

Michael Rubens Bloomberg

Doctor of Laws

Michael Bloomberg is the 108th mayor of the City of New York. He was first elected mayor in 2001, just two months after the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. At the time, many feared that crime would overtake New York, businesses would flee, and the city would never recover. Instead, through hundreds of innovative new policies and initiatives, Bloomberg is credited with making New York City safer, stronger and greener than ever. He attended Johns Hopkins University, where he paid his tuition with student loans and income from working as a parking lot attendant. After college, he earned an MBA from Harvard Business School. Bloomberg began his career in an entry-level position with Salomon Brothers, a prominent Wall Street investment bank. He quickly rose through the ranks, eventually heading up the firm's information systems. When Salomon was acquired in 1981 and he was let go, he used his experience there to envision an information company that would use emerging technology to bring transparency and efficiency to buyers and sellers of financial securities. The result is Bloomberg LP, a company that has about 15,000 employees worldwide and more than 300,000 subscribers to its global financial news and information service. As his company grew, Bloomberg began to direct more of his attention to philanthropy, donating time and resources to many worthy causes, especially Johns Hopkins University, where he has helped build the Bloomberg School of Public Health into a leading institution of public health research and training. Bloomberg's extraordinary career in business, philanthropy and public service has few parallels in the opening decades of the 21st century. Mayor Bloomberg has delivered commencement or baccalaureate addresses for Tufts University, Bard College, the University of Pennsylvania and Princeton University, and has received honorary doctorates from Fordham University and George Washington University.

For outstanding accomplishment in business, public service, and philanthropy, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is pleased to confer on Michael Rubens Bloomberg the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.