Welcome to Commencement at the University of West Georgia! An academic commencement is unlike any other ceremony. The importance of the occasion is underscored by the use of symbols and traditions which have their origins in the medieval academies. The academic dress, the mace, many of the words we use, and even the diplomas themselves derive from a long and distinguished academic history.

We hope you will take time to look through this program. In it, you will find explanations of some of the customs and symbols you will witness today. We hope your understanding of these academic traditions will add to your enjoyment of the commencement ceremony.

We are happy to have you with us today as we celebrate the achievements of our graduates. Welcome!

Alma Mater

Felton Dunn

Bruce Barton

In the west ern pines of Georgia stand ing strong and true,

Our wise Al ma Mat er becks to the Red and Blue,

Though you be in learn ing found ed youth ful yet you be,

While thus guid ed by tra di tion yet you still breathe free,

Dear West Geor gia Dear West Geor gia stand ing strong and

t rue, Our wise Al ma Mat er becks to the Red and the Blue.

Officially Adopted Spring 1984
Commencement
FALL 2021 CEREMONIES

University of West Georgia
December 11, 2021
The Coliseum
Carrollton, Georgia
Fall Semester Commencement  December 11, 2021 • The Coliseum

9 a.m.
College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry
Richards College of Business

11 a.m.
College of Education
School of Communication, Film and Media
Tanner Health System School of Nursing
University College

CALL TO ORDER
Dr. Brad Yates  
*Dean of the School of Communication, Film and Media*

NATIONAL ANTHEM
Theresa Rochowski  
Candidate for degree in Vocal Performance and Psychology

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
Dr. Brendan B. Kelly  
President

SGA WELCOME
Sydney Severin  
President, Student Government Association

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES
Dr. Jon Preston  
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. André Fortune  
Vice President for Student Affairs
Clint Samples  
Associate Dean of the College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry
Dr. Christopher Johnson  
*Dean of the Richards College of Business*
Dr. Laura H. Smith  
*Interim Dean of the College of Education*
Dr. Brad Yates  
*Dean of the School of Communication, Film and Media*
Dr. Jenny B. Schuessler  
*Dean of the Tanner Health System School of Nursing*
Dr. Meg Pearson  
*Dean of University College*
Dr. Toby Ziglar  
*Dean of the Graduate School*
Dr. Janet Donohoe  
*Dean of the Honors College*
Andrea Stanfield  
*Dean of Libraries*

HOODING OF DOCTORAL CANDIDATES
Dr. Julia Chibbaro,  
*Professor of Counselor Education*
Dr. James Dillon,  
*Professor of Psychology*
Dr. Georgia Evans,  
*Clinical Assistant Professor of Leadership, Research, and School Improvement*
Dr. Phillip Grant,  
*Assistant Professor of Leadership, Research, and School Improvement*
Fall Semester Commencement  December 11, 2021 • The Coliseum

INDUCTION INTO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ALMA MATER

FACULTY MARSHAL  9:00 a.m.  Dr. Scott Gordon
             Professor of Mathematics
1:00 p.m.  Lantz Ferrel
            Lecturer

MACE BEARER  9:00 a.m.  Dr. Ron Colley
            Professor and Chair, Department of Accounting and Finance
1:00 p.m.  Dr. Patrick Hadley
            Associate Professor, Digital Media & Telecommunication Head

COMMENCEMENT STAFF
Donna Haley
Registrar

John Haven
Vice President for Business and Financial Services

Mark Reeves
Senior Associate Vice President for Auxiliary Enterprises and Business Services

Elizabeth Smith
Executive Director of Auxiliary Services

COMMENCEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Jake Berry
Wade Crenshaw
Alicia Freed
Amy Hollingsworth
Mike Keener
Jennifer McManus
Mary Parsons
Michael Post
Ashley Prather
Monica Thornton
Ofc. Blake Wingo
A Message from the President

Brendan B. Kelly, Ph.D.

Dear Graduates,

On behalf of the University of West Georgia, it gives me great pleasure to commend you on this momentous occasion! This significant milestone represents a tremendous achievement of which you and your families should be extremely proud.

The accomplishment of attaining your degree is immense, but your successes and contributions will not stop here. This experience will open pathways to even more powerful opportunities well into your future and to the lives of those around you. I look forward to seeing the indelible impact you will make in your communities.

As a graduate of UWG, your educational credentials and experience, as well as your personal and professional successes, will forever be interwoven into the success of this institution. As such, it is vital for you to continue advocating for and supporting your university as it continues to build the value of your degree. Your continued involvement and engagement in your university will enhance and bolster our ability to continue serving future generations of students who will follow in your footsteps.

No matter what challenges we face in the future, I know the world needs you, your ideas, and your creativity now more than ever. So go out, as alumni of UWG, and do amazing things!

Go West, and Go Wolves!

Brendan B. Kelly, Ph.D.
President
University of West Georgia
Bachelor of Arts

Art
Olivia Grace Hackney
Katlyn Anne Southern

English
▲ Erica Grace Beagles
★ Karsyn MaKay Crain
Kenya Elaine Fields
★ Daniel Paul Jackson
William Thomas Johnson
Jessica Alice Jolly
Andrea Lee Lasaigne Dawson
Savannah A. Moss
Bethany Simonton

Foreign Languages and Literatures
★ Angelica Ruby Paige Carroll
Payton Ansley Dotson
★ Anna Marie Lopez-Galvez
Savannah Kate Tindol

History
Kate Rose Brito
★ Lucas Samuel Hardy
▲ Ethan Lucas Holder
Sara Maigen Lambert
Jake Jordan McTye
Charles Luther Rice II
Joseph Dominick Simeone

Philosophy
▲ Brant Cole Entrekin
Trinity Austin Rothwell

Theatre
Lenée Hardister
Raven Christina-Lorene Logan

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Art
Ariana Kalifa Culver
★ Kaleigh Jenae Fowler
Garry Andre Fuller II
★ Merideth Grace Harper
Dana Renee Harris
Kara Faith Hayden
Joyce Jeannie Hereford
★ April Anne Hitchcock
Tyler Williams Krasnoff
★ Emily Kate Pilgrim
Deperlene Rose Reid
★ Jose Manuel Veluz Velasco
Chasity Ciara Singleton
★ Emily Carera Warren
Brandon Austin Young

