Fall Commencement

Fall Commencement will take place Saturday, December 14, at the Ted Constant Convocation Center. The ceremony for Darden College of Education, Frank Batten College of Engineering and Technology, and College of Sciences will be at 9 a.m., while the ceremony for College of Arts and Letters, College of Business and Public Administration, and College of Health Sciences is scheduled for 2 p.m. All guests must have a ticket to enter the Constant Center. Children 2 years of age and younger are not required to have a ticket if they can sit in a parent’s lap. If you do not have a guest ticket, auxiliary viewing is provided in the multipurpose room of the Constant Center. Parking will be available in the 43rd Street Parking Garage. Plan to arrive 30-60 minutes before the ceremony is scheduled to begin.

The ceremony will last approximately 1-1/2 to 2 hours. It will start with a processional that will enter the arena at the ceremony start time. This will be followed by speakers, the confirmation of degrees, and then personal congratulations where each graduate’s name will be read as he or she walks across the stage. Guests are welcome to photograph or videotape the ceremony so long as they are not disruptive. Plan to meet your graduate outside the arena following the ceremony. There will not be an opportunity for after-ceremony photos in the arena, but there are many locations around campus that make for great photo opportunities, such as in front of Constant Center and around Kaufman Mall.
ODU has been named one of the nation’s 120 Best Colleges for Vets by the national publication Military Times, coming in at number 30 on the list. Military Times placed a new emphasis on academic rigor this year when scoring the fourth annual Best for Vets: Colleges survey. This survey is a highly respected analysis of U.S. colleges based on five categories—university culture, student support, academic quality, academic policies and financial aid—as they relate to student veterans. ODU is one of only two colleges in Virginia to place in the top 25% of schools ranked.

At the Nike Cup November 21-23, ODU senior swimmer Sidni Hoxha set ODU and Nike Cup records in the 100-meter freestyle with a time of 43.13. He also broke the ODU record in the men’s 50-meter freestyle with a time of 19.44. In the women’s 500-meter freestyle, Yesim Giresunlu also set a school record with a time of 4:49.7.

ODU history professor Maura Hametz was recently named a recipient of The Smith Award by the European History Section of the Southern Historical Association for her book, "In the Name of Italy: Nation, Family, and Patriotism in a Fascist Court."

Spirit Fridays started as a word-of-mouth tradition but eventually were enacted by the University President and resolved by the Student Senate. All members of the ODU community are asked to wear school colors or ODU apparel every Friday, both on- and off-campus. Members of the spirit crew are sent around campus on random Fridays to reward those who participate in this tradition. Students who are caught wearing ODU colors or apparel can win prizes for showing their school spirit.