

Complete Policy Title:  
**Academic Regalia, Hood Descriptions  
And Degree Abbreviations**

Approved by:  
**Senate**

Date of Original Approval(s):  
**November 1995**

Responsible Executive :  
**University Registrar**

Policy Number (if applicable):

Date of Most Recent Approval:  
**October 9, 2019**

Supersedes/Amends Policy dated:  
**October 9, 2013**  
**October 13, 2010**  
**November 11, 2009**  
**January 13, 2016**

Enquiries:  
[Policy \(University Secretariat\)](#)

**DISCLAIMER:** *If there is a Discrepancy between this electronic policy and the written copy held by the policy owner, the written copy prevails.*

---

## Academic Dress

### 1. **The Chancellor**

The CHANCELLOR wears a gown made from black satin damask and having facings, down each side in front, and a square collar at the back of the same material. Traditionally, the gown is trimmed with gold lace and ornaments as shown on Attachment I. With this gown a black mortar-board cap may be worn with a gold tassel and a gold lace edging. In accordance with McMaster's commitment to diversity and inclusion, the Chancellor may propose modifications to the design of the regalia.

### 2. **The President and Vice-Chancellor**

The PRESIDENT and VICE-CHANCELLOR wears a gown made from maroon damask and having facings, down each side in front, and a square collar at the back of the same material. The gown is trimmed with gold lace and ornaments as show on Attachment II. With this gown a maroon mortar-board cap may be worn with a gold tassel and a gold lace edging. In accordance with McMaster's commitment to diversity and inclusion, the President may propose modifications to the design of the regalia.

### 3. **The University Bedel**

The UNIVERSITY BEDEL wears a gown and cap as shown in Attachment III. When carrying the Mace, the Bedel wears white gloves.

---

#### 4. **Doctors**

The undress costume for DOCTORS, including the Doctor of Ministry, is the Master's gown made from black silk. The full dress costume is an Edinburgh pattern doctorate gown made from maroon broadcloth and having facings, down each side in front and on the sleeves, and sleeve-linings of corded silk of the colour distinctive of the degree. For example, the full dress costume for Doctors of Philosophy is an Edinburgh pattern doctorate gown in maroon with white silk facings as shown on Attachment IV. Doctors wear a black cloth mortar-board cap with a gold tassel.

#### 5. **Masters**

The gown for recipients of the MASTER's degree, including the M.T.S., the M.R.E., and the M.Div., is made from black silk and has sleeves of the pattern customarily used to indicate this degree. Masters wear a black cloth mortar-board cap with a black tassel.

#### 6. **Bachelors**

The BACHELOR'S gown, and the gown for M.D. recipients, is made from black stuff and has open pointed sleeves. Bachelors wear no headgear.

### **Hoods and Degree Abbreviations**

<b>Hood Shapes</b>	Doctorate	Toronto doctorate full shape (see Attachment V)
	Master's	Oxford simple shape (see Attachment VI)
	Bachelor's	A distinctive simple shape (see Attachment VII)

### **Hood Specifications and Degree Abbreviations**

On the DOCTORATE hoods and on the hoods of the degrees of MASTER OF SCIENCE and MASTER OF DIVINITY the lining is brought over the anterior and posterior sides to form a binding  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch wide on the outside.

On the hoods for the degrees of MASTER OF ARTS, MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, MASTER OF ENGINEERING, MASTER OF ARTS (TEACHING), and MASTER OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES, the binding is 2 inches wide on the inside and  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch wide on the outside.

For the MASTER OF HEALTH SCIENCES the gold binding is 2 inches wide on the inside and  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch wide on the outside and the crimson lining is brought over the posterior side to form a binding  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch wide on the outside.

For the MASTER OF SCIENCE (TEACHING) the royal blue binding is 2 inches wide on the inside and  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch wide on the outside and the gold lining is brought over the posterior side to form a binding  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch wide on the outside.