Bachelor of Music
Karlee Cecilia Demmer
Theresa Anna Rochowski

Bachelor of Science

Anthropology
★ Ashton Roen Long
★ Alison Lenore Morgan
Mary Nicole Poncela
★ Sarah Grace Rogers
Iesha Anyika Singleton
Rodney Jamal Thomas

Biology
Ke’ Erica Q. Barber
Shenise Dajona Aaliyah Blanks
Ronnecia Tekila Bryant
★ Christian Paul Burgess
Chasity Briana Busre
★ Angelica Ruby Paige Carroll

Parker Emory Cates
Andrew Grant Cook
Katlin Davenport
Sarah Brook Davis
Allison Faith Denney
John James Doody
Brienna Victoria Ennis
★ John Paul Escate
★ Pedro Albert Flores
Rebecca Layne Hardy
Nicholas Matthew Hellams
Trevor Neely Hindman
Itua Kevin Jacob
Celeste Jefferson
Julian Larkins
★ Leslie Alejandra Lopez
★ Jonah Morris Negusse
Patricia Somprasong Dieu Anh Nguyen
★ Theophilus Nti
Autumn Divine Owens
Vasthi Palacios
Skylar Eriyonna Prather
★ Patricia Pujol
Dayannah Sharai Rogers
Victoria Lee Schlichting
★ Taylor Jayne Schraub
★ Justin David Smallwood
Kyara J’ neese Smith
Johnathon Franklin-Taylor Smothers
★ Destinee Georgianna Swain
Shawn Hunter Teal
★ Lyndsey D. Wade
JaMarian Artese Walker
Elizabeth Grace Weeman
Cierra Shanise West
★ Abigail Grace Williams
★ Meredith Paige Woodward

* cum laude  ★ magna cum laude
▲ summa cum laude
Chemistry
Ann Benedicth Cormier
Kaleb R. Eaton
Russell Dana Ives
Michael Martin
Ariel C. Okonne
Gifty T. Tura
Kaitlin Elizabeth Watkins
Phillip Tyler Wooten

Computer Science
John Robert Chittam II
Darrius Cévon Dupree
Justin McConnell
Javon James Onuigbo
Michael K. Pavich

Geography
Madison Leigh Elam
Lacey Fournier
William Tyler Hitchcock
John Ethan Lara
Dillon Brady Prater

Geology
Hannah Marie Maciejewski
Austin Michael Martin
Cole Keathley Mayer
Joseph Daniel Myers
Amira Jeantéa Solomon

Mathematics
Chanceley Jean Ann Book
Noble Paris Scotland Dukes
Victor Chukwudubem Ifeadi III

Physics
Kelly Shaunmeika Ford
Timothy Joshua Perkins
David William Yancey

Psychology
Travis Charles Albright
Daniel Akya Asante
Robe Sileshi Atoma
Alison Renae Bauch
Bianca Danielle Bill
Kobe Jayvon Bowen
Amy Melissa Bradley

Joy Shannon Bright
Keenan Jamal Brundage
Joanice Carraquillo
Sameer Qaiser Chaudhry
Timothy Blake Cheatwood
India Alexis Collier
Alexis Chloe Cooper
Mikayla Shay Crews
William Mason Driggers
Savina Lyn Edwards
Shajae Evans
Breanna Fields
Rachel Marie Forrister
Ansley Rachel Gray
Rholonda Amatullah Hamid
Alayna Noelle Hawkins
Rachel Abigail Hood
Allora A. Jones
Shakeidra Kendall
Mackenzie Carol King
Miles Owen Longino
Brock Jonathan Love
Markarius Kevon Lundy
Lillian Rose Mallette
Mikeyera Amberique Marshall
Tariq Javon Marshall
Johnna Janae Hadiya McClendon
Audrey Lynn McCord
Paige McNeese
Isabella Kathryn Middei
Brandi Nicole Morris
Jada B. Newton
Ashlyn Melissa Ninesling
Cheri Evans
Sara Ojeda
Laurence Wilson Phillips
Jessika Monet Prayor
Melana Pshichenko
Marielisa Ramos De Peña
Oyana Ricks
Kevin Ryan Robinson
Theresa Anna Rochowski
Hannah Marie Sermersheim
Natalie Serna
Amina Zapora Shah

Alexandra Marie Sheppard
Garet Edward Simmers
Isaac Samuel Skaggs
Autumn Karrington Smith
Kalen Amirra Smith
Nicole Marie Steingraber
Alexandria Morgan Thompson
Chanel B. Thompson
Kendra Cheanise Waddy
Andi Nkene Wantuadi
Robyn LaChelle Williams
Marica Saige Wilson
Kayla Christina Yates

Social and Behavioral Health
Destiny Michelle Curry-Giles
Princess Kimber Sainabou Faal
Brenda Nicole Gonzalez
Kendra Shanice Robinson

Sociology
Callie Elizabeth Buchanan
Raekwon Chatman
Tyangeria Marie Daniels
Megan Elizabeth Draper
Jidiyah Yamini Easley
Akielah Rashida Estrada
Kathryn Michelle Fleetwood
Sidney Renee Graham
Stephanie Green
Phillip Drew Heard
Melanie Nicole Hillsman
Dominique Grace McClendon
Jayla Alise McKee
ZiMoya Roxanne Morrison
Taylor LeeAnn Teague
Kelsey Vrooman
Shantinique Lavone Webster
Destiny Rae Wilson
Shanasia Kris Wingate

Master of Arts

English
Jasmine Day-Duncan
Allison Suzanne Eidson
Bachelor of Business
Administration

Accounting
★ Jodi C. Dyer
★§ Michaela Nicole Edwards
§ Lauren Nicole Fricks
★ Hunter Jordan Goff
 Kevin Michael Gue
§ Carol Lynn Haberkam
▲ Sayvon Tyece Jarrett
 Stephen Ray Lee
 Caleb Douglas Milam
▲ Roxane Gatlin Schiliventz
▲ Semrit Pal Kaur Singh
 Catherine Ruby Stamps
★ Sunni Katara Stone
§ Sarah Beth Thompson
 Madeline L. Todd
▲ Hannah Paige Williams

Sociology
 Katelyn Faye Ford
 Dustin Ryan League

Psychology
 Alex Benjamen Callahan
 Deedra Climer Bass
 Sarah Swint Farrar
 Brittany Nicole Green
 Regan Lianne Messner
 David William Wise III

Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Consciousness and Society
 Louise Grann
 Transcendent Play: An Empirical Exploration into
 How Character Creation and Imaginative Role-
 Play in Online and Offline Video Games Can
 Facilitate Self-discovery
 Faculty Advisor: Dr. James Dillon

Debra Katz
 Unpacking the Popular Psychology Controversy:
 A Comparative Analysis of Popular vs. Academic
 Psychology Books Using the Construct of Attention
 as a Case Study
 Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lisa Osbeck

Lisa P. Watts
 An Exploration of Parental Perspectives on
 Providing Parent-Child Sexual Health Education:
 Before and After a Mental Health Awareness
 Intervention
 Faculty Advisor: Dr. Talia Weiner

Richards College of Business
9 a.m. Ceremony

Alyssa Ann Williamson
 Data Intelligence and Business Analytics
 Douglas Taylor Davenport

Economics
 Natalie Joseph
 Anthony Phillip Pane II
 Gabriel Alexander Wilson

Finance
 John Lorenza Blair III
 Evan Patrick Brown
 Justin Ryan Hubbard
 Garius A. Kemp

▲ Jason Lettis
 Braijon Juwan Lewis
 Paris Rainey Minor
 Britney Chyanne Music-Agan
 Ramon Marquis Pittman
 Safari Felecia Sheats
 Brian Jameel Strong

Jessie Aracely Trejo
 Caroline E. Vedane
 Katalina Jo Ward

Taylor Reese Winter

Management
 Trenton Albertson
 Audrey Elizabeth Allison
 Jonah Cody Asher
 Jade Alexandria Cabbell

Kalee Faryh Cox
 Spencer Devin Ellis
 Joshua Deshawn Evans
★ Nicholas Reed Fisher
 Gary Marco Florence Jr.
# Toddriana Nyasia Ford
 Amanda Carol Foster
 Terrance Terrell Gaines II
 Tanisha K. Gary-Davis
 Aakeem Rasool Glenn

★ cum laude  ★ magna cum laude  ★ summa cum laude
§ also Finance  ▲ also Management  ◊ also Marketing
Clayton James Gould  
#Eshonti Tamia Griffin  
Presley Lauren Hendricks  
Zy'Quavious L. Howard  
Jochebed Efosa Temitope Igbinijesu  
Miles Avery Jackson  
Vincent Pierre Johnson  
★#Alicia Ann Jones  
#Destyne Brianna Jones  
#Aiy`Anna King  
Austin Blake Leo  
#Deshayla Maynise Kiambra Lumpkin  
Maria Alejandra Martinez Hernandez  
Jacob Gregory Masters  
★Jared Keith Mitchell  
Niyah Chanelle Nelson  
Pascale Tatayana Nicolas  
Joshua Caleb Owen  
Dhruv Devendra Patel  
★Rachel Phipps  
★eBailey Garrett Poole  
★#Camille Noemie Daisy Portalier Ligier  
Nathan Gardner Powell  
Dallas Henry Ray  
Marquavion Markel Reed  
Chace Christian Rehberg  
Janay Lashon Scoby  
§Abigail Faith Sewell  
Gavin Tyler Smith  
★James Hampton Smith  
★Naomi Adelaide Soisson  
Austin Starnes  
Maxwell James Strasser  
Linda Amber Swofford  
Tishona Kenyetta Taylor  
Lizbeth Terrazas Arias  
Anastasia Amber Tolbert  
Terence Le'Nard Whitlock Jr.  
Brianna Layne Woodard  
Kristen Aiyana Wright  
▲Taylor G. Yearta  
Nyala Zimmerman  
Management Information Systems  
Olamide Basiru Balogun  
★Jonathon C. Beckom  
Layton Graham Drake  
Turner M. Duke  
Chaim Joseph Harris  
Joshua David Howard  
Sandra Lynn Ilomaki  
Carlos Cornell Jones Jr.  
★Brian Joseph Kamau Muchai  
Jalen Charles McCallum  
Marcus Tyler McColl  
#Holly Marie Middleton  
Daniel Millsaps  
David Oyeyinka Oyenuga  
Carsten Walter Rauch  
Sydni Aysha Reavis  
Darius Dijon Sharper  
Justin Kyle Sinclair  
Ross Anthony Smith  
Lakeitha Nicole Taylor  
Molly Elizabeth Weaver  
★Tyler Alexander Winter  
Marketing  
◊Cassidy Lynn Acton  
★Emily Rose Allen  
§Jake Hunter Buchanan  
◊Stephen James Carlson  
◊Mackenzie Jan Donovan  
Morgan Taylor Dugan  
Jaden Faith Eldred  
Jelani Anwar Griffith-Ageday  
Jennifer K. Harden  
Camilla J. Heath  
Nickolas Jeremiah Hickman  
Ansley M. Hollingsworth  
Dawson Pierce Hunt  
Kyra Alexis Kolaski  
§Lance Henri Leroy  
Ramon Braulio Lloret  
★Kaylee Jane Lowe  
◊Darnesha Nicole Mitchell  
Evan Khalil Moses  
Ciana Perez  
Jordin Kristen Reed  
Roger Joseph Robar Jr.  
Dylen Royer  
Destiny M. Wade  
★Robin Danielle Whitmire  
Jamil Aminu Yaro  
Real Estate  
▲Keisha Nicole Gilliam  
Casey Andrew Patrillo  
William Lee Tigner III  
Bachelor of Science  
Economics  
Victor Adeshina Adenipekun  
Marisela Alexes Pulido  
Demichael Travon Walker  
Master of Business Administration  
Chiamaka Abanofor  
Olubukola Abosede Ajayi  
Wasiu Alowonle Ashiru  
Sarah Roselle Avery  
Christopher S. Blackston Jr.  
Rylan Daniel DiMaria Breisinger  
Madison D. Davis  
Anna Elizabeth Fenton  
Rebecca Lynn Floyd  
Sara Nicole Gesie-Peace  
Amadeu Guimarães  
Eric Swain Hansen  
Nicholas Joel Hansen  
Hunter Lee Heath  
Mitchell Lane Henderson  
Sarah Elizabeth Herrin  
Laura Kathryn Hill  
Emily Johnson  
Stephanie Joy Kecskes  
Maseray Lanla Kponou  
Zere Tamar Mangai  
Camryn Donia McGregor  
Keith Mitchell O’Bri en  
Kwamina Mensah Onumah  
Jacob William Orbeck  
Kenneth James Parmer Jr.  
Mary Elizabeth Parsons  
Sonali Patel  
Seth A. Perkins  
★ cum laude  
◊ magna cum laude  
▲ summa cum laude  
§ also Finance  
◊ also Management  
# also Marketing  
€ also Accounting
Ashley Sheriza Persaud
Rachel Semelbauer
Zaara Iqbal Shah
Matthew Michael David Shupenus
Gina Kay Smith
Brian K. Terry Jr.
Tristan Blaine Thompson
Viviana F. Vargas

