

2026 Instructions for the Sewanee School of Letters Commencement Service

You will have a program so you can follow along with the service, but we wanted to provide some additional instructions for graduates.

The lineup will be under the walkway of Walsh-Ellett at 2:15 PM. You will line up in the order indicated in the bulletin.

You will process into All Saints' Chapel on the instruction of the marshal, making sure you do not step on the seal. The graduates will precede the faculty. Your seats will be in the front of the chapel on the RIGHT. You will be seated alphabetically by last name.

Remain standing after the procession into All Saints' Chapel until directed to be seated by the Chaplain upon the opening of the service.

There will be remarks and readings, followed by the Latin/English section of the service. All rows will then be invited to stand by Dean Cooley.

FAUXPLOMAS AND HOODS

When indicated, the first row will file into the right side aisle. All other rows may sit until indicated by the ushers. The ushers will tell you when to stand and show you where to line up in the side aisle. There will be a marker on the floor where to stop.

When your name is called, you will proceed to the provost to receive your fauxploma. (Your actual diploma will be mailed by the registrar. We have a lovely keepsake for you inside the diploma tube.) There will again be a marker on the floor. Shake hands with your right hand and take the document in your left hand. Turn so the congregation can see you.

You will then step up **in front of** Director Taylor **FACING** the congregation. There will be a marker on the floor. At this point, stand still. The director will then place the hood on your shoulders. If you are tall, you can stoop down a little. You should then turn to your LEFT and shake the director's hand.

You will exit LEFT, return to your seat, and sit down. After the University's Charge to Graduates has been said, all in the church will stand for the singing of the Alma Mater.

You will remain standing for the prayer and will then be guided into the procession down the center aisle and back out of the chapel. You will exit out of the chapel immediately following the faculty. We will set up a formal portrait on the chapel steps.

Congratulations!