---

Except where indicated to the contrary in the list below, the facing on the BACHELOR'S hood is 2 inches wide.

Doctor of Divinity <i>(Honorary Degree)</i>	D.D	Maroon broadcloth, lined and bound with purple silk.
Doctor of Laws <i>(Honorary Degree)</i>	LL.D.	Maroon broadcloth, lined and bound with scarlet silk.
Doctor of Letters <i>(Honorary Degree)</i>	D.Litt.	Maroon broadcloth, lined and bound with blue silk.
Doctor of Science <i>(Honorary Degree)</i>	D.Sc.	Maroon broadcloth, lined and bound with old gold silk.
Doctor of Medicine	M.D.	Hood of the Toronto Doctor's cut, with a shell of black wool, lined with red silk.
Doctor of Ministry	D.Min.	Hood of the Toronto Doctor's cut, with a shell of black silk, lined and bound on the posterior side with scarlet silk (the scarlet lining is brought over the posterior side to form a binding ½ an inch wide on the outside), and bound on the anterior side with scarlet velvet (the binding to be 5 inches wide on the outside and ½ an inch wide on the inside). Three 1 ¼ inch chevrons, 1 ¼ inches apart, extend from the inside centre back to the anterior edge, ending at, but not extending over, the scarlet velvet binding.
Doctor of Philosophy	Ph.D.	Maroon broadcloth, lined and bound with white silk.

---

Master of Applied Science	M.A.Sc.	Same hood as Master of Engineering.
Master of Arts	M.A.	Black silk, lined with white silk and bound over the anterior side with red silk and over the posterior side with grey silk.
Master of Arts (Teaching)	M.A. (Teaching)	Black silk, lined with white silk, bound with royal blue on the anterior side and with red on the posterior side.

---

Master of Biomedical Discovery and Commercialization	M.B.D.C.	Same hood as Master of Health Sciences.
Master of Business Administration	M.B.A.	Black silk, lined with white silk and bound over all open edges with brown silk.
Master of Clinical Health Sciences	M.C.H.Sc.	Same hood as Master of Health Sciences.
Master of Communications Management	M.C.M.	Black silk, lined with white silk, faced on the anterior edge with a three-inch band, consisting of a one-inch band of cinnamon silk on the outside, a one-inch band of grey silk next to the cinnamon, and then a one-inch band of red silk next to the grey, bound over all open edges with two-inch cinnamon silk.
Master of Divinity	M.Div.	Black silk, lined and bound with purple silk.
Master of Engineering	M.Eng.	Black silk, lined with old gold silk and bound over all open edges with steel grey silk.
Master of Engineering Entrepreneurship and Innovation	M.E.E.I.	Black silk, lined with old gold silk, bound over the anterior side with steel grey silk and over the posterior side with cinnamon silk. (The old gold and the steel grey bindings are 2 inches wide on the inside and $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch on the outside.)
Master of Engineering in Public Policy	M.E.P.P.	Same hood as Master of Engineering.
Master of Finance	M.Fin.	Same hood as Master of Business Administration.
Master of Financial Mathematics	M.F.M.	Same hood as Master of Science.
Master of Health Management	M.H.M.	Black silk, lined with white silk, bound on the posterior edge with gold silk, and faced on the anterior edge with brown silk and crimson (the brown silk facing is brought over the anterior side to form a binding of $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch wide on the outside).

