



Dublin City University

Code of Academic Dress

1 Introduction

The Universities Act 1997 vests in Dublin City University (DCU) the statutory authority to grant academic awards which are recognised nationally and internationally. In common with other Universities, DCU has established a distinctive code of academic dress, specific to DCU awards, which is worn by graduands and graduates of the University at public conferring ceremonies and other formal events.

Formal academic dress is typically comprised of the following three components, which vary in style depending on the nature of the award:

- a gown;
- a hood (which is fastened to the front and drapes behind the shoulders) **OR** an epitoge (a garment worn over the left shoulder); and
- a mortar board or doctoral bonnet/cap, the wearing of which is optional at DCU ceremonies.

The colour framework¹ for the University’s suite of academic dress reflects both the institutional identity of our graduates (through the use of DCU’s signature institutional colours: navy and gold) and their academic discipline as represented by the associated Faculty colour.

2 DCU Academic Dress by Award Type

DCU offers a range of awards at Levels 7-10 of the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). The features of the academic dress associated with each award are outlined below:

Award	NFQ Level	Gown	Hood/Epitoge	Mortar Board / Cap (Optional)
Certificate	Level 7 or 8	Black, Oxford-style Bachelor’s gown.	Large epitoge in Faculty colour, featuring one stripe in University braid ² on both the front and back.	Black mortar board with black tassel.
Diploma	Level 7 or 8	Black, Oxford-style Bachelor’s gown.	Large epitoge in Faculty colour, featuring two stripes in University braid on both the front and back.	Black mortar board with black tassel.
Bachelor’s Degree	Level 8	Black, Oxford-style Bachelor’s gown.	University navy, simple-shaped hood, lined with the Faculty colour, edged in gold braid.	Black mortar board with black tassel.

¹ In respect of all colours outlined in this document, academic dress must be the correct shade of the colour outlined. If clarification is required, contact DCU Registry.

² University braid is gold with navy trim.



Award	NFQ Level	Gown	Hood/Epitoge	Mortar Board / Cap (Optional)
Graduate Certificate	Level 9	Black, Oxford-style Bachelor’s gown.	Large epitoge in Faculty colour, featuring three stripes in University braid on both the front and back.	Black mortar board with black tassel.
Graduate Diploma	Level 9	Black, Oxford-style Bachelor’s gown.	Large epitoge in Faculty colour, featuring four stripes in University braid on both the front and back.	Black mortar board with black tassel.
Master’s Degree	Level 9	Black, Oxford-style Master’s gown.	University navy, large, simple-shaped hood, lined with the Faculty colour, edged in gold braid.	Black mortar board with black tassel.
Doctoral Degree	Level 10	Scarlet, Oxford-style doctoral gown with bell-shaped sleeves, faced down each side (in front) and cuffs in University navy, edged in gold braid.	University navy, large, simple- shaped hood, lined with gold, edged in gold braid.	Black velvet doctoral cap/bonnet with gold tassel.

3 Dublin City University Faculty Colours

The colours associated with the disciplines delivered in DCU Faculties are as follows:

Faculty / Unit	Colour	
DCU Business School	Cream	
DCU Institute of Education	Education Blue	
Faculty of Engineering & Computing	Engineering	Orange
	Computing	Grey
Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences	White	
Faculty of Science & Health	Green	
Open Education – DCU Connected	Russet	