

School of Law
2023
**Hooding and
Commencement
Ceremony**

MAY 12, 2023



Creighton
UNIVERSITY



Table of Contents

Letter from the President.....	3
Order of Exercises.....	4
Mission Statement.....	5
Candidates for Earned Degrees.....	6
Traditions of Creighton	8
Credo of Creighton	9
Academic Attire.....	9
Board of Trustees and President’s Council	10
Endowed Chairs.....	11
History of Creighton University.....	12
D.J. Sokol Arena Map	13
Social Media	14
Welcome to the Alumni Family	15



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD

President, Creighton University



Dear Creighton University Graduate,

As we gather in the company of family, friends, and supporters to celebrate your tremendous accomplishments, let me offer my heartfelt congratulations on behalf of our Creighton community that you are now, officially, a proud member of the graduating Class of 2023.

This commencement ceremony is an incredibly special and well-deserved recognition of your persistence and dedication. All the effort that you have put in up to this point is yours to cherish as you close the book on one chapter and turn the page to discover something entirely new. I know I join everyone who has helped you and supported you along the way when I say that we cannot wait to see what awaits you in this world of endless possibility.

I encourage you to give yourself the chance to enjoy this special moment and reflect on the transformational journey that has brought you here. The rigor, sense of purpose, and focus needed to reach this point is not just something anyone can achieve; however, you can now count yourself among those few who can call themselves a college graduate. You have done something extraordinary.

This is the same passion that I hope you bring as you go on to make meaningful contributions in your profession and in your community. The world needs you, and I have faith that you will be a leader who will remain steadfastly driven and compassionate because you are not just a graduate, you are a Creighton University graduate.

Know, too, that you are not alone on this journey. You are now part of a Creighton alumni family that is nearly 80,000 strong and stretches across the globe. May you take from your experiences the best of what a Jesuit, Catholic education offers—inquiry, imagination, and inspiration. You are a changemaker and that means you do not wait for the world to come to you; you go forth with a mission to make it better.

Enjoy this milestone in your life, and may God bless you and your families.

Sincerely,

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD



Order of Exercises

PROCESSION

MACE BEARER

Craig W. Dallon, JD
Associate Dean, Professor

GRAND MARSHAL'S OPENING REMARKS

Yvonnda A. Summers, JD
Associate Dean

INVOCATION

Rev. Nicholas J. C. Santos, SJ, PhD
Rector, Jesuit Community

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD
President

DEAN'S MESSAGE

Joshua P. Fershée, JD
Dean, Professor

SENIOR CLASS SPEAKER AND PRESENTATION OF THE ERIC PEARSON OUTSTANDING FACULTY MEMBER AWARD

SirWayne H. Wardlow
Class of 2023

THE ERIC PEARSON OUTSTANDING FACULTY MEMBER AWARD

David P. Weber, JD
Professor

BOARD AUTHORIZATION

Presented by
Board of Trustees Member

DEGREE CONFERRAL STATEMENT

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD
President

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR EARNED DEGREES AND CONFERRAL OF ACADEMIC HOODS

Joshua P. Fershée, JD
Dean, Professor

Names read by

David P. Weber, JD
Professor

Hooding of graduates by

Kristy A. Coté, JD
Associate Professor

Craig W. Dallon, JD
Associate Dean, Professor

Kendra H. Fershée, JD
Professor

Rachel J. Goedken, JD
Associate Professor

Victoria J. Haneman, JD, LLM
Professor

Michael J. Kelly, JD, LLM
Professor

Carol C. Knoepfler, JD
Associate Professor

R. Collin Mangrum, JD, SJD
Professor

Edward A. Morse, JD
Professor

Daniel L. Real, JD
Associate Professor

Diane K. Uchimiya, JD, LLM
Assistant Professor

TURNING OF THE TASSEL

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD
President

STAGE PARTY, FACULTY, AND GRADUATE RECESSIONAL



Mission Statement

At Creighton School of Law, our mission is to provide the men and women of our student body intellectual challenge, academic rigor and an opportunity to develop a foundation of moral values for lifelong service in the law, to offer an environment to our faculty which encourages personal growth and scholarly achievement and to continue our long-established tradition of service to the Bar and citizens of the community.