---

Master of Health Sciences	M.H.Sc.	Black silk, lined with crimson, bound on the anterior side with old gold silk and bound on the posterior side with crimson.
Master of Public Health	M.P.H.	Black silk, lined with crimson. The anterior side contains two one-inch bands of white and old gold, with the old gold being the outermost colour. Bound on the outside anterior edge with ½ an inch gold and ½ an inch crimson on the outside posterior edge.
Master of Religious Education	M.R.E.	Black stuff, lined and bound with mauve silk.
Master of Science	M.Sc.	Black silk, lined and bound with old gold silk.
Master of Science (Occupational Therapy)	M.Sc.(OT)	Same hood as Master of Science.
Master of Science (Physiotherapy)	M.Sc.(PT)	Same hood as Master of Science.
Master of Science (Speech Language Pathology)	M.Sc.(SLP)	Same hood as Master of Science.
Master of Science (Teaching)	M.Sc. (Teaching)	Black silk, lined and bound on the posterior side with old gold silk, and bound on the anterior side with royal blue.
Master of Social Work	M.S.W.	Black silk, lined with white silk and bound over the anterior side with fuchsia silk and over the posterior side with white silk. (The fuchsia binding is 2 inches wide on the inside and ¾ of an inch wide on the outside. The white lining is brought over the posterior side to form a binding ¾ of an inch wide on the outside.)
Master of Technology Entrepreneurship and Innovation	M.T.E.I.	Black silk, lined with old gold silk, bound over the anterior side with steel grey silk and over the posterior side with cinnamon silk. (The old gold and the steel grey bindings are 2 inches wide on the inside and ¾ of an inch on the outside.)

Master of Theological Studies	M.T.S.	Black corded silk, lined with white silk, and bound on the anterior edge with mauve silk.
Master of Theology	M.Th.	Black silk, lined with purple silk and bound over the anterior side with crimson velvet and over the posterior side with purple silk. (The purple lining is brought over the posterior sides to form a binding 2 an inch wide on the outside. The velvet crimson binding is brought over the anterior sides to form a binding 2 inch on the inside and 3 inches on the outside).
Bachelor of Applied Science	B.A.Sc.	Same hood as Bachelor of Engineering.
Bachelor of Arts	B.A.	Black stuff, lined with white silk and faced down the anterior side with red silk and down the posterior side with grey silk.
Combined Bachelor of Arts/ Bachelor of Physical Education	B.A./B.P.E.	Same hood as Bachelor of Physical Education.
Combined Bachelor of Arts/ Bachelor of Social Work	B.A./B.S.W.	Same hood as Bachelor of Social Work.
Bachelor of Arts and Science	B.Arts Sc.	Black corded silk, lined with white, faced on the anterior side with old gold silk.
Combined Bachelor of Arts and Science/Bachelor of Social Work	B.Arts Sc./ B.S.W.	Same hood as Bachelor of Arts and Science.
Bachelor of Commerce	B.Com.	Black stuff, lined with white silk, faced down the anterior side with cinnamon silk.
Bachelor of Commerce and Arts	B.Com. & Arts	Black corded silk, lined with white taffeta, faced on the anterior edge with a 2 ½ inch band, consisting of a 1 inch band of cinnamon on the outside, a 1 inch band of grey next to the cinnamon and then a ½ inch band of red.
Bachelor of Engineering	B.Eng.	Black stuff, lined with old gold silk, faced down the anterior side with steel grey silk.
Bachelor of Engineering and Biomedical Engineering	B.Eng.BME	Same hood as Bachelor of Engineering.

---

Bachelor of Engineering and Biosciences	B.Eng.BioSci.	Same hood as Bachelor of Engineering.
Bachelor of Engineering and Computer Systems	B.Eng.C.S	Same hood as Bachelor of Engineering.
Bachelor of Engineering and Management	B.Eng.Mgt.	Black corded silk, lined with heavy gold rayon taffeta. Along the anterior side are placed two one inch bands of cinnamon and grey with the cinnamon band outermost. A 3 ½ inch white chevron extends from the inside centre-back to a point 12 inches on the anterior edge from centre-front, ending at, but not extending over, the two one-inch bands.
Bachelor of Engineering and Society	B.Eng. Society	Black corded silk, lined with heavy gold rayon taffeta. At the anterior side are placed two one-inch bands of red and grey with the red band outermost. A 3 ½ inch grey chevron extends from the inside centre-back to a point 12 inches on the anterior edge from the centre-front, ending at, but not extending over, the two one-inch bands.
Bachelor of Fine Arts	B.F.A.	Same hood as Bachelor of Arts.
Bachelor of Health Sciences	B.H.Sc.	Black stuff, lined with crimson silk and faced on the anterior side with old gold silk.
Bachelor of Health Sciences (Physician Assistant)	B.H.Sc.(PA)	Same hood as Bachelor of Health Sciences.
Bachelor of Kinesiology	B.Kin.	Black silk, lined with white silk, faced down the anterior side with sage green silk.
Bachelor of Medical Radiation Sciences	B.M.R.Sc.	Black stuff, lined with kelly green silk and faced down the anterior side with old gold silk
Bachelor of Music	B.Mus. (Honours)	Black stuff, lined with light grey silk with thereon a maroon chevron, 3 ½ inches wide, and faced down the anterior side to a depth of 2 inches with pink silk.
Bachelor of Physical Education	B.P.E.	Black silk, lined with white silk, faced down the anterior side with sage green silk. (This

