



The University of Northwestern Ohio, like many other colleges and universities around the country, is facing unprecedented times while managing operations during the coronavirus pandemic. Due to the current restrictions from the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Governor's Office related to mass gatherings, UNOH has made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 Commencement Ceremonies, the University's 100<sup>th</sup> graduating class.

Graduation is a memorable and significant part of a person's life. To make sure the University is honoring and recognizing all of this year's graduates, UNOH has developed a digital media experience to celebrate the nearly 1,200 students who were scheduled to graduate this spring.

"Graduation is a significant time in a young person's life, the whole world is at their fingertips. It is a memorable day for UNOH faculty, staff, and families to see graduates walk across the stage, and pick up their diploma after years of hard work." UNOH President, Dr. Jeffrey A. Jarvis said. "Nothing can replace that excitement, but we have a creative celebration planned for the Class of 2020 that utilizes digital and social platforms our students know and interact with often. This platform will allow us to create a memorable, and shareable, experience for our graduates."

**In the coming weeks, graduating students will receive emails and text messages, inviting them to participate in UNOH's Virtual Commencement Celebrations.** This experience will include a message from President Jarvis, specially-designed UNOH graduation filters to use on Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat, and information on how they can be included in the Virtual Graduation Ceremony to be streamed in place of the in-person event in June.

**If you believe you were scheduled to graduate this June, but have not received an email or text by Friday, May 22, please contact [PublicRelations@unoh.edu](mailto:PublicRelations@unoh.edu).**

Following the virtual event, graduating students will be mailed a commemorative degree cover, printed graduation program, and commemorative tassel. Students who wish to update their mailing address information need to contact [advisor@unoh.edu](mailto:advisor@unoh.edu) as soon as possible using their @unoh.edu email account.

The virtual experience is designed to create a memorable celebration for the graduating class while also providing an opportunity for faculty, staff, alumni, and fellow students to offer their congratulations.

UNOH graduates have earned the chance to be recognized for their accomplishments and this experience will give them something special to remember and share in the future. The 2020 Virtual Commencement is scheduled to be released on Sunday, June 14, 2020 at 1:00pm and can be found at [www.unoh.edu/graduation](http://www.unoh.edu/graduation).

Families who still wish to purchase a cap and gown may do so at the following link: <https://unoh.shopoakhalli.com/>