CANDIDATES FOR EARNED DEGREES

Joshua P. Fershée, JD, Dean

JURIS DOCTOR

McKinsea Rosellen Alexander
Griswold, Iowa

Alexandra Diaz Andrews
Draper, Utah

Josiah Elliot Aponte
Papillion, Nebraska

Michelle Arau
Northridge, California

Matthew Tobin Arnold ♦
Master of Science, Government
and Organizational Leadership
Denver, Colorado

Samantha Sue Baldwin-Epstein
Papillion, Nebraska

Jordan Douglas Barr
South Sioux City, Nebraska

St. Benjamin Brian Bartholomew
Salt Lake City, Utah

Tyler James Barton
Bozeman, Montana

Drake A. Beyer
Crosslake, Minnesota

Robert Brian Bolger
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Drake Evan Buccellato
Gladstone, Missouri

Sara Renee Campagna
Omaha, Nebraska

Ethan James Carter
cum laude
Shepherdstown, West Virginia

Kiercy Saméa Marae Collins
Saint Paul, Kansas

Curtis Glenn Cook
Urbandale, Iowa

David Boone Daoust
Phoenix, Arizona

Aynsley Greer Davis
McKinney, Texas

William Skyler Dooley
Council Bluffs, Iowa

Talia Lenay Dourisseau
Avondale, Arizona

Kaylee Dwight
Pueblo, Colorado

Octavio Aaron Edgington
Nashville, Tennessee

Taylor G. Esch ♦
Master of Science, Government
and Organizational Leadership
Columbus, Nebraska

Lauren Shaye Evans
Gilbert, Arizona

Emily Elizabeth Fehringer
Omaha, Nebraska

Megan M. Fielder-Cox ♦
Master of Science, Government
and Organizational Leadership
Omaha, Nebraska

David M. Finley
Omaha, Nebraska

Daniel Robert Florance
magna cum laude
Papillion, Nebraska

Dawson French
St. Louis, Missouri

Ross Jacob Friehe
Omaha, Nebraska

Jason L. Gaines
Papillion, Nebraska

Donald Alan Garrell
cum laude
Miles City, Montana

Samantha Grace Gaston
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Rachel Ann Geelan
cum laude
Ruthven, Iowa

Annika Lee Gleason
Lincoln, Nebraska

Kaitlyn Faith Gonzalez
Avondale, Arizona

MacKenzie Keller Guy
Springfield, Missouri

Megan Corinne Halbur
Omaha, Nebraska

Allison Marie Heineman
Fremont, Nebraska

Morgan Alyssa Herchenbach
cum laude
Omaha, Nebraska

Debora Alice Hernandez-DeKlein
Fayetteville, North Carolina

Jack Thomas Hoogeveen ♦
Master of Science, Government
and Organizational Leadership
Rock Valley, Iowa

Breanna Alysse Houser
Omaha, Nebraska

Abigail E. Hoy Nissen
cum laude
Spencer, Iowa

Kate Callahan Hughes ♦
magna cum laude
Master of Business Administration
Omaha, Nebraska

David C. Hunter
cum laude
Omaha, Nebraska

Jason Edward Jensen
Broomfield, Colorado

Adriana Renae Joens ♦
Master of Science, Government
and Organizational Leadership
Omaha, Nebraska

Katie Elizabeth Johnson
Shenandoah, Iowa

William Joseph Kathrein ♦
magna cum laude
Master of Science, Government
and Organizational Leadership
Omaha, Nebraska

Andrew David Klein
Omaha, Nebraska

Aaron Philip Knappe
Omaha, Nebraska

Matthew C. Krall
Mitchell, South Dakota

James D. Krenz
Woodbridge, Virginia

Ashley Covert Kunz ♦
Master of Science, Government
and Organizational Leadership
Lincoln, Nebraska

Corey Lamas ♦
Master of Science, Government
and Organizational Leadership
East Los Angeles, California

Kevin J. Langevin ♦
Master of Science, Government
and Organizational Leadership
Cottage Grove, Minnesota

Olivia Ruth Lehman
magna cum laude
Burlington, Iowa

Anna Leonard
Omaha, Nebraska

McKade Ron Loe ♦
cum laude
Master of Science, Negotiation
and Conflict Resolution
Council Bluffs, Iowa