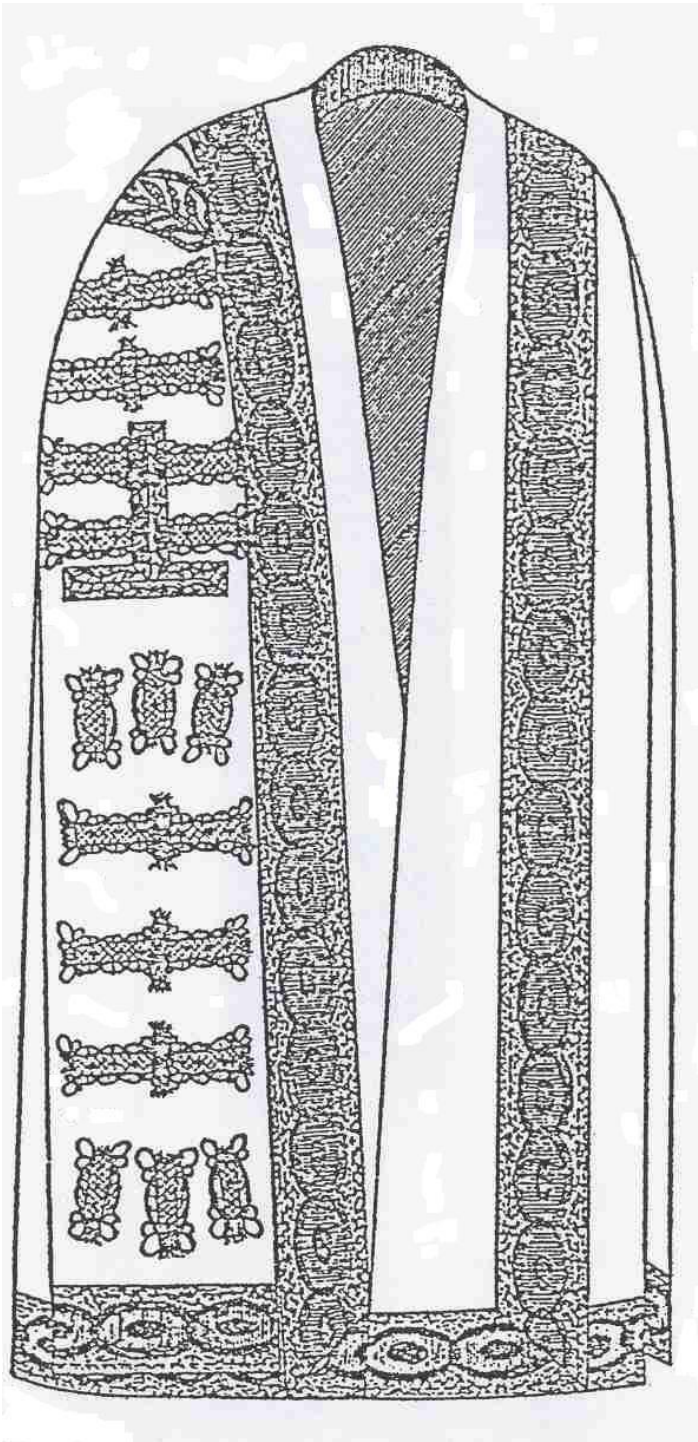
---

		degree was changed to Bachelor of Kinesiology effective July 1, 1994)
Bachelor of Science	B.Sc.	Black stuff, lined with old gold silk.
Bachelor of Science Kinesiology	B.Sc.Kin.	Same hood as Bachelor of Kinesiology.
Bachelor of Science in Medicine	B.Sc.(Med.)	Black corded silk, lined with heavy gold rayon taffeta, faced along the anterior edge with red taffeta.
Bachelor of Science in Nursing	B.Sc.N.	Black silk, lined with old gold silk, faced down the anterior side to a depth of 1 inch with blue silk.
Bachelor of Social Work	B.S.W.	Black corded silk, lined with heavy white rayon taffeta, and faced down the anterior edge with a 2 inch band of lightweight fuchsia rayon taffeta.
<hr/>		
Bachelor of Technology	B. Tech.	Same hood as Professional Development Degree in Engineering.
Professional Development Degree in Engineering	P.D.Eng.	Bachelor shape, shell of corded black silk, lined with grey taffeta, and faced on the anterior side with a one inch band of gold.



