

Guide to Academic Regalia

The origins of academic regalia date back to the 12th and 13th centuries, when universities were taking form. The first gowns were patterned after the dress of the cleric and were believed to be a necessity for warmth in unheated buildings. Hoods were designed to serve as cover for the tonsured head. Caps were not used at that time. It wasn't until late 19th century that colors were assigned to signify degrees. The color used should be indicative of the subject to which the degree pertains. For example, the velvet for the degree of Master of Science in Education should be lt blue, representing education, rather than gold, representing science. No academic hood should ever represent more than a single degree.

In the case of the Ph.D. degree, the dark blue color is used to represent the mastery of the discipline of learning and scholarship in any field that is attested to be the awarding of this degree and is not intended to represent the field of philosophy.

For all academic purposes, the colors associated with the different disciplines are as follows:

Accountancy -----	Drab	Horticulture -----	Maize
Agriculture -----	Maize	Humanities -----	White
Anthropology -----	Gold	Journalism -----	Crimson
Architecture -----	Blue-Violet	Jurisprudence -----	Purple
Arts -----	White	Law -----	Purple
Auditory -----	Rhodes Blue	Letters -----	White
Biochemistry -----	Gold	Library Science -----	Lemon
Business Administration -----	Drab	Literature -----	White
Chiropractic -----	Grey	Medicine -----	Hunter Green
City Planning -----	Blue-Violet	Music -----	Pink
Civil Engineering -----	Orange	Nursing -----	Apricot
Commerce -----	Drab	Oratory (Speech) -----	Silver
Communication -----	Crimson	Optometry -----	Seafoam
Counseling & Guidance -----	Lt Blue	Pharmacy -----	Olive Green
Dentistry -----	Lilac	Philosophy -----	Ph.D. Blue
Divinity -----	Scarlet	Physical Education -----	Sage Green
Dramatic Arts -----	Brown	Physical Therapy -----	Teal
Economics -----	Copper	Public Administration -----	Peacock Blue
Education -----	Lt Blue	Public Health -----	Salmon
Engineering -----	Orange	Physics -----	Brt Gold
English -----	White	Science -----	Brt Gold
Fine Arts -----	Brown	Social Work -----	Citron
Foreign Service -----	Peacock Blue	Speech -----	Silver
Forestry -----	Russet	Theology -----	Scarlet
History -----	White	Urban Planning -----	Blue-Violet
Home Economics -----	Maroon	Veterinary Science -----	Grey