Natalie Celeste Lundak
Omaha, Nebraska

Rory William Margraf ♦
Master of Science, Government
and Organizational Leadership
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Connor Jacob Martin
Frisco, Texas

Katlyn Elizabeth Martin ♦
summa cum laude
Master of Science, Government
and Organizational Leadership
La Vista, Nebraska

Neil Andrew McCarthy
Omaha, Nebraska

Joseph McKechnie
cum laude
Fort Morgan, Colorado

Brayden William McNeary
Omaha, Nebraska

Mary Nevelyn Mead
Paradise Valley, Arizona

Jeremy Paul Meister
Cluj, Romania

McKenzie Kaylie Meradith
summa cum laude
Omaha, Nebraska

Megan Kristine Miranda
summa cum laude
West Fargo, North Dakota

Abram T. Morris
Anderson, Indiana

T. Chase Murphy
Omaha, Nebraska

Julie Neish
Omaha, Nebraska

Katelyn Michelle Noah
Urbandale, Iowa

Greggory David Norman ♦
Master of Science, Government
and Organizational Leadership
North Platte, Nebraska

Henry Irving Nunn
magna cum laude
Omaha, Nebraska

Logan William O'Connell
Eaton, Colorado

Kent R. Olson
cum laude
Atkinson, Nebraska



Cameron Lee Page
Ogden, Utah

Mikhail Ignatius Pellegrino
Woodbridge, Virginia

Richard Raymond Perez Jr.
Brighton, Colorado

John Alexander Pfeifer
St. Louis, Missouri

Nikolaos Peter Piperis
Omaha, Nebraska

Stavros Peter Piperis
magna cum laude
Omaha, Nebraska

David A. Polchinski
Staten Island, New York

Michael Todd Poyfair ♦
Master of Business Administration
Battle Ground, Washington

Justin W. Pritchett
summa cum laude
Laramie, Wyoming

Amelia Joy Rens
magna cum laude
Sioux Center, Iowa

Chad Austin Reusch
Branson, Missouri

Daniel Antonio Rivas
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Christena Marie Rogers
magna cum laude
Lake Oswego, Oregon

Stephanie Ann Shaw
Roseland, Nebraska

Kyle J. Sheahan
St. Louis, Missouri

Madelene I. Shehan ♦
magna cum laude
Master of Science, Government
and Organizational Leadership
Omaha, Nebraska

Garrett J. Smith
Plano, Texas

Christopher Smutny ♦
Master of Business Administration
Fresno, California

Jean Marie Soares
Papillion, Nebraska

Ethan Loya Sparks
Topeka, Kansas

Don A. Staggs
cum laude
Fairfax, Virginia

Shelby Taylor Stanford
Omaha, Nebraska

Angela Yvonne Stockdale
Nashville, Tennessee

Sydney Paige Story
Wayne, Nebraska

Maximilian Walker Struck
Verona, Wisconsin

Daniel Studer
Tucson, Arizona

Wyatt Dean Suhr
Council Bluffs, Iowa

Jennifer Kathleen Suleiman
Kearney, Nebraska

Katelyn N. Swaney
Gretna, Nebraska

Stephen Antoni Talipski
cum laude
Mondamin, Iowa

John David Tennant
Arroyo Grande, California

Kade James Theobald
magna cum laude
Council Bluffs, Iowa

Preston Winston Thomas III ♦
Master of Science, Government
and Organizational Leadership
Bowie, Maryland

Fernando J. Valderrabano
San Juan, Puerto Rico

Lindsay C. Velez
cum laude
Fremont, Nebraska

JayAnn Vernadean Villalobos
Denver, Colorado

Allyson Noelle Walz
cum laude
Sauk Rapids, Minnesota

SirWayne Henry Wardlow
Omaha, Nebraska

Brodey Brian Weber
Lincoln, Nebraska

Rian Joseph Weber
Dubuque, Iowa

Remington J. Weis
Copperas Cove, Texas

Aubrey Lynne Wells
cum laude
Fort Morgan, Colorado

Payton Whiteaker
Council Bluffs, Iowa

Truman W. Wiles
Redfield, Iowa

McKinley Wells Wilson
cum laude
Yutan, Nebraska

Nathan Theodore Wilson ♦
cum laude
Master of Science, Government
and Organizational Leadership
Weston, Missouri

Kimberly J. Workman
Bellevue, Nebraska

Jacquelynn Brooke Ziola
Omaha, Nebraska

Traditions of Creighton



Creighton Seal

The Creighton University seal includes elements representing the Creighton family, Creighton's Jesuit tradition and the Omaha Archdiocese.