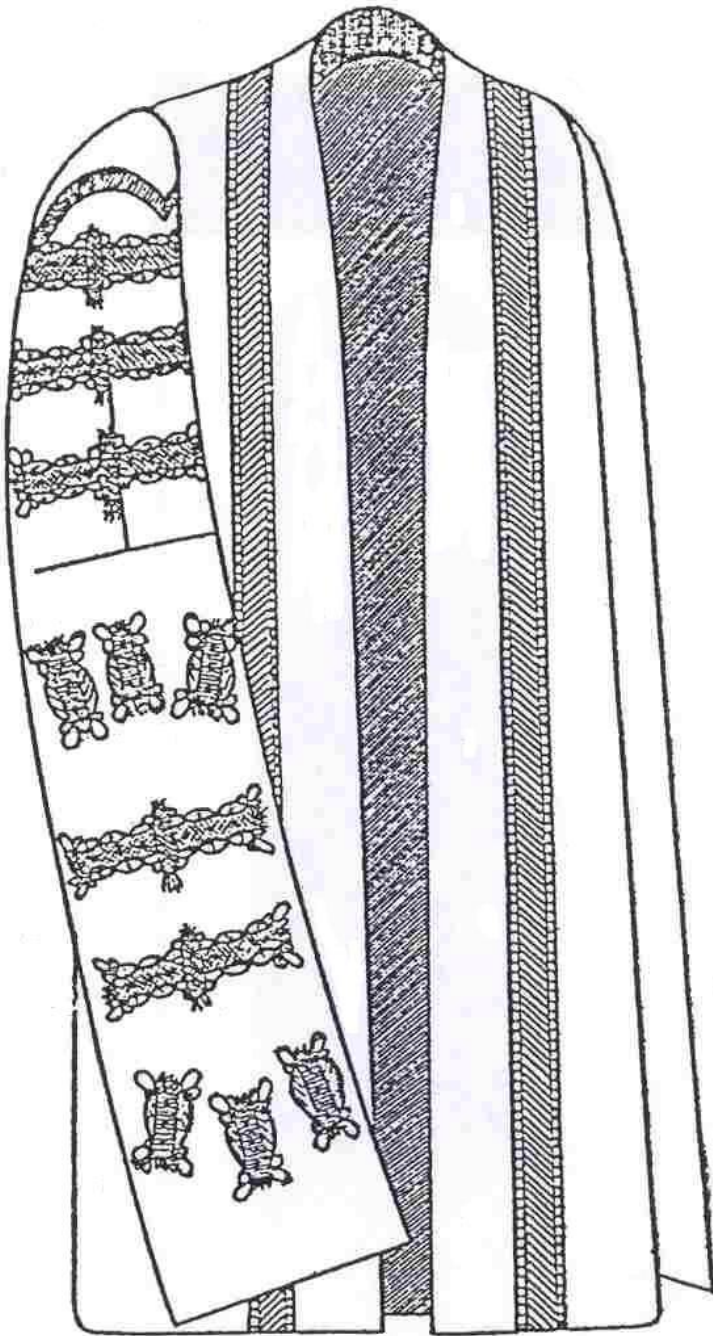
---

**Attachment I:** Chancellor's Gown

