their original seat.

Graduates should remain standing until all graduates have been called.

Upon signal from the President, shift your tassels to the opposite side of your cap.

Graduates should stand as directed by the Faculty Marshals and prepare for recessional from Memorial Stadium. The order of recessional is as follows: Speakers, Board of Trustees, Faculty, Master of Arts graduates, Bachelor of Arts graduates.

Immediately following the ceremony, a reception will be held on the baseball field for graduates and their guests.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER**

Whittier College policy does not permit the possession or drinking of alcohol at check-in or at Memorial Stadium. Any violation of this policy will result in your IMMEDIATE REMOVAL from Commencement ceremony.

**DISTRIBUTION OF DIPLOMAS**

All students participating in Commencement ceremony will receive a personalized diploma cover on stage. Students who have graduated will also receive their official diploma on stage, provided it has not already been issued to them.

Diplomas will not be issued to any graduate who has an outstanding hold or balance. Please make proper arrangements to resolve any outstanding holds or balances prior to Commencement.