



INFORMATION SHEET SERIES:

TAKING THE MA OR OTHER HIGHER DEGREES

1. STANDING

Candidates for the MA degree become eligible to graduate six years after the end of their first term of residence, provided that (which is usually the case) at least two years have elapsed since taking the BA degree. Affiliated students become eligible to take the MA five years after first residence. Other degrees are notified directly to you by the Board of Graduate Studies.

2. PROCEDURE

The degree may be taken in person or in absence at Congregations as indicated on our website. Application to graduate should be in writing, preferably by completing the form, and should arrive at the Alumni & Development Office **at least three weeks** before the date of the Congregation. Applications can sometimes be received after this date, but acceptance cannot be guaranteed in advance; late applicants should enquire of the position by telephone to the Alumni & Development Office (01223) 332104.

3. DRESS

WOMEN

Plain dark (i.e. black or *very dark blue* or *very dark grey*) dress, suit, or trouser suit with white blouse. Sleeves must be long or three-quarter length. A dark skirt may be worn without a jacket but with a long sleeved white blouse. In addition a white or black cardigan may be worn. White bands may be worn (optional) but not bow ties. Tights should be plain, black or neutral coloured with plain black shoes (not boots, sandals or 'peep' toes), BA * gown and BA hood.

MEN

Black dinner jacket and trousers or plain dark suit (i.e. black or *very dark blue* or *very dark grey*), plain white shirt, white bow tie and bands, plain black shoes (neither sandals nor 'peep' toes), black socks, BA * gown and BA hood.



The overall effect should be formal and tidy. Heavy jewellery should not be worn nor body jewellery (men or women). Dyed hair (other than natural colour) is not acceptable. N.B. The Proctors have given notice that anyone inappropriately dressed will not be allowed to proceed to their degree that day. **Exceptions to the above dress code will only be considered for religious or cultural reasons and must have prior written approval.**

Congregations at which degrees are taken in person are on Saturdays and last for about half an hour. Relatives and friends are welcome in the Senate House; however tickets are required and are limited to three per graduand. It is inadvisable to bring babies or very young children. We will not know until closer to the Congregation at what time the College will be presented, and hence when guests will be admitted. Please therefore contact the College a few days before the ceremony to obtain this information. **Guests must be present before the session starts (or they will not be admitted) and are not permitted to leave until the end of the session.** You may then meet them outside the Senate House. Be prepared for rain.

* This will be the academic dress for the majority. If you already have a degree of the University higher than the BA, you will wear the corresponding gown and hood.