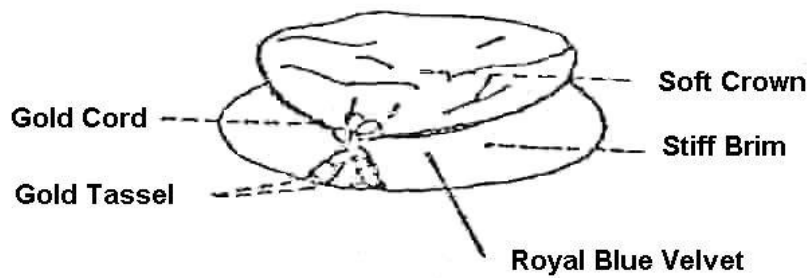
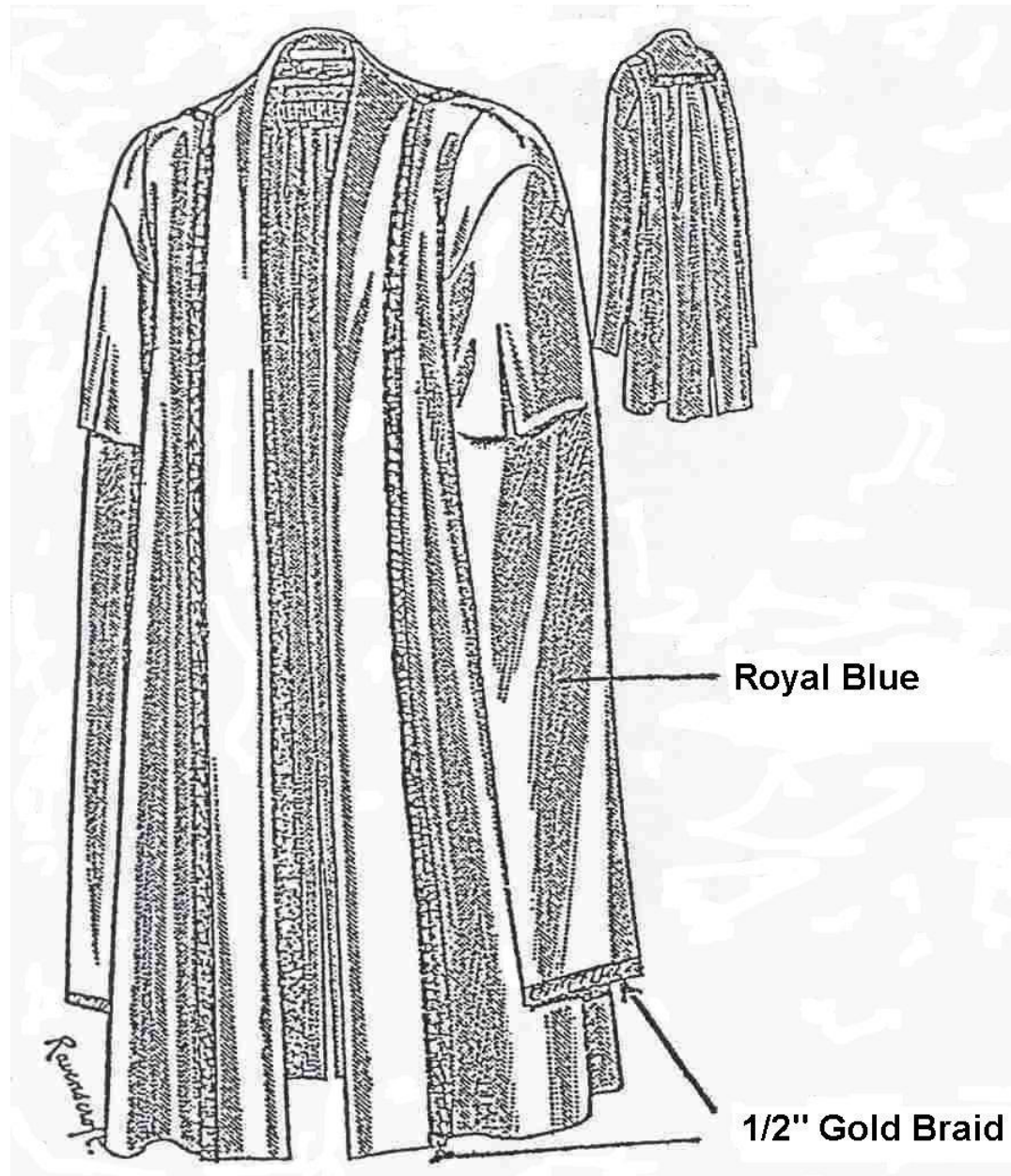


