College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Commencement
Thursday, December 14, 2017
Dear University of Houston Graduates:

Congratulations on this most memorable day of your college career! The degree you are about to receive symbolizes the world-class, tier-one education you obtained at the University of Houston.

There were many factors that contributed to your success. The support of your parents, families and friends, and the encouragement of your faculty, advisors and staff played a significant part. But what made it all possible was the personal commitment, drive and resolve that helped you cross the finish line. We take profound satisfaction in knowing these same attributes will serve you well as you make your mark in the world.

Please leave today as proud UH graduates, confident you are the best prepared, best educated and best equipped individuals of your generation. I know in my heart that you are now ready and able not just to compete, but to succeed and be leaders in your chosen careers.

With my best wishes for a bright and rewarding future,

Renu Khator
President, University of Houston
Letter from the Dean

Dear Members of the “CLASS” of 2017:

Let me be among the first to congratulate you on such a monumental achievement at this juncture in your lives… ¡Felicidades! I, too, share the pride and excitement of your parents, close and distant family members, and communities that will celebrate you and your achievement. I hope that your experiences as a major in CLASS were filled with memories of sharing with professors and fellow students. As Dean, I am interested in knowing about your lives after CLASS and UH; so, do keep in touch as you leave campus in order to take your place in the world as informed critical and analytical thinkers, ready for the challenges of our ever-changing world. Congratulations!

Sincerely,

Antonio D. Tillis
Dean
The College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences (CLASS) is a dynamic academic environment dedicated to the study of human creativity and society, as well as our mental and physical capabilities and conditions. The largest and most diverse of the 15 academic colleges at the University of Houston, CLASS is home to 14 schools and departments, encompassing humanities and social sciences.

Undergraduate and graduate majors cover the full-range of the human experience – from anthropology to human space exploration sciences. The College also offers social and cultural analysis in African American, Mexican American, Women’s, Gender and Sexuality and other interdisciplinary studies programs.

CLASS extends its scholarship to the university, City of Houston and nation through its policy, research and cultural centers, which include the Hobby Center for Public Policy and the University Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic.

The College’s goal is to stimulate and expand students’ cultural, mental and physical explorations through rich course offerings, learning abroad programs and campus events. We encourage students to delve into the questions of life while building critical and analytical skills that animate professions and launch successful careers.

Our 345 permanent faculty members educate nearly 10,000 undergraduate majors and minors and 1,200 graduate students, preparing them for future studies and professional achievements.

By accessing and using new communication and research tools, CLASS students increase their reasoning skills, cultural awareness and ethical judgment. That foundation gives them the capacity to pursue their passions.

CLASS graduates are tomorrow’s economists, journalists, diplomats, lawyers and doctors. Whatever they choose to do in life, CLASS graduates are prepared to make meaningful contributions to multi-cultural societies and global economies.
University of Houston
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Ceremony Agenda
Thursday, December 14, 2017, 10 a.m.
NRG Arena, Houston, Texas

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS
University of Houston Air Force ROTC

NATIONAL ANTHEM
Soloist Marissa Suazo
Moores School of Music

WELCOME ADDRESS
Antonio D. Tillis
M.D. Anderson Professor of Hispanic Studies
Dean of the College

INTRODUCTION OF PLATFORM PARTY
Dean Tillis

HONORS COLLEGE CANDIDATES RECOGNITION
Lawrence Curry
Professor Emeritus

RECOGNITION OF HONORS
Lawrence Curry

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATE CANDIDATES
Catherine Patterson
Associate Dean of Graduate Studies

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION
Beth Olson and Richard Armstrong

JACK J. VALENTI
SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION

Lynn Maher

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS
Janice Hutchison

DEPARTMENT OF COMPARATIVE CULTURAL STUDIES
David Papell

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS
James Kastely

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
Daniel O’Connor

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN PERFORMANCE
Liz Goodin-Mayeda

DEPARTMENT OF HISPANIC STUDIES
Philip Howard

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES
Hildegard Glass
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
David Phillips

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
Susan Scarrow

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
James Thurmond

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
Jack Fletcher

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
Amanda Baumle

WOMEN’S, GENDER & SEXUALITY STUDIES
Elizabeth Gregory

CONCLUDING REMARKS
Dean Tillis

ALMA MATER
Soloist Marissa Suazo
Moores School of Music
Doctor of Philosophy in English

Creative Writing
Martha A. Stallman
Raised By Dogs
ADVISOR: Professor Mat Johnson

Doctor of Philosophy in Health and Human Performance

Kinesiology
Rahul Goel
Sensory-Motor Mechanisms
Underlying Postural Control
ADVISOR: Dr. Pranav J. Parikh