Master of Professional Accounting
Rylan Daniel DiMaria Breisinger
Amadeu Guimarães
William Chance Harvey
Henna Narang
Matthew Michael David Shupenus
Brian K. Terry Jr.
Tristan Blaine Thompson
Viviana F. Vargas

Bachelor of Science
Health and Community Wellness
Madyson Faith Baranowski
Lexis Allison Barrett
Noah W. Brady
Kydaisha Shambreka Monae Bridges
Taeshana Sediah Bruce
Crystal Rose Carattini
Anthony Quinn Dawkins
Victoria Avianna Deans
K’lin Alexander Epps
Chloe Marie Griffith
Dominique Michelle Hammonds
Carlia J. Jackson
Lisa Danielle Johnson
Devin James Jordan
Michael C. Lodge III
Payton Helene McElwee
Christelle Marie Mezile
Miracle Palmer
Jessica Elizabeth Reese
Savannah Hamilton Searcy
Nathana hyah Selman
Sheala Anaika Toussaint-Marryshow
Shelby Leann Ussery
Dejanira Shantranae Watts
Jordan Taylor Whittaker
Qualencia Wiggles

Sport Management
Demetrius Jayon Bergland
Brandon Tyler Berry
Travius DeVante Couch
Jordan Frazier
Allen James Johnson
Larry Lamont Phillips III
Jazmine E. Santiago
Noah Shobe
Kaiya Mckenzie Wilkes

Bachelor of Science in Education
Elementary Education
Jillian Mae Barnes
Brenna Savannah Bell
Earline Marie Bennett
Zaria Latrice Burks
Grayson Ann Coker
Clara Beth Denney
Idaja T’ Mea Driver
Kiley Noelle Eburne
Grace Mikaela Florence
Kaitlyn Taylor Foote
Mary Katherine Garger
Chelsea Gonzales
Ni’ Aijia Dychell Johnson
Karina L. Kurtz

Amber Jane Marie Livengood
Kalyn Tania-Renee Love
Morgan Haley McDonald
Caitlin Starr Merritt
Hannah Clare Ramey
Kaitlin Shea Rayburn
Tan’ Janika Chantia Redding
Briyana Richardson
Jordan Ivy Scott
Taylor McKenzie Smith
Carley Elizabeth Waddell
Samantha Silvey Wade

College of Education
1 p.m. Ceremony

Master of Arts in Teaching
Brittany Michelle Alexander
Meridith Smith Beckham
Eden Beyene
LaDerrick Rayell Brown
Savannah Kate Canady
Jade Whitney Carty
Kelly Joseph Christian
Samantha Brook Conerly
Jullisa Lynette Cooke
McKenna Katherine Crews
Patrice Dawson
Shaniqua Shuntea Dobbs
Aja Jovita Ellis
Amore Francis

* Degree Awarded Posthumously

★ cum laude  ♦ magna cum laude
★ summa cum laude
Brandi Rae Cherie Gomes  
Sarah Gulledge  
Kevin Harvey Jr.  
Valisha Jackson  
Hunter Madison Lee  
Terrence Little Jr.  
McKensie Anne Martin  
Tichina Teznette McGee  
Hannah Elizabeth McMillan  
Joanna McMillen  
Tadonna Phillips-Atkins  
Julia Rose Powell  
Emily Anne Proctor  
Jennifer Jenkins Province  
Carleigh Maryiah Redford  
Amanda Rosi  
Haley Alexis Russell  
Layne Catherine Russell  
Myrishsa Sanders  
Jannie W. Shephard  
Nicole Renee Spencer  
Shusheela Turaga  
Kate Alice Ugglia-Gervais  
Kevin Van Der Horn  
Donna M. Waters  
Hannah Smith Wates  
Tony Lamar Williams  
Melinda R. Wittwer

Master of Education

Elementary Education
Sarah Estes Becker  
Kristal Leigh Blevins  
Amy Suzanne Boehmer  
Courtney Watson Bolling  
Tiffany Renee Bonnellcarrere  
Cameron Rae Cable  
Lindsey Brianna Camp  
Haley Elizabeth Cantrell  
Angel Noel Davis  
Crystal Nicole Dunn  
Geneva Marie Edwards  
Gissel Esparza  
Arielle Marie Gill  
Greta Darlene Hannah  
Chelsey Nicole Jackson  
Colleen Hansen Keysar  
Katharine Ladd  
Lakyn Skye Lee  
Judy Abigail Looper  
Deanna Elaine Martin  
Lauren Frances Mattes  
Emily Brooke McVay  
Lindsay Taylor Meadows  
April Michelle Music  
Megan Dene Newton  
Goldie Nwankwoh  
Kristen Bree Patton  
Michelle Flanagan Petty  
Jessica Louise Powell  
Mia Alexis Katrina Rankins  
Meredith Frances Redding  
Jennifer Lynn Robinson  
Ashlyn Rowlinson  
Emily Brianna Scoggins  
Victoria Selleck  
Mignon Yakira Shoats  
Mackenzie Ann Sibley  
Emma Mackenzie Snook  
Laura Lynn Stancel  
Kelsey Teresa Steelman  
Kasey Leigh Strong  
Kimberly Teefy  
Casey Jordan Traylor  
Erin Samantha Turco  
Taylor Nichole Vaughn  
Melissa Wolfe

Instructional Technology, Media, and Design
Jessica Henry Akins  
Jeffrey A. Baker  
Evelynn Jane Garcia  
Susan Michele Garrett  
Trebla Ne’Shaun Gray  
Donna Sultzman Grecko  
Rebecca Hernandez  
Nicholas William Hummel  
Jenny Mary Malloian-Stone  
Bridgett Renae Marshall  
James Carroll Mitchell Jr.  
Briana Shibre Noble  
Sheila Nunn-Jones  
Charles Minor Pruitt  
Susan Matthews Sharrow  
Rebecca Skelton  
Hailey Van Parsy  
Jordan Elizabeth West  
Robin Lynn Wood

Professional Counseling
Steffany Lynnette Bruney  
Alexandria Paige Ernest  
Kevin M. Fitzsimmons  
Annamarie N. Giangiacomo  
Isaac Omar Harris Jr.  
Kay-Kay Johnson Lovelady  
Laura Lisa Madinger  
Brandon Ross Maglione  
Alisha Santa Mascioli  
Autumn Suzanne Meadows  
Lauren Channing Moultrie  
Chelse Suzan Pike  
Leitricia D. Rhyne  
Madison Taylor Serena Seyres  
Roticia Smith  
Evelyn Towobola  
Tatum Danielle Tozzo

Reading Instruction
Mary Delynn Aycock  
Rebekah Walker Bata  
Jessica Lynn Faulkner  
Donna Demetric Horstkamp  
Kameca Ravona Loyd-Spear  
Lindsey Brooke Morin  
Sarah Elizabeth Pennington  
Kirsten Ann Schober

Special Education
Beatrice Nkechiyere Ajorgbor  
Aaryn K. Coley-Gooden  
Macy Smith Frost  
Julie Davis Fuller  
Belinda D. Jeffries  
Elizabeth Lee Lyle  
Hannah-Claire Marks

★ cum laude  
◆ magna cum laude  
▲ summa cum laude
Jessica Ryann Nauris
Mason Kenneth Patton
Caitlin Elizabeth Robinson
Sarah Kate Seastrom
Logan Segars
Kayla Jules Smith

Master of Science

Sport Management
Jacob Berry
Valerie Marie Billstrom
Chatil Evon Bradford
Joelly Carolina Briseño-Flores
Roger Dean Dayton Jr.
Taylor A. Garcia
Darius Benjamin Hilliard
Casey Marie Mallory
Donye` `Monroe
Justin Alexander Mordecai

Specialist in Education

Educational Leadership
Jennifer Ann Bahr
Cynteria Janee’ Bandele
Tawanda Williams Darden
Alecia Renee-Fairy Eaves
Andre Carl Johnson
Suzanne Marie Cox Johnson
April Lianne Price

Elementary Education
Sheri Nicole Alsobrook
Rosanna Rae Beckman-Ashworth
Jill Nicole Borg
Brooklynn Elizabeth Enez Boyd
Kimberly Ray Brown
Wanda Dorsey Burt
Angela Byrd
Courtney Ann Carr
Jessica Teague Castillo
Dila Melissa Chambers
Santana Monique Clay
Lindy Erin Donahue
Becky Faye Edwards
Yanine Escalante

Jessica Taylor Farabow
Jessica Ryan Ferguson
Christopher Manning Gordon
Lori Hamilton
Trayon S. Henderson
Kathleen Ann Jacobs
Connie L. Jones-Harvey
Kyndell Marie-Jean Leeper
Bridgett Moore
Christine Elizabeth Morales
Vicki Pierce
Melissa Ryan Privett
Leanne Hince Shirley
Bethany Marie Smith
Mandy Danielle Starmer
Nancy Ann Swords
Taylor McClain Tapia
Floristine Olivia Tigner
Kayla Faye Veal
Natalie Rose Waller
Brittany Renae Washington
Latrina Marie West
Ashley Elizabeth Yarber

Instructional Technology, Media and Design
Leanna Kathryn Allen
Tiffany Asafo-Adjei
Kristin Lee Bartholomew
Kelly Bass
Kathy S. Bratcher
Antonio Lamar Brewton
Amy Royl Bridle Sherman
Christina Brown
Michelle Colasurdo
Kari Sue Cooper
Tyler Palmer Corley
Julia Inwright Daniel
Schley Walker Daniel
Tracey Lee Dann
Michael J. Dougherty
Katie Richardson Dye
Elizabeth Etter
Eliso Gogiberidze Frutiger
Erin Fleming Gaines
Jonathan Gambrell
Dorrie Stephanie Gann
Taylor Anne Hainley
Sandy Rae Haney
Randall Pierre Harris
Jennifer Dawn Rawls Head
Leyda M. Hernández
Sarahlyn Elizabeth Hickman
Jennifer Hicks
Carmen Holloway
Joseph David Jezequel
McKenzie H. Kierce
April D. Lemonds
Susan Ann McCarty
Haley F. McDonald
Rhonda Diane McKitt
Amy Marie Moore Mize
Sanchaze Raymarris Green Murray
Ginger L. Nixon
Lisa Noel O’Brien
Catherine Marie Ritchie Park
Leila Elizabeth Parker
Daniel Ray Parsons
Tara S. Pitts
Elena Ramona Pop
Stephanie Nicole Post
Elizabeth Marie Quackenbush
Alexis Bradie Ray
Tyler Daniel Ridgeway
Kelly M. Rivera
Rebecca Garner Robbins
Amanda Marie Russo
Jacque Leann Scott
Laura Crittenden Shaw
Kaitlin Sosebee
Amanda Williams Stone
Emily Woodward Sweeney
Taylor Sweeney
Terran Jamaal Taylor
Sarah Caitlin Toney
Alison Diane Tripp
Robert Daniel Tyo
Michael Cao Hung Vo
Sahira Wadley
Becky S. Wall
Frederick E. Willis Jr.
Kristina Ashley Wilson
Christine Young

**Professional Counseling**
Marquavius Torrez Hardy
Mary Elizabeth Martin
Deena Jones Sams
Gabrielle Joyce Smith
Angelica Colette Washington Beasley
Erica Lynn Watford

**Secondary Education**
Gilbert Marion Carver Aitken
Andrew Michael Brown
Joie Danielle Bullock
Julie Dowd
Christine Levering Krejci
Misty McCraw-Leach
Julianna Claire Strack Simmons
Adam Hoke Webb

**Special Education**
Virginia Claire Alexander
Kelley Marie Boehm
Margaret Catherine Digiacomo
Sammantha Paige Dixon
Amy P. Evert
Jason Fairchild
Jessica Forrester Groce
Erin Lynn Hallum

Julia Catherine Lance
Mary Grace Mabasa Lannu
Emma Martekour Martey
Natalia Mejia
Ashleigh Nichole’ North
Deborah Diane Rosenbloom
Stephanie Sommer
Donald Anthony Tillotson
Hollie Hamby Walraven