---

**Attachment II:** President's Gown

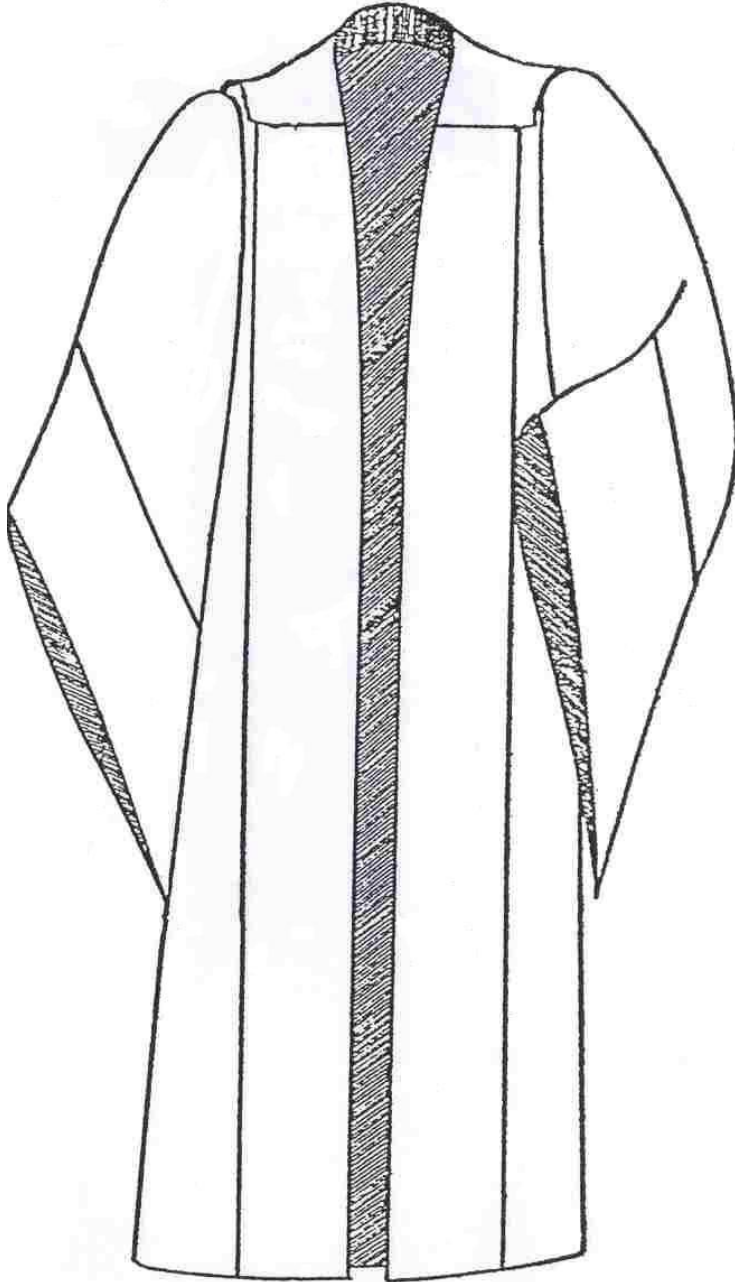


**Attachment III:** Bedel's Gown and Cap



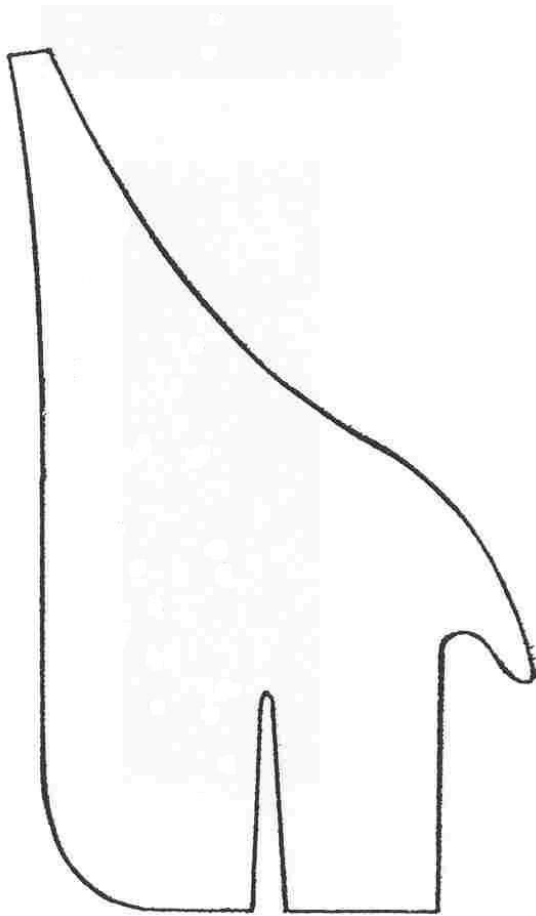
---

