

## CONGRATULATIONS!

*You are about to graduate with your bachelor's degree, associate degree or certificate from Antelope Valley College. Please read this information carefully so you don't miss any important information.*

*The Commencement ceremony will be held at 8:30 am on Friday, May 31, 2019 at AVC Brent Carder Marauder Stadium.*

## GETTING READY FOR COMMENCEMENT

**GRAD FINALE** will be held Tuesday, **April 16 from 1–6 pm** in the Student Lounge. Mark your calendars and join us for this special day just for you.

### GRAD FINALE INCLUDES:

#### • Cap and Gown

All graduates participating in the ceremony need to purchase a cap and gown. Black cap, gown and maroon/silver tassel will be sold as a complete set at the Marauder Bookstore for \$27.95 plus tax. (Gold tassels designating honors will be sold separately for \$4.95 plus tax. You must be on the Honors list at the bookstore to purchase a gold tassel.)

**NOTE: All graduates MUST wear an AVC cap and gown.**

#### • Announcements

Personalized graduation announcements and engraved note cards will be available for purchase through Academic Cap & Gown.

#### • Graduation Portraits

Ultimate Exposures will be on campus to take graduate photos. You must register for a sitting appointment on their Web page at [www.UltimateExposures.com](http://www.UltimateExposures.com)

#### • Grad Card

All graduates need to complete a Grad Card to be used the day of commencement. It will identify your photos, the pronunciation of your name and a degree or certificate to be announced.

#### • Class Rings

Academic Cap & Gown will be offering graduates AVC rings for purchase.

#### Admission

No admission tickets will be issued for family and friends. All are welcome to attend.

## THE DAYS BEFORE COMMENCEMENT

### Commencement Practice

To make sure everything goes smoothly for you, we will have multiple opportunities for practice in the Student Lounge:

- **Thursday, May 16 at 11 am and 3 pm**
- **Friday, May 17 at 11 am**
- **Monday, May 20 at 2 pm and 4 pm**

Practices are voluntary, but strongly advised.

## THE DAY OF COMMENCEMENT

### Dressing for the Day

**Don't forget your cap and gown.**

Please dress appropriately for the weather.

We will be on the football field, so please wear flat comfortable shoes; no spiked heels. Leave all valuables at home. Please don't bring purses or electronic devices (cell phones, pagers, etc.) since there is no place to store them.

### Check-In

All graduates must check in at Brent Carder Marauder Stadium (look for "Graduates Check in Here" signs) to line up beginning at 7:30 am. Graduates will line up on a first come, first line-up situation.

## The Ceremony

Brent Carder Marauder Stadium will open at 7:30 am. The procession will begin promptly at 8:30 am, regardless of weather conditions.

Once you enter the field, you **WILL NOT** be allowed to leave until the ceremony has concluded.

After the procession and upon arriving at your chair, please remain standing until you are instructed to sit down. You will stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the National Anthem. Guests on the platform will make remarks.

Following the speakers, your degree will be conferred and at the direction of the commencement marshals, the first row will be directed to the stage. When your turn comes, move up to the stage area and have your picture taken, then hand your name card to the card reader. After your name is called, proceed to the center of the stage and receive your degree cover and have your picture taken with the college president. Exit the stage and return to your row and be seated.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, all graduates will be asked to stand and move their tassels from right to left signifying graduation. The commencement marshals will direct you to march out in reverse order. All graduates will pass through the Path of Scholars created by the faculty. Family and friends will not be allowed to interfere with the ceremony. All graduates **MUST** remain for the entire ceremony and all graduates will march off the field together.

**There are NO EXCEPTIONS.**



Congratulations,  
Class of 2019!

### Water & Refreshments

You may bring a bottle of water, but ABSOLUTELY NO OTHER FOOD OR DRINK OF ANY KIND WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE FIELD. Please eat before you arrive. Coolers, alcohol, drugs or smoking ARE NOT ALLOWED at this facility.

### Commencement Graduate Photos

At graduate check-in, follow the signs to pick up your Grad Card. You will need to hand the completed card to the card reader at the stage who will read your name during the ceremony. When you approach the stage and again while on stage, Ultimate Exposures will take your photograph and will e-mail commencement day proofs for your review and possible purchase.

### Length of Ceremony

The commencement ceremony is expected to last about two hours, so please plan accordingly.

### Disabilities Accommodation

Upon request five business days before the event, reasonable accommodation will be provided to facilitate the participation of covered individuals with disabilities. Call (661) 722-6360 (voice/relay). Handicapped parking is located at the stadium. You must have a disabled person placard or plate to park in this area. Please call Louis Lucero at (661) 722-6300, ext. 6161 for more details or to discuss any of your other special needs.

### AFTER COMMENCEMENT

#### Stay Connected with Marauder Connect

As you prepare to embark on the next phase of your life, remember that it's not just you against the world. You are now part of the Antelope Valley College Alumni Association. To maintain your relationship with your alma mater and your fellow alumni, we encourage you to join our online community for exclusive access to connect with AVC alumni, create your alumni profile, post and review job opportunities, join and create events, and receive your monthly alumni newsletter.

Get started at: [www.avcalumni.com](http://www.avcalumni.com)  
"Once a Marauder. Always a Marauder."

#### Cap and Gown Donation

If you would like to donate your cap and gown to AVC and receive a tax benefit, you can do so by turning them in to the Student Life and Services Office (SSV180) the week following commencement.

#### Diplomas

Graduates will receive notice through their myAVC e-mail account when diplomas are available for pick-up from the Graduation Office.

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If you have any other questions, please contact my office at (661) 722-6300, ext. 6354, or bring them with you to the practice and we will work out all the details at that time. ***Congratulations again, and see you at the practice!***

Dr. Jill Zimmerman  
Dean of Student Life and Services  
Commencement Chairperson

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“Look closely at  
the present you  
are constructing.  
It should look like  
the future you  
are dreaming.”

— Alice Walker —



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Community College District

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**COMMENCEMENT**  
**2019**  
**I N F O R M A T I O N**