GIRTON COLLEGE
CAMBRIDGE

ACADEMICAL DRESS

All undergraduate and postgraduate students are subject to the University Ordinance regarding the wearing of academical dress, which is as follows: members of the University shall be required to wear their proper academical dress when attending University ceremonies in the University Church or in the Senate House, and at all other times which the Vice-Chancellor may, by public notice, direct that academic dress be worn.

Academical dress means the gown appropriate for an undergraduate or postgraduate. When academical dress is required by Ordinance, it is NOT sufficient merely to carry a gown, as opposed to wearing one.

In College, gowns are worn in College Chapel, for formal meals in Hall (these being meals at which service is provided), for official College lectures and other public occasions of which notice is given.

UNDERGRADUATES

The gown for undergraduates must be of Girton College pattern, i.e. of the standard pattern but with the sleeve sewn up, for a length of eight inches from the shoulder. The only headdress permissible to be worn with the gown is a square cap. It is not compulsory to purchase, or at any time to wear a square cap.

AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Affiliated students have undergraduate status in Cambridge although they are graduates of other universities. They are therefore required to wear the Girton undergraduate gown. Gowns of other universities are NOT permitted.

RESEARCH STUDENTS

Research students who are graduates of other universities and who have not attained the age of 24, have the status of B.A. and wear the Cambridge B.A. gown but without the strings. Research students who are graduates of other universities and have attained the age of 24, have the status of M.A. so long as they are not eligible to proceed to a Cambridge degree. They wear the Cambridge M.A. gown without strings. (The "strings" are black ribbons attached to the front of the gown.)
DRESS WORN WITH ACADEMIC DRESS

Students are expected to wear suitable clothes with the gown on any occasion when academical dress in College is demanded. Except for being presented for degrees, when special University dress regulations apply, suitable clothes for wearing with a gown are:

1. Lounge suit with shirt, collar and tie worn with formal, smart shoes
2. Blazer or sports jacket with shirt collar and tie worn with tailored trousers and formal, smart shoes
3. Skirt suit or trouser suit, or smart, tailored skirt or trousers, with a shirt or blouse and formal, smart shoes
4. Smart dress, preferably with long sleeves, worn with formal, smart shoes

Please note that jeans or trainers of any type or colour are not acceptable.

Although Cambridge these days is very much more informal than it used to be, you will, during your time here, have to attend some formal occasions and at least two formal dinners. Dinner suits (black tie) or a suitable evening dress are preferred for formal dinners but an ordinary dark lounge suit, skirt suit or trouser suit will normally be adequate. You will therefore need both an ordinary lounge/skirt/trouser suit and a dinner suit/evening dress at some stage during your time at Girton. We thought we would mention this (probably obvious) point because, just occasionally, this is not fully appreciated until students arrive here.

Dr S Maghenzani and The Rev’d Dr C.J.M. Bell
Praelectors