**Attachment IV:** Doctorate Gown



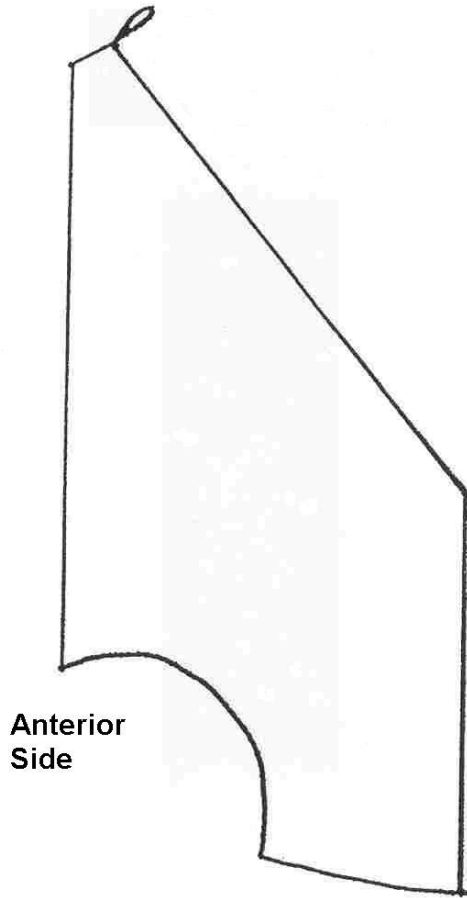
---

**Attachment V:** Doctorate Hood (Toronto doctorate full shape)



---

**Attachment VI: Master's Hood**



---

**Attachment VII: Bachelor's Hood**

