



2024-2025 Academic Calendar

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Friday, May 10
2:00 p.m.

Calihan Hall
University of Detroit Mercy
4001 West McNichols Road
Detroit, Michigan

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During the graduation ceremony, guests seated on the main floor may not stand in the aisles or in front of the stage to photograph graduates. Please silence all electronic devices during the ceremony.

Cara Cunningham Warren, J.D.
Grand Marshal, Professor of Law

Pamela Zarkowski, J.D., M.P.H.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs of the University

Rev. Charles O. Oduke, Ph.D.
Vice President for Mission Integration

Clare M. Sawicki '17

*O Canada!
Our home and native land!
True patriot love in all of us command.
With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
 The True North strong and free!
From far and wide,
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
God keep our land glorious and free!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.*

Clare M. Sawicki '17

*O say can you see by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there,
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave,
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?*

Jelani Jefferson Exum, J.D.
Dean and Philip J. McElroy Professor of Law

Donald B. Taylor, Ph.D.
President of the University

The Honorable Victoria A. Roberts
Retired Judge, United States District Court for the
Eastern District of Michigan

Jelani Jefferson Exum, J.D.

Donald B. Taylor, Ph.D.

Donald B. Taylor, Ph.D.

Regan L. Glenn '24

Lord, grant that I may be able in argument,
accurate in analysis,
strict in study,
candid with clients,
and honest with adversaries.

Sit with me at my desk,
and listen with me to my client's complaints,
read with me in my library,
and stand beside me in court,
so that today I shall not,
in order to win a point,
lose my soul.

St. Thomas More, Chancellor of England, 1478-1535

Christin M. DewBerry '24

Kyle R. Dufrane '98
President of the Alumni Association

Please remain seated until the graduates and academic procession
leave Calihan Hall.



Connor James Storck
 Shelby Olivia Struble *Magna Cum Laude*
 Rula M. Sulaiman
 Samantha E. Talieri *Magna Cum Laude*
 Kennedy Taylor*
 Jenia Raegan ompson *Cum Laude*
 Tina T. Toma *Magna Cum Laude*
 Knar Veronica Topouzian *Cum Laude*
 Christin Simmons Trogan *Cum Laude*
 Alexia Xenia Vougiouklakis
 Max Waldman
 Kalil Antonio-James Walton
 Shea McKenna Ward *Cum Laude*
 Wynn Brayden Wasmer**
 Messiah A. A. Williams**
 Emily Marsden Wiltz *Cum Laude*
 Marissa Shea Woods
 Anastasia Symone-Elizabeth Worthy
 Robert A. Zink III
 Tara Lynn Zrepskey *Magna Cum Laude*

Dual University of Detroit Mercy Juris Doctor/University of Windsor Juris Doctor Degree Candidates

Tamara Al-Baltaji *Cum Laude*
 Merissa Asrula *Cum Laude*
 Nicolas W. Auger
 Peter Baklarian *Cum Laude*
 RupaLavanya Bandi *Cum Laude*
 Kevin Bejoy
 Andrew Laurence Belford *Cum Laude*
 Simran Bhimani
 Anastasia Branopolski
 Guy Brenner *Cum Laude*
 Alexandra Brown
 Suzanah Leah Buchanan
 Grace Anne Carubba *Cum Laude*
 Joel Alexander Chillman *Magna Cum Laude*
 So a Raquel Colley Aquino *Cum Laude*
 Cassandra Maria De Marco
 Jessica Victoria DeForest
 Manpreet Dhaliwal
 Erika DiLoreto *Cum Laude*
 Alexis Mercedes Dipasquale-Qaqish
 Kandace Renée Andrea Forbes
 Janson Fu *Magna Cum Laude*

Matthew Robert Furgele *Summa Cum Laude*
 Daniel Pires Gallé *Cum Laude*
 Solomiya Galypchak
 Jacqueline Ashley Gelfenbein *Cum Laude*
 Victoria Anne Giuliani
 Angela Lilian Gray *Cum Laude*
 Alyssa Page Grondin
 Naseer Haidery
 Blake Reuben George Hambly
 Savaughn Nicole Hamilton
 Riley James Hanson *Cum Laude*
 Julia Madolin Harnadek *Cum Laude*
 Mikaela Heck
 Kimia Heidary
 Malaika Hussaini
 Joshua Iacobelli *Magna Cum Laude*
 Alexandra Zemin Ing *Magna Cum Laude*
 Simran Singh Jabbal
 Mika Gabriella Karlin
 Liza Kazimi
 So Yeon Kim
 Craig Kanthadong Kindree-Gross *Cum Laude*
 Jatin Kumar *Cum Laude*
 Matthew Robert Lippa *Magna Cum Laude*
 Morgan Kennedy Little
 Emily Yuen Ying Lum
 Neil Matias Maatta *Magna Cum Laude*
 Ariana Gabrielle Mayer *Magna Cum Laude*
 Jensen Stephen Porter McCauley
 Madeleine Isabel McNamara *Cum Laude*
 Alicia Maria Mishchenko
 Ayan Salim Momin
 Kyra Marie Nielsen *Cum Laude*
 Khadija Omar
 Athanasia alia Petsis
 Julia Pillitteri
 Ashiana Raja *Cum Laude*
 Anmol Kaur Rana
 Nivedita Sandeep Singh Saini
 Naime Fadi Sayde
 Erica Marie Scarpelli *Cum Laude*
 Morgan Ashley Schoenith
 Alexander Raymond Schram
 Fatemeh Shari Alyayi
 Renato Joseph Sordi
 Jeffrey Matthew Lyle Starr
 Christina Shaw Sutrov *Magna Cum Laude*
 Malak Tehaili
 Tomas Trudell *Cum Laude*

Caroline Cecilia Ward
Colleen Antoinette Williams *Cum Laude*
Elizabeth Ka-Cin Yan *Cum Laude*
Sepehr Yousef Pour *Cum Laude*
Daniel Kenneth Zytner

Joint University of Detroit
Mercy Juris Doctor/Master of
Business Administration Degree
Candidates

Sammie Nicholas Borden-Sanford
Andrew Michael Foley
Matthew T. Toma
Joseph David DeMartini Williams

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Retired Judge Victoria Roberts, a Past President of the State Bar of Michigan, served as a federal district court judge in the Eastern District of Michigan for 25 years before she retired on September 1, 2023. She is recognized as an international teacher and lecturer on behalf of the Federal Judicial Center, the State Department and the Department of Justice.

On the Court, she proposed and implemented the operation of a *Pro Se* Legal Assistance Clinic in conjunction with Detroit Mercy Law. It is housed in the Theodore Levin U.S. Courthouse. She also submitted a proposal to the bench to launch an Early Mediation Program for *Pro Se* Prisoner Civil Rights Cases. With nearly 50 volunteer mediators, the program launched June 2018.

Judge Roberts is the recipient of numerous awards, including the two highest conferred by the State Bar of Michigan. Judge Roberts received an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Northeastern University. She was named Michigan Lawyers Weekly “Woman of the Year” in 2013 and received the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association Foundation Dennis W. Archer Public Service Award in 2012. In 1997, she was named one of the Lawyers of the Year by Michigan Lawyers Weekly. In 2023, the ACLU of Michigan honored her for her legacy of mentorship and service on the bench. Also in 2023, the American Board of Trial Advocates bestowed on her its Lifetime Judicial Achievement Award. In 2024, the Michigan Chronicle honored her as one of its Women of Excellence.

On the bench, Judge Roberts served on various committees and was a chief mediator in the City of Detroit Bankruptcy case.

She has served on the boards of several organizations, including Big Brothers Big Sisters; the Fair Housing Center of Metropolitan Detroit; St. Leo’s Soup Kitchen; and the State Bar of Michigan Foundation. Under the auspices of the Wolverine Bar Association, which offers a scholarship in her name, Judge Roberts engineered two programs designed to increase minority representation in the legal profession.

Judge Roberts received her Juris Doctor in 1976 from Northeastern University School of Law. Her undergraduate degree, in journalism and sociology, is from the University of Michigan. She practiced law for 22 years before joining the bench. In December 2023, Judge Roberts joined JAMS as a neutral mediator and arbitrator.