**Doctor of Education**

**School Improvement**
Brandie Jo Berry
An Investigation of Teacher Self-Efficacy Regarding Teaching Online During the COVID-19 Pandemic
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Georgia Evans

Yontrea Shanette Engram
A Study of School Administrators’ Knowledge of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (2004)
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Phillip Grant

Tracey Meredith Waid
Identity Crisis: Organizational Identity’s Impact on High School Teachers’ Evaluative Feedback Responses
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Mary Alice Varga

**Doctor of Education in Counseling**
Amy Isley Chupp
Effects of Growth Mindset on Math Achievement
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Julia Chibbaro

Evan Brent Feemster
Exploring Identity in Male Adolescents of African Descent with Culturally Affirming Images
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jairus-Joaquin Matthews

**Professional Counseling and Supervision**
Mary Caroline Graham Albertson
The Effects of a Comprehensive Bullying Prevention Program Accompanied by a Peer Support Team on Students’ Social Emotional Wellness and School Climate in Middle School
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Julia Chibbaro

**Doctor of Education in Higher Education**

**Higher Education Administration**
Jessica B. Wildfire
Using the Power of Sport and Leadership Development Training to Cultivate Student-Athlete Leaders: A Phenomenological Study of the Leadership Identity Development of VOLeaders Academy Participants
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Tommy Jackson
School of Communication, Film and Media

1 p.m. Ceremony

Bachelor of Science

Film and Video Production
★ Bianca Desireé Banks
   Megan Renee York
Mass Communications
Alicia Grace Boggs
Damarus G. Boone
Marlene L. Calderon-Hernandez
Sonja Diane Chappell
Daijah Jena Cheaney
Madison E. Creech
Savannah Alstacia Floyd DaCosta
Emerson Dreafer
Jaycie Dunbar
Jessica Wynell Duyck
Autumn Bre’ana Faust
Shannon Ezli Francis
★ Christina Charla Gaines
   ★ Atevejauna Simone Gibson
   ★ Taylor Janay Goodman
      Olivia Hope Graham
   ★ Isabel Lee Harper
      Kelli Renee Holloway-Billison
★ Hannah Grace Keown
   Jack A. Kidd
   Dabney Virginia King
   Jaelen Morgan McBird
   Todd Vushon McClendon Jr.
   Myah L. McLaurin
   Robinson Miles Morrison
   Meagan Kathryn Mullins
   Brandon Anthony Nelson
   Emma K. Pence
   James Barrington Plummer
   Marisela Alexes Pulido
   Bryan Raymond Richardson
   Reilly G. Robbins
   Brenda A. Rolle-Davis
   ★ Greta Page Rowell
   Marissa Ann Royals
   Daria LaNee Scott
   Derrick Eugene Shaw II
   ★ Madison Taylor Signoret
      Haley Brooke Sisselman
      Joshua D. Smith
      Danlyn Denise Sullivan
      Keyshawn Trevor Taylor
   ★ Alexa Brianna Thompson
      Zachary Chad Turner
      Tori Iman Ussery
      Sydney Kierre Wallace
      Lauryn Alise Wilson
      Mackenzie Veronica Wood

Tanner Health System School of Nursing

1 p.m. Ceremony

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Fadesewa Iqmat Adesiyan
★ Elisa Noelle Alton
   Shanee Bailey
   Kaylin Alayne Barr
   Cheyenne Kayla Bell
   Myah Raelle Bostic
   Danielle Marie Buehler
   ★ Hailey Carolanne Byess
      James E. Camp-Woods III
   ★ Makalah Danielle Cannon
   ★ Miyah Renaye Carter
      Courtney Dakota Cochran
      Anna Elizabeth Colapinto
      Daniel Blake Cook
      Breanna R. Cooper
      Hannah Marie Crooke
      Pamela Ann Cumbie
      Hannah Jolie Dale
      Ephraim Sebestyén Dotson
      Jayde Alexandra Dowden
      ★ Lhonda Edwards
      ★ Delanie Roberts Finley
      Katrina Garibaldi
      ★ Breanna Paige Gates
      ★ Chloe Isabella Glenn
      ★ Jordan Malayah Hamilton
      Masey B. Hanns
      ★ Hannah J. Harrison
      Sasha Antoinia Dominique Harvey Cameron
      ★ Sherisa Maria Haynes
      Elvira Hernandez
      Akeem Horace Hong
      ★ Anthonia Ezehi Idabie
      Ngozi Ikeme
      Ashari MaKayla Johnson
      ★ Autumn Nicole Jordan
      Sean Lyle Kiskel
      ★ Anna Marie Lopez-Galvez
      ★ Florence Jefferson Mba
      Chamielle Viviene McCatty
      ★ Kaitlyn Nicole McDonell
      ★ Jacy Morgan McElreath
      ★ Kenna Brianne McLeroy
      Madison Elizabeth Moore
      Kathryn Anna Morgan
      ★ Somtochukwu Fortune Okoye
      Blessing Runyi Osim
      ★ Leah Ashlyn Pate
      ★ Sarah Marcie Marie Poe

★ cum laude ★ magna cum laude ★ summa cum laude
Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies
Zsa-Zsa Duncan
Hayden Michael Furlong
Brianna Morgan Jenkins
Raemia Anderson Luchins
Bailey Cathrine Van

Bachelor of Science
Criminology
Evan P. Ballenger
Desiree Alisha Baloch
Nicholas Andrew Biggerstaff
Keilani Narcisa Ashanti Chumani Cannister
Tamara Breyonka Carter
Peyton Alexis Cordell
Patrick R. Darnell
Jessica Zhang Ding
Jacob Thomas Earley
Sarah Catherine Evans
Markiesha Kentral Faust
Kaytlyn Elaine Ford
Nathanial Patrick Holloway
Maya Nicole Jones
Derica Monet’ Matthews
Shameka Latresa McKeever
Raegan Elizabeth Merideth
Kevin Michael Newman
Caleb James Peace
Shamill Elisha Pinkston

Organizational Leadership
Sakyla Laquesta Arnold
Patrick Anthony Brown
Katheryne Sierra Buford
Slater Eugene Burke
Jennifer Jill Daum
Charles Lee Dean
Natashi L. Dean
Sonny Shane Gann
Jennifer Lynne Komdat
Shavon Latasha Martin
Ashley Rebecca Pelham
Saraya Thomas
Jamie Turner