Hao Meng
The Effects of Adiposity on Motor Function in Older Adults
ADVISOR: Dr. Stacey L. Gorniak

Doctor of Philosophy in Hispanic Studies

Spanish
Rosalva Angelica Alamillo Olivas
Syntactic and Semantic Variation of the Definite Determiner in Nominal Phrases in the Spanish of Spanish Heritage Speakers
ADVISOR: Dr. Marta Fairclough

Carlos Raidel Naranjo
Lexical Transference of Anglicism’s in Newspapers from Santiago de Cuba (1805-1902). A Historical Sociolinguistic Study
ADVISOR: Dr. Manuel Gutiérrez

Maria Laura Zubiate
Procesos de (des) subjetivación y resistencia: Biopolítica en la literatura chicana
ADVISOR: Dr. Gabriela Baeza Ventura

Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science

Markie Rae McBrayer
The Institutional Foundations of Local Decision Making & Representation
ADVISOR: Dr. Ling Zhu

Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Developmental, Cognitive, & Behavioral Neuroscience
Emily Avalon Barton
How the Alcohol-Damaged Brain Responds to Exercise
ADVISOR: Dr. J. Leigh Leasure

Industrial Organizational
Zachary M. Roberts
Lost in a Downturn? Examining the Effects of Industry Embeddedness, Layoff Procedural Justice, Industry Insecurity, and Job Search on Industry Turnover
ADVISOR: Dr. Christiane Spitzmueller

Department of Comparative and Cultural Studies

Master of Arts
Anthropology
Karen M. Belvin

Jack J. Valenti School of Communication
Master of Arts
Marina Sabrsula
Department of English
MASTER OF ARTS
Theodore Giraud
Eugene Norman Penzien, Jr.
Emily Elyse Vega

Creative Writing
Samuel J. Dinger

Department of Health
and Human Performance
MASTER OF ARTS
Sport and Fitness Administration
Madhuri Dasmohapatra
Evan Joseph Dunbar
Natalia Duron
Desstin Paige Hardy-Alcorn
Colleen O’Mara
Daniel A. Paiva
Quinton Gerard Rohrbough
Jarryn Rae Rosas
Taylor Andrew Rouleau
Kellsie Nicole Winkler

Department of Hispanic Studies
MASTER OF ARTS
Cristina Cardenas
Maria M. Chavez
Angela Cristina Contreras De Wise

Department of History
MASTER OF ARTS
Matthew J. Howard

Department of Political Science
MASTER OF ARTS
Matthew William Lurton
Ella L. Stobart
Sarah Stout

Department of Psychology
MASTER OF ARTS
Bobbie A. Dirr
Daniel J. Ingels
Simon Lau
Jacob L. Lebar
Allison Blair Martir
Kara M. Polk

Department of Sociology
MASTER OF ARTS
Monika Jeanine Barker
Shannon Kay McNamara
Yen-Nhi Hoang Pham

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Rachel Chavvah Crisler
Gabriell Gaiter
Monday Bassey Idiong
Kevin Ayebitorofa Itima
Cody Ray Wheeler

Bachelor of Arts
Bachelor of Science
Jack J. Valenti
School of Communication
BANNER BEARER
Andressa Louise Benayon Lessa’

Advertising
Jessica Iyanuoluwa Badejo
Laura M. Bailey
Andre Carl Braschayko
Lauren H. Calderon
Paige Doucet
Dulce Hernandez
Adriana Wilhelmina Joseph ³
Rachel Kathleen Langham
Faizmin Rustamali Manesiya
China B. Martin
Mackenzie Nyman Meyercord
Samuel David Moros
Timothy H. Nguyen ³
Mariela Perez
Raquel Jaqueline Perez
Adulfa Santibanez
Hai Hoa Truong
Maria Angelina Venditti ³

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Zachary M. Allen ³
Ashley Maureen Alzueta ³
Taylor Nichol Brealy-Tardy
Patrick Deray Coleman, Jr.
Jordan A. Craig
Mariana Dominguez
Cindy A. Gallardo
Ana Karen Islas
Andressa Louise Benayon Lessa ¹
Perla Maria Martinez
Mary Alex Mazy
Jordan Michael O’Krinsky
Selam Agazit Russom
Yolanda G. Sarzosa
Gilbertson P. Tran
Jacqueline Lynn Williams
Jonathan F. Williams

**Health Communication**
Jaclyn Nina Crow ³
Gabriella Marie Diaz
Hanna Duong
Elizabeth Renee Lamb
Jasmine Juane O’Neal
Iman A. Rahim ³
Nicholl Ann Varga ¹
Evan Matthew Zavicar ³

**Integrated Communication**
Quincