University of CUMBRIA



GRADUATION 2026

DEGREE AND AWARD CEREMONIES
24th, 25th and 26th November 2026
Carlisle Cathedral

DEGREE AND AWARD CEREMONIES

24th, 25th, and 26th November 2026

Dear Graduand,

This booklet contains the information you need to ensure that your graduation day runs smoothly.

Please note you may only attend a graduation ceremony subject to the successful completion and confirmation of your award, and providing you have cleared all academic fees.

Your guest ceremony and celebratory reception ticket(s) are to be collected on the day of your ceremony from the Fratry, at the designated time. (Please see next page for ticket collection times).

If you require any additional information not covered in this booklet please visit **www.cumbria.ac.uk/graduation** where you will find further information and latest announcements.

We look forward to welcoming you and your guests to Carlisle Cathedral to celebrate the success of your academic achievement.

With best wishes.

The Ceremonies Office

ceremonies@cumbria.ac.uk

TIMINGS AND LOCATIONS

(See map on page 11)
Course listings by ceremony and date can be found at www.cumbria.ac.uk

	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	TIMINGS		
PRE CEREMONY	**COLLECT: GUEST TICKETS AND GOWN**	**Fratry**	8.00 - 8.45	9.45 - 10.45	12.00 -13.45
	PHOTOGRAPHY	**Crown and Mitre Hotel** **Edwardian Room** Pre-paid and access difficulties **Supper Room** **(Lower ground floor)** Bookings on the day	Until 17.30 (Until 14.45 on Thursday)	Until 17.30 (Until 14.45 on Thursday)	Until 17.30
	UCSU STAND	**Crown and Mitre Hotel**	Until 17.15 (Until 14.30 on Thursday)	Until 17.15 (Until 14.30 on Thursday)	Until 17.15
	GRADUAND LINING UP	**Fratry**	8.45	11.00	14.00
	GUEST SEATING (Ticket holders only)	**Carlisle Cathedral**	8.45 - 9.15	11.10 - 11.30	14.00 - 14.30
	LIVE VIDEO LINK (Ticket holders only)	**Tullie** Lecture Theatre	8.45 - 9.30	11.10 - 11.45	14.00 - 14.45
	GRADUATION CEREMONY	**CARLISLE CATHEDRAL**	**9.45**	**12.00**	**15.00**
POST CEREMONY	**CELEBRATORY RECEPTION**	**Crown and Mitre Hotel** Ballroom and Green Market Room	11.00 until 12.15	13.15 until 14.15	16.15 until 17.15
	GOWN RETURN	**Crown and Mitre Hotel** Drawing Room	11.00 - 17.45 (Until 14.45 on Thursday)	13.00 - 17.45 (Until 14.45 on Thursday)	16.00 - 17.45



GRADUATION DAY - GENERAL INFORMATION

What should I wear? (Graduands and guests)

Dress code
Except for the obligatory academic dress for graduands there isn't a specific dress code. We do however suggest that both graduands and guests dress smartly, as for a formal occasion. For practical reasons, graduands are advised to wear a buttoned blouse or shirt underneath their gowns, as this will make it easier to attach the academic hood. Guests should also come prepared for cold and wet weather as there will be some queuing outside venues throughout the day. Should graduands prefer to wear high heels, wedges are preferable to stilettos in order to help negotiate the walk from the Fratry to the cathedral, and any steps inside the cathedral.

Belongings (Graduands and guests)
There are restrictions on large items of luggage such as rucksacks, suitcases, prams and pushchairs in the Fratry and cathedral, for security purposes. You are asked to plan ahead and bring only bags small enough to carry into the cathedral and fit comfortably under your seatwithout obstruction to others. We have no provision for storage of any items. There are no cloakrooms available.

When should I arrive?

Arrive in good time - at least two hours before your ceremony.

Parking in Carlisle City Centre

There is no parking in the cathedral grounds. Please see map on page 11 for nearest car parks or visit: **www.carlisle.gov.uk** for details.

What should I do upon arrival and where do I go?

Collect guest ticket(s)
First point of call is to collect your guest ticket(s) from the Fratry. These should be handed to your guest(s) and you can arrange to meet them after you have collected your gown, due to limited space at the Fratry).

Collection is at a designated time. Please see page 3 for details. Please note there is no cloakroom.

Collect gown
Please collect your gown from the Fratry at your designated time after collecting your guest ticket(s). You do not need a reception ticket for yourself at this point. Full academic dress can be hired or purchased from Ede & Ravenscroft, who are the university's preferred suppliers.

Photographs
Once you have collected your guest ticket(s) and gown you can head to the sales desk and studios located at the Crown and Mitre Hotel. Photography is always busy, so we encourage you to pre-order and pay for your chosen package on-line at
www.edeandravenscroft.com/graduation-services

One hour prior to the ceremony (Graduands and guests)

Graduand lining-up and procession to the cathedral
This will take place in the Fratry (where you collected your guest ticket(s) and gown upon arrival). You need to make sure that you are in the Fratry with ample time for lining-up, at the latest 1 hour prior to the ceremony.

Lining-up – during the lining-up process, members of staff will marshal you into the correct order by course. Please keep to the position allocated to you – if you do not, you will be presented to the Presiding Officer at the wrong point.

Name card – you will be given a name card to hand to the Presenting Officer who will announce your name at the point of presentation. (Do not lose this!)

Graduand procession through Carlisle Historic Quarter
Approximately 30 minutes prior to the ceremony, you will be led in procession through the Cathedral grounds in Carlisle's Historic Quarter.

As you look at the map on page 11, the procession turns left out of the Fratry front entrance and then right onto Paternoster Row. You will turn right onto Castle Street and right again to the entrance gates of the Cathedral.

At the cathedral the marshals will direct you to your seat. In the event of wet weather a small number of umbrellas will be provided to graduands for the procession. Personal umbrellas can also be used by graduands and can be stored underneath your seat in the cathedral.

Guest queueing ahead of ceremony
There will be activities and things to see in the city centre for your guests while you are waiting to line-up in the Fratry.

Guests must be aware that seats are not numbered and reserved seating is only permitted for those that have notified us, prior to the ceremony week, of any additional needs or mobility issues.

Guests queueing outside the cathedral will only be given access at the time stated on their ticket. Any guests who take seats ahead of the stated time will be asked to re-join the outside queue. Guests will need to make their own provision for wet weather if queueing outside.

Guest tickets in the cathedral
Guests must be seated by the time stated. This includes anyone with reserved seats, which will be released if not taken by this time. We regret that fire regulations do not permit standing in the venues. Food and drink is not permitted in the cathedral. Tickets must be presented at the door and then retained to be presented at the celebratory reception, following the ceremony. Guest seating is not numbered and guests can sit in any area of the cathedral that is not reserved. Guests wishing to leave the cathedral must carry their ticket with them in order to re-enter.

Seating for children: Children aged 2 years and over must have their own seat and, therefore, be included in your guest ticket numbers. Children 12 years or under must be accompanied by an adult.

The ceremony is a formal event and young children may find it less entertaining than the adults in attendance. Therefore, if you do bring young children, we ask that your guests sit at the end of an aisle, near an exit, so they can easily pop out if your child becomes restless.

The graduation ceremony

How will I know when to walk onto the presentation area and what to do?
Before the ceremony, marshals will demonstrate the presentation process. Marshals will direct you at all times throughout the ceremony. You must have your name card (handed to you during lining-up) ready to hand to the Presenting Officer. Aside from your name card or any mobility aids, you must not be carrying any other items at this point and will be asked to leave any personal items on your seat should this be the case.

What happens on the presentation area?
When your name is announced, you will walk onto the presentation area, shake hands with the Presiding Officer who will gesture to you to turn to the photographer taking your presentation shot. You will then exit the presentation area, turn right and will be directed down the North Aisle and back to your seat in the South Aisle. If you are receiving a badge, this will be handed to you after you have exited the presentation area.

Filming and photography on graduation days

Filming will take place in Fratry, cathedral/grounds and Carlisle city centre throughout the graduation days. In addition, there may be a professional photographer taking pictures in the same areas. All coverage may be used on the university's website and in other promotional material.

Please note: Graduands (and guests) should not assume that direct shots they see taken of themselves throughout the day will automatically be included in the footage. Filming will be edited and tailored to a standard coverage format. All graduands will, however, be captured as they are presented to the Presiding Officer on the presentation area.

Personal photography and filming
Graduands and guests are not permitted to take flash photography, videos or recordings in the cathedral. Please visit our website (www.cumbria.ac.uk/graduation) for more information.

Graduation memories, on us! Grab your free clip and photos

Don't miss out! Register in advance to receive your graduating moment sent to you on the day, plus free prints of your best snaps!

Your handshake moment will be filmed and turned into a personalised clip for you to share with friends and family or to post on your socials.

We are also printing your snaps free of charge on the day as a memento to keep forever. Choose your best snaps, send them to the same WhatsApp chat you registered on, and collect your instant prints from us at the Crown & Mitre Hotel.

Pre-register now: Your clip will be sent to you on the day as soon as it's ready, and your pics will print out ready for collection.

https://app.ovation.ac/l/5Y2J28W3/

After the ceremony

Where can we celebrate with our guests and university staff?
A celebratory reception will take place at the Crown and Mitre Hotel. The university wishes to express its congratulations to all graduates and, in doing so, invites them and their guests to join university staff for light refreshments (hot or cold beverage and refreshments).

Tickets must be presented. Graduates will be handed a ticket before they leave the cathedral.

Gown
Don't forget to return this to the Drawing Room, Crown and Mitre Hotel

Merchandise
There will be merchandise available to purchase on the day. Please visit the sales desk situated in the Crown and Mitre Hotel.

Your Graduate Information Hub

As you take your next steps, make sure to visit the **Graduate Information Hub**. Designed to support you shortly after finishing your studies and throughout your first few years as a graduate, the hub brings together the information, guidance, and support you may need as you transition from university life.

Whether you are looking for answers to frequently asked questions, practical guidance on life after graduation, information about alumni benefits and opportunities, or support with your next career step, the hub is designed to be your first point of reference.

We recommend bookmarking or favouriting this page and returning to it whenever you need information, support, or guidance throughout your first few years after graduation.

Alumni Association

Keeping you connected to Cumbria and each other

Congratulations Class of 2026

Welcome to the University of Cumbria alumni community, you now belong to a network of over 83,000 graduates worldwide and your relationship with us will continue for life.

Your graduation certificate is not a receipt, it is a membership card. There are no joining fees, no need to sign up, we will be in touch with you shortly.

As an alumnus you will receive exclusive benefits and services, the latest news, event invites and opportunities to stay connected to Cumbria and each other.

We would love to stay in touch with you; keep us up to date with your career news, when you move house or change email address, or if you have anything exciting to share or just want to say hi.

We are your first point of contact for any reason you may wish to get in touch with the university in the future, and we will always be happy to hear from you.

We wish you all the best for the future.

01228279315 uocalumni University of Cumbria Alumni Association

alumni@cumbria.ac.uk www.cumbria.ac.uk/alumni

Careers & Employability Service

Graduates have access to three years of full careers advic[MN1] e and lifelong access to our jobs board. This includes 1:1 advice appointments, mock interviews, CV and application reviews, business and start-up advice, one year's free access to LinkedIn Learning and more. You can find out more about this in the **Connect With Careers** section of the **Graduate Information Hub**.
To make the most of these services, you can register at mycareerenriched.cumbria.ac.uk, which provides easy access to the careers team and the latest jobs. You can also stay connected with the team via 'University of Cumbria Careers' on LinkedIn and @UOCCareers on Instagram.

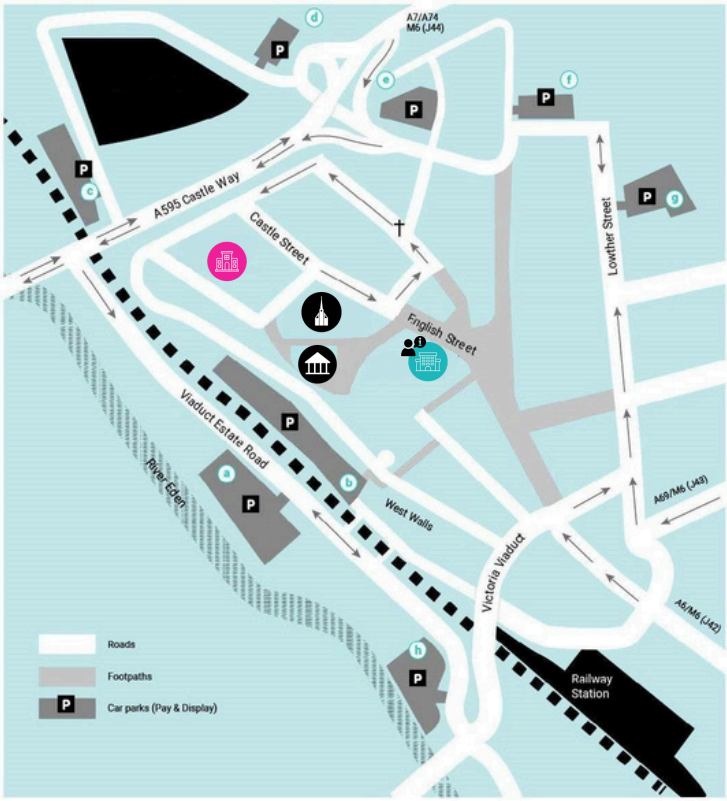
UCSU – Representing and supporting you to achieve your ambitions
UCSU is here to celebrate with you. Whilst you're leaving your academic studies behind, hopefully the experiences and memories from your time at the University of Cumbria will live on forever. Come and visit our stand at graduation to buy merchandise that will help you remember your time at Cumbria.

Graduation hoodies are not available at the ceremonies but are available to buy online here **cumbriasu.universityhoodies.org/Myshop.aspx**

We can also explain how to get TOTUM so you can continue to enjoy its benefits after you graduate! Alternatively, you can sign up for TOTUM here **www.totum.com**

Feedback
We are keen to hear about ways of improving our ceremonies. Please forward any comments to **ceremonies@cumbria.ac.uk**

HOW TO FIND US



Car Parks

a Lower Viaduct CA2 5BN

b Damside CA3 8AU

c Devonshire Walk CAS 8UL

d Bitts Park CA3 8UZ

e Peter Street CA3 8UY

f Civic Centre CA3 8XP

g Lowther Street CA3 8DP

h Upper Viaduct CA3 8AJ

The Fratry

Graduand gown collection (Undercroft)

Guest ticket(s) collection (Undercroft)

Graduand lining-up (Fratry Hall)

Tullie

Live Video Link (ticket holders only)

Academic lining-up

Cathedral

Ceremonies

Graduation Information Point

Crown and Mitre Hotel

Celebratory receptions (Ballroom)

Gown return (Drawing Room)

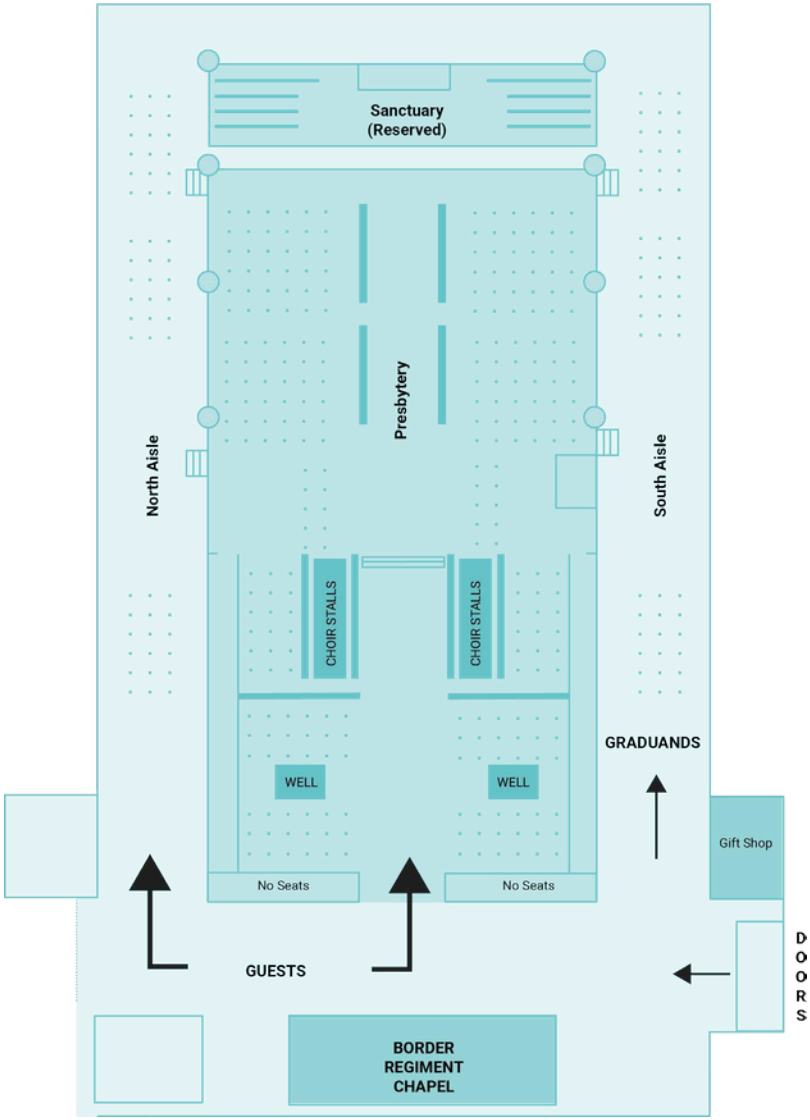
UCSU stand

Photography studio and sales desks:

-Bookings on the day (Supper Room)
-Pre-paid & access difficulties (Edwardian Room)

PLAN OF CARLISLE CATHEDRAL

Graduand seating is in the South Aisle. Guests/families/friends can take seats (that are not reserved) in the remainder of the cathedral.




University of
CUMBRIA