Political Science
Liven Ufot Benson
Kayleigh Blair
Taylor Devonne Bradfield

Master of Arts
Criminology
Kember Chester
Sharayna Marlia Nay-cole Griffin
Jessica Nicole Horvath
John Ryan McKinney
Lauren Lane Miller
Tiaunna Monet White
Travis Wiley

Master of Public Administration
Samantha Marie Brown
Thomas Haden Farr
Denim Riley Grzesik
Edosa Charnetta Isibor
Emma Careen McCullough
Krissy Anne McKinnon
Kevin Andrew Moody Jr.
Lubunga Mwendanababo
Anitra S. Pate
Misty Ann Roberts
Hannah Leigh Watson
Emily Elizabeth Wurst

University College
1 p.m. Ceremony

Anne Wachira
Tesia Gabriel Walker
Ansley Marie Wright
Victoria Emanuelli Yateri
Emily Hope Young
Honors College Graduates

The Honors College curriculum is the most academically rigorous curriculum offered at this university. To graduate with Honors College distinction, students must: (1) complete all of the requirements for their degrees in their majors; (2) earn credit for 25% or more of their course work in Honors College courses, including at least two seminars at the junior or senior level; (3) complete a research project; and (4) maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.2 in Honors College courses and in all other academic work. Completion of this distinctive curriculum is a mark of scholarly excellence and is recognized on all official University of West Georgia transcripts and diplomas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Erica Grace Beagles</th>
<th>Erin MacKenzie Nalley</th>
<th>Sarah Grace Rogers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts in English</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Political Science</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Anthropology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bianca Danielle Bill</td>
<td>Patricia Pujol</td>
<td>Garet Edward Simmers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Psychology</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Biology</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Psychology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

International Graduates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brian Joseph Kamau Muchai</th>
<th>Wasiu Alowonle Ashiru</th>
<th>Keilani Narcisa Ashanti Chumani Cannister</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Curacao</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richards College of Business</td>
<td>Richards College of Business</td>
<td>University College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia Pujol</td>
<td>Amadeu Guimarães</td>
<td>Somtochukwu Fortune Okoye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry</td>
<td>Richards College of Business - Dual Degree</td>
<td>Tanner Health System School of Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semrit Pal Kaur Singh</td>
<td>Zere Tamar Mangai</td>
<td>Camille Noemie Daisy Portalier Ligier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>France</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richards College of Business</td>
<td>Richards College of Business</td>
<td>Richards College of Business</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olubukola Abosede Ajayi</td>
<td>Henna Narang</td>
<td>Shalina Nizar Velani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Curacao</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richards College of Business</td>
<td>Richards College of Business</td>
<td>Tanner Health System School of Nursing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Honorary Degrees

University System of Georgia senior institutions are allowed to recommend to the Board of Regents honorary degree recipients for each academic year. UWG’s basic criteria for an honorary degree recipient are notable achievements in an academic field, the arts and letters, the professions, or public service. Nominations are solicited from the college community and are reviewed by the Honorary Degree Committee, which makes nominations to the president. The president then submits a candidate’s name to the University System staff for final consideration by the Board of Regents. The chancellor then makes a recommendation to the Board of Regents.

UWG began awarding the Doctor of Humane Letters in 1996, and recipients of this honor include:

- Roy Richards Jr., 1996
- Dr. Julian Stanley, 1997
- Howard “Bo” Callaway, 1998
- Millard Dean Fuller, 1999
- Dr. Nikki Giovanni, 2000
- Dr. Richard Neal Zare, 2001
- Alice H. Richards, 2002
- Dan T. Cathy, 2004
- Richard H. Glanton, 2005
- Dr. Andrew C. von Eschenbach, 2006
- Dr. J. Willis Hurst, 2009
- Robert J. Stone, 2012
- A. Paul Cadenhead, 2012
- Phillip E. Kauffman, 2013
- Stephan Lyall Penley, 2014
- Melissa P. “Missy” Dugan, 2016
- Steve R. Adams, 2017
- Nellie Duke, 2018
- Laura Richards, 2018
Welcome from the Alumni Association

Congratulations on your graduation from the University of West Georgia, and welcome to the Alumni Association! You have joined a distinguished group of people who have graduated from or attended UWG. We represent a group with a variety of socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds, vocations, ages, and opinions, but one thing we resoundingly share is our dedication to the University of West Georgia.

Every graduate of the University of West Georgia is a member of the UWG Alumni Association. We strive to keep you connected to your alma mater long after you graduate and support you along your journey through life and your career. You belong at UWG as a student and as a graduate. We invite you to engage with the Alumni Association through joining an alumni network in your area, attending events on campus or virtually, following us on social media, and keeping in touch with us. Remain an active member of the UWG community as you participate in UWG traditions like Homecoming and A Day, UWG’s annual day of giving.

You’ll also have opportunities to invest in UWG as you volunteer your time to speak to a class, mentor a student, and make career connections. You can show your UWG pride as you celebrate UWG with your networks and on social media or cheer on the Wolves at an athletic event. Your opportunities to continue your connection to UWG are almost endless.

We will reach out to you soon. You can also join our online community at alumni.westga.edu to connect with other alumni and keep up-to-date with the latest alumni and university news. We look forward to your involvement with your Alumni Association and to seeing you again soon!

~ Mr. Brad Mock, '12 '15
Chair of Alumni Association
Board of Directors
Leadership

University System of Georgia

Board of Regents
Teresa MacCartney, Acting Chancellor
Sachin Shailendra, Chair
Cade Joiner, Vice Chair
W. Allen Gudenrath
Erin Hames
Bárbara Rivera Holmes
Samuel D. Holmes
C. Thomas Hopkins Jr., M.D.
James M. Hull
C. Everett Kennedy III
Rachel B. Little
Lowery Houston May
Jose R. Perez
Neil L. Pruitt Jr.
Sarah-Elizabeth Langford Reed
Harold Reynolds
T. Dallas Smith
Kessel D. Stelling Jr.
Don L. Waters
Philip A. Wilheit Sr.