The gold stripes on the red field, in the upper left-hand quadrant of the shield, come from the family coat of arms of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). The lion rampant comes from the Creighton family coat of arms, and the three seashells on a field of white and red sable come from the Wareham family coat of arms—paying homage to Creighton University's founding families. The design for the shield's final quadrant, in the lower left, comes from the coat of arms of the Archdiocese of Omaha. The starburst behind the shield comes from the seal of the Society of Jesus.



Ceremonial Mace

In the Middle Ages, the mace was a club used in battle and carried by a bodyguard to defend a person of authority. Over the years, it began to lose its warlike image and became a symbol of peaceful leadership.

At an academic institution, the mace is the symbol of the legal and chartered authority of the leadership to whom the board of trustees has delegated authority. When the ceremonial mace is present, the authority of the University is present. Use of the mace is reserved for occasions of outstanding importance, and it is an honor to bear the mace.

The Creighton University mace was designed and fashioned by Brian K. Besack, operations supervisor of the University's carpenter shop, at the invitation of then president, the Rev. John P. Schlegel, SJ, to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the University.

Using a cherry wood baluster from a long-abandoned staircase in the attic of Creighton Hall, the oldest building on Creighton's campus, Besack designed and fashioned the shaft, head and foot of the mace. Each facet of the nine-sided head displays a bronze, gold-plated medallion bearing the name and founding date of the University's schools and colleges. Its foot is sheathed in gold-plated brass, and cradled in its shaft rests the official seal of the University. At its top, the mace is crowned with a three-dimensional blue and gold medallion symbol of the Society of Jesus.



Credo of Creighton

Creighton, a Jesuit, Catholic university, is convinced that the hope of humanity is in the ability of men and women to seek truths and values essential to human life. Creighton aims to lead all of its members in discovering and embracing the challenge of using their intelligence and freedom in a way that values all persons. We therefore profess, and pledge our commitment to, the following creed:

We believe in God, our loving Creator.

We believe each person, created in God's image, is called to be God's child, and therefore possesses intrinsic value as a human being. This includes all persons and excludes any form of discrimination.

We believe that the deepest purpose of each person is to enrich and share life through love and reverence for the human community. This motivates our open and continuous pursuit of truth. For this reason, we foster reverence for life in all of its human potential.

We believe in supporting all persons in their responsible contributions to the community through family, social interactions and all life endeavors.

We believe that we must strive for a human community based on justice, mutual respect and concern. In this context, we must cultivate care for our planet and its resources.

We believe that laws exist for the benefit and well-being of individual persons, that legal systems must express the common good, and that governments must be respectful and open to thoughtful criticism by intelligent and responsible citizens.

We believe that the laws of justice and love must regulate the personal, family, economic and global components of our lives if civilization is to progress.

We believe in the teachings and example of Jesus Christ.

Academic Attire

The scholastic dress worn at academic ceremonies is a customary practice which dates back to the Middle Ages when people dressed according to class distinction. The clergy was the literate class, thus, the dress worn by scholars was that of the church—gowns. Hoods were also worn because the buildings where scholars lived and studied were often cold.

The academic dress worn today by the graduating law students and the faculty members identifies the institution from which they received, or will receive, their degrees and also the nature of the degrees received.

The gowns worn by today's Juris Doctor degree candidates are black, and are marked by three horizontal velvet bars on each sleeve. The greatest degree of symbolism, however, is shown by the hood. The doctor's hood has a purple velvet border marking the law degree received, and is lined with blue and white, the colors of Creighton University. Similarly, the colors of the gowns and the colors of the hoods worn by the faculty mark the institution from which they received their degrees.





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*Creighton alumnus/alumna



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SCHOOL OF LAW

A.A. and Ethel Yossem Endowed Chair in Legal Ethics (1991)

R. Collin Mangrum, JD, SJD

McGrath North Mullin and Kratz Endowed Chair in Business Law (2006)

Edward A. Morse, JD

Senator Allen A. Sekt Endowed Chair in Law (2009)

Michael J. Kelly, JD, LL.M

Larry L. Teply, JD

Connie Kearney Endowed Chair in Clinical Legal Education (2001)

Diane K. Uchimiya, JD, LL.M





Edward Creighton



Mary Lucretia Creighton



John Creighton



Sarah Emily Creighton

History of Creighton University

Edward and Mary Lucretia Creighton, along with Edward's brother, John, settled in Omaha in the 1850s. John married Mary Lucretia's sister, Sarah Emily Wareham, in 1868, and the four are considered the founders of Creighton University. Edward's work with the transcontinental telegraph and freighting, ranching, railroading and banking became a major force in the city's economic development. The two brothers were widely known for their business enterprises, and the two couples were also widely regarded for their philanthropy.

Edward died in 1874, and his widow included \$100,000 in her will to establish Creighton College in memory of her husband. Mary Lucretia died in 1876, and her executors, who included her brother-in-law John, purchased 6.2 acres of land at the northwest corner of what is currently 24th and California streets. The land and additional securities were transferred to Bishop James O'Connor of Omaha, and construction began on the school.

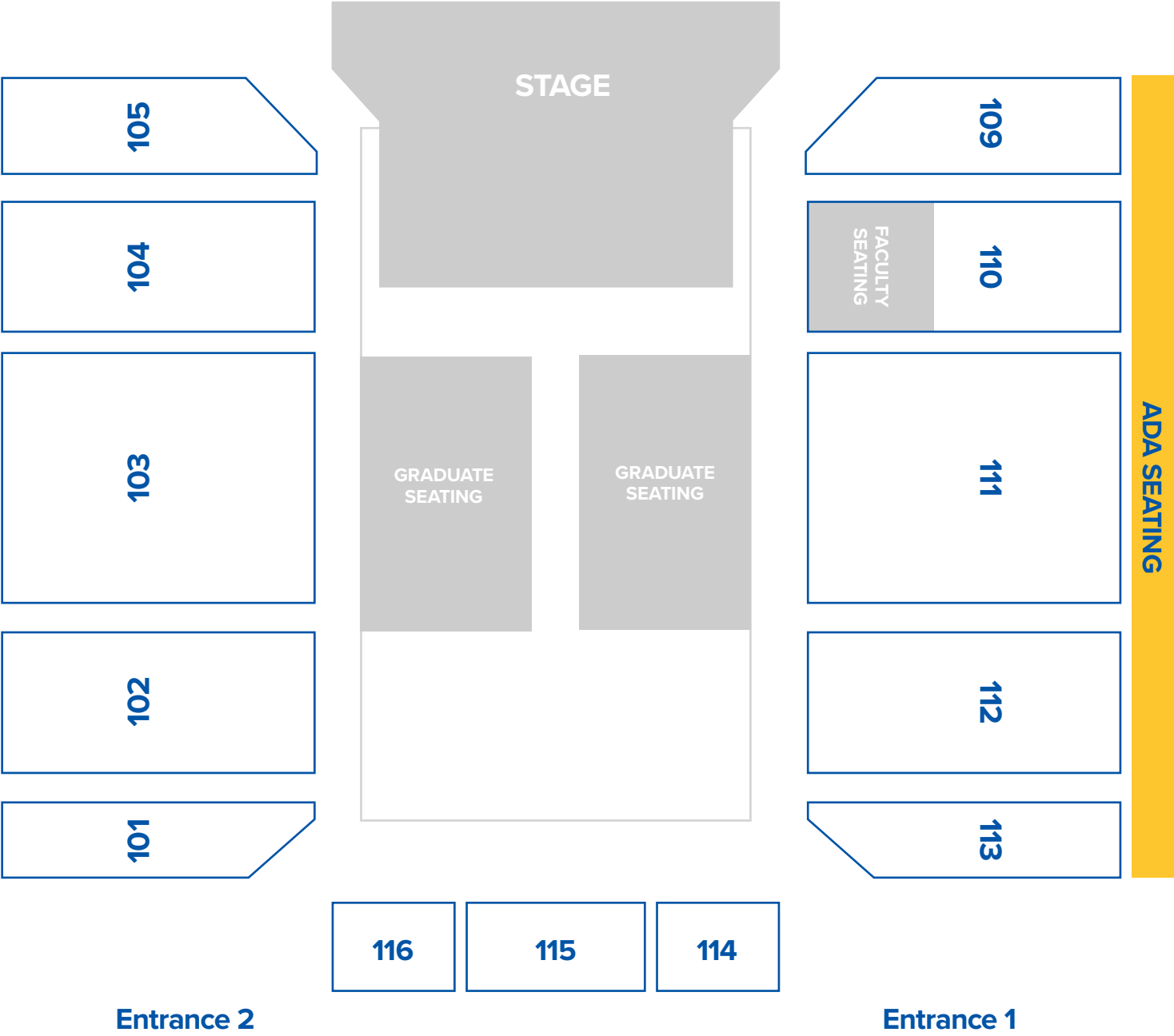
The bishop asked the Jesuits to operate the school and the first president, Roman A. Shaffel, S.J., arrived in Omaha in late 1877; the school opened on Sept. 2, 1878. One priest, two scholastics, a layman and a laywoman formed the faculty. The school began with 120 students ranging in age from 6 to 30. On Aug. 14, 1879, Bishop O'Connor surrendered his trust to the Jesuits, who incorporated "The Creighton University" under Nebraska law. Much of the initial teaching was below the collegiate level; in 1891, Creighton University awarded its first baccalaureate degree.



