The University of Mississippi

Policies on Awarding Honorary, Posthumous and In Memoriam Degrees

Honorary Degrees:

The University of Mississippi does not officially award Honorary Degrees.

Posthumous Degrees or In Memoriam Degrees:

The University of Mississippi seeks to provide to the family of a deceased student a meaningful symbol that reflects the achievements and legacy of the student and, at the same time, upholds academic and institutional integrity. To meet that need, the university may award a Posthumous Degree or an In Memoriam Degree.

- **Posthumous Degrees:**

  A Posthumous Degree recognizes academic work completed by a student who has made significant progress toward completion of a regular degree.

  Undergraduate or Professional Degree (including the Pharm.D. and J.D.): To be awarded a Posthumous Degree, the student must be in good standing, classified as a senior or have completed at least 75% of the degree requirements as determined by the degree program’s faculty, and have the support of the majority of the degree program’s faculty. Upon notification by the departmental chair of the vote of the faculty, the academic dean may request approval of the Posthumous Degree by submitting a written request to the Provost.

  Graduate Degree: To be awarded a Posthumous Degree, the student must be in good standing, have completed at least 75% of the degree requirements as determined by the degree program’s faculty, and have the support of the majority of the degree program’s faculty. Upon notification by the departmental chair of the vote of the faculty, the academic dean may request approval of the Posthumous Degree by submitting a written request to the dean of the Graduate School. If the Graduate School dean approves of the request, they should submit a written request for approval of the degree to the Provost. The dean’s letter should indicate the student’s proximity to completion of the degree.

  The dean’s letter should include the degree and term for which the student should be awarded the degree posthumously.

- **In Memoriam Degrees:**

  An In Memoriam Degree allows for recognition of a student’s connection to the University of Mississippi and recognizes progress toward completion of degree requirements. An undergraduate, graduate, or professional student who was in good standing and enrolled in a degree seeking program but did not meet the requirements necessary to be awarded a
Posthumous Degree may be eligible for an In Memoriam Degree. The dean’s letter should include the degree and term for which the student should be awarded the degree posthumously.

Undergraduate or Professional Degree (including the Pharm.D. and J.D.): The academic dean may request approval of the In Memoriam Degree by submitting a written request to the Provost.

Graduate Degree: The academic dean may request approval of the In Memoriam Degree by submitting a written request to the dean of the Graduate School. If the Graduate School dean approves of the request, they should submit a written request for approval of the degree to the Provost.