

2021

Hello Soon To Be Graduates!

Graduation will be here before we know it! I know it might seem like a long way off, but it will come up quickly! I am sure you are all excited about the upcoming festivities. There are quite a few things you need to know so hang in there with me until the end.

Here we go:

1. You will be emailed a Petition to Graduate. Please fill this out and return it no later than December 11 so we can start planning accordingly. You will notice there is a section on there for future plans after graduation. You can write in that area now if you know and I will also be checking in with you closer to graduation for updates. The program doesn't print until the end of April so we have plenty of time for changes.
2. The graduation banquet is planned for Friday, May 7, at 5:30 pm. 2021 Graduates are being honored and will be free. The cost will be \$25 per person for friends and family. You can start making paid reservations with Faith McCarthy fmccarthy@shasta.edu beginning April 1 for any additional attendees. Final reservations need to be made no later than **Wednesday, May 5**. Please dress nicely. The evening will include honors and testimonies and a special time of celebration so come prepared to say a few words about your time at SBC&GS.
3. Graduation is at 10am on Saturday, May 8, at CrossPointe Community Church (across the street from SBC&GS). We would love for all of our graduates to participate but understand that some of you live at a long distance from SBC and may not be able to attend. If you have not already informed me of your decision to participate, please do so immediately so I can make sure we are prepared.
4. For those participating in graduation, you will need to be there by 8am Saturday morning in the lobby of the church for a quick practice. A continental breakfast on Saturday will be provided for you.
5. There is a President's Reception immediately following graduation in the SBC chapel. Light snacks and dessert will be served and everyone is welcome to come.
6. Professional graduation photos are part of the graduation packet and will be mailed to you soon after graduation, usually in mid to late June.
7. For those finishing their degree in the spring, the graduation fee of \$200 will be added to your spring 2021 Populi account. If you are finishing in

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the fall, it will be added this semester. Whether or not you participate in the graduation on campus, this fee is applicable. I add it once I receive your Petition to Graduate. If you notice it has not been added after this, please let me know.

8. All required classes for your degree will need to be completed by Wednesday, May 5, in order to participate in graduation. If during this semester you find yourself needing an additional course, we will reschedule your graduation for another semester. Please note that failing a class in the spring 2021 semester will disqualify you from participating in graduation until you have repeated and passed the course(s). Once all of your work is in and graded in Populi, you are eligible for graduation in that current semester. Even if it is the first week of the semester, you will not be able to receive your diploma until the graduation date at the end of the semester. (Example: You turn in your last assignment for Senior Theology on the Monday after graduation. Since everything was not completed, graded, and finalized prior to the date on the May diploma, you will now have a diploma with the August graduation date.)

9. **If you have not paid your complete financial bill in full, including any fees or additional invoices, you are not eligible for graduation.** In order to graduate you must have an account balance of 0. You may not participate in the graduation ceremony or be granted your degree until everything is paid. Make arrangements now with the Financial Office for full payment by graduation.

10. All course work for those graduating in May must be in **NO LATER THAN Wednesday, May 5**, to give your professors time to record your final grades. **If you turn in work after this time, your diploma will be dated August 27 or later and you will not receive it until that date.** PLEASE make sure that you are keeping up with assignments so this does not happen.

11. All graduates need to complete an exit interview form, regardless of whether you are returning for further education. The form will be emailed to you prior to graduation.

I know this is a LOT of information! If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask. We are looking forward to a great commencement!

Mrs. McCarthy