University of West Georgia Leadership
Dr. Brendan B. Kelly, President
Dr. Jon Preston, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Meredith N. Brunen, Vice President for University Advancement and CEO of University Foundations
Annemarie Eades, Vice President for Administrative Services and Chief Operating Officer
Dr. André L. Fortune, Vice President for Student Affairs
John Haven, Vice President for Business and Financial Services
Kimberly Scranage, Vice President for Strategic Enrollment Management

University of West Georgia Deans
Dr. Janet Donohoe, Dean of the Honors College
Dr. Pauline Gagnon, Dean of the College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry
Dr. Christopher Johnson, Dean of the Richards College of Business
Dr. Meg Pearson, Dean of University College
Dr. Jenny Schuessler, Dean of the Tanner Health System School of Nursing
Dr. Laura Smith, Interim Dean of the College of Education
Andrea Stanfield, Dean of Libraries
Dr. Brad Yates, Dean of the School of Communication, Film and Media
Dr. Toby Ziglar, Dean of the Graduate School

University of West Georgia Foundation Inc., Executive Committee
2021 – 2022 Trustees
Ann Newman ’01, Chair
Gary Kinard ’91, Vice Chair
David R. Edwards, Treasurer/Investment Committee Chair
Tim Martin ’08, Secretary
Luis A. Planas Sr. ’72, Past Chair
Dr. Jason Thogmartin ’06 ’07, Audit Committee Chair
Vicki Kaiser, Board Development Committee Chair
Christa Pitts ’97, Resource Development Committee Chair
Dr. Meredith Brunen, CEO/Vice President for University Advancement
Dr. Brendan B. Kelly, UWG President

Alumni Board Executive Committee
Brad Mock ’12 ’15, Chair
Christopher Sanders ’03, Vice Chair
Brian Nichols ’10, Secretary
Philip Cochran ’99, Treasurer
Melanie Hildebrandt ’03 ’08, Past Chair
Traditions of Commencement

Academic Regalia

The academic regalia worn by today’s participants dates back to the Middle Ages. The clergy were the literate class, so early academic costumes were clerical. The monk’s habit and cowl worn over the head were predecessors of the modern black gowns. Hoods and capes were also necessary during European winters because the buildings where scholars lived and studied were cold.

Over time, gown styles became standardized for the three types of degrees. Those holding the bachelor’s degree wear a gown distinguished by long, pointed sleeves. Master’s degree candidates wear the traditional black gown with full-length square sleeves. The doctor’s gown is faced with a broad strip of velvet and has three horizontal velvet bars on each sleeve.

The greatest symbolism is shown by the hood. The bachelor’s hood is three feet long with a three-inch band of velvet. The master’s hood is three-and-one-half feet long, faced with a three-inch band of velvet. The doctor’s hood is four feet long, faced with a five-inch band of velvet. The color of the velvet band on the hood indicates the field of study in which the degree was earned or granted, and the hood is lined with the color of the university granting the degree.

The Mace

During the Middle Ages, the mace was a weapon used in battle, but as newer and more powerful military arms developed, it was adopted by academia as a symbol of the power of ideas, truth, and wisdom. In modern times, the mace is carried to symbolize the unity and aspirations of the collegial community.

The mace, which leads today’s academic procession, was redesigned by Mr. Richard Hill, former artist-in-residence. The mace is constructed of black walnut, hand-turned walnut, and walnut burl. The institution’s seal adorns the head of the mace and complements the presidential medallion.
About the University of West Georgia

Like the Flame of Knowledge at its entrance, the University of West Georgia has been a beacon for learning since 1906. Originally founded as an agricultural and mechanical school, the institution became a two-year college and charter member of the University System of Georgia in 1933. In 1957, it expanded to a four-year institution and received university status in 1996. Today, UWG is a leading residential, doctoral comprehensive university that offers a broad undergraduate and graduate curriculum based on a liberal arts foundation.

At UWG, students are positioned to launch their careers upon graduation – if not before. In 2021, UWG began implementing its strategic plan for 2021-26, titled “Becoming UWG.” With members of the university community dedicating themselves to the curation of a first-choice university, the plan establishes a path for the institution’s long-term growth and excellence.

With an enrollment of 12,718 during the fall 2021 semester, UWG currently offers 100 programs of study, including one two-year degree, 47 at the bachelor’s degree level, 24 at the master’s level, six at the specialist level, five at the doctoral level, and 11 post-baccalaureate, four undergraduate, and two post-master’s certificates. The university prides itself on a diverse student body, as students come from most counties in Georgia as well as from 32 other states and 63 other countries.

UWG has many ways for students to become involved on campus. The university hosts more than 170 registered organizations in addition to many intramural and recreational sports. As the UWG Wolves, the university is a member of NCAA Division II, competing in the Gulf South Conference. The university fields eight women’s and five men’s intercollegiate athletics teams, as well as co-ed and all-female cheerleading squads. Service-learning is also a basic tenet of the institution as it has been recognized by the Carnegie Foundation for its institutional commitment to community engagement through teaching, research, and public service.

Over the past five years, the campus has improved and expanded facilities that enhance opportunities for students to thrive and succeed, such as renovation to the Biology Building and new construction for the Student Health Center and Roy Richards Sr. Hall, the new home of the Richards College of Business. The university is currently renovating the Humanities Building, home to programs in art, English, film, history, language, performing arts, and philosophy. UWG Newnan has also expanded its location at the former Newnan hospital, and more course options are becoming available at UWG Douglasville.

Visit westga.edu for further information on the university or call 678-839-4000 to schedule a tour.
Welcome to Commencement at the University of West Georgia! An academic commencement is unlike any other ceremony. The importance of the occasion is underscored by the use of symbols and traditions which have their origins in the medieval academies. The academic dress, the mace, many of the words we use, and even the diplomas themselves derive from a long and distinguished academic history.

We hope you will take time to look through this program. In it, you will find explanations of some of the customs and symbols you will witness today. We hope your understanding of these academic traditions will add to your enjoyment of the commencement ceremony.

We are happy to have you with us today as we celebrate the achievements of our graduates. Welcome!

Alma Mater

Felton Dunn

Bruce Burton

In the west-ern pines of Georgia stand-ing strong and true,

Our wise Al-ma Ma - ter beck-ons to the Red and Blue,

Though you be in learn-ing found-ed youth-ful yet you be,

While thus guid-ed by tra-di-tion yet you still breathe free,

Dear West Geor-gia Dear West Geor-gia stand-ing strong and

true, Our wise Al-ma Ma-ter beck-ons to the Red and the Blue.

Officially Adopted Spring 1984