Edward and Mary Lucretia's generosity is credited with establishing Creighton College, while John and Sarah Emily's philanthropy enlarged it to a five-school university. Today, Creighton University consists of nine schools and colleges:

- College of Arts and Sciences (1878)
- School of Medicine (1892)
- School of Law (1904)
- School of Dentistry (1905)
- School of Pharmacy and Health Professions (1905)
- Heider College of Business (1920)
- Graduate School (1926)
- College of Nursing (1971; four-year bachelor's degree program began in 1958)
- College of Professional and Continuing Education (Established as University College in 1983)

D.J. Sokol Arena Map





Lord, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labor and not to ask for reward; save that of knowing that I am doing your will.

A Prayer for Generosity

St. Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits)



Connect to the Creighton Commencement experience using #CreightonGrad



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Creighton University School of Law | Creighton University Alumni



Creighton University School of Law

Graduation Honors

Students may graduate with honors. Criteria for graduation honors can be found in the Creighton University catalogs. Honors for students with previously conferred degrees are listed in this program. Honors for students with May degrees met the honors criteria based on Fall 2022 cumulative grade point averages. Official honors will be awarded on the transcript and diploma based on Spring 2023 cumulative grade point averages. Honors for students who anticipate completing their degree requirements in August or December are not listed in this program. Honors will be awarded on the transcript and diploma at the time of degree conferral.

Degree Conferral

Creighton University confers degrees three times per year: August, December, and May. Annual University commencement ceremonies are held in May for all Colleges and Schools. The hooding ritual is included in the commencement ceremony for master and doctoral level students. An additional graduate level commencement ceremony is held in December. Students who complete their degree programs in August or December may attend the commencement ceremony following completion, or with the approval of the Office of the Dean, in the preceding May. Participation in a commencement ceremony does not guarantee a degree is officially earned. A degree is conferred only after the dean verifies all academic requirements are met and the degree is posted on the student's transcript by the Office of the Registrar.

Ceremony Photos

Ceremony Photos will photograph each graduate receiving his or her diploma. Graduates will be emailed a link to their photo proofs, or they can go to ceremonyphotos.com for more information. Questions may be addressed to service@ceremonyphotos.com or call 402.917.6518.



Welcome to the Creighton University alumni family,

now nearly 80,000 strong. While your time as a student is coming to a close, your time in our global alumni community is just getting started. No matter where life takes you, we will be here to support you with opportunities and benefits to help you stay connected.

Bluejays for life.



alumni.creighton.edu

Creighton Days

Sept. 14–17, 2023

Join us for four days of reunion parties, campus festivities, food, fun, music and so much more.

For more information, visit creighton.edu/creightondays.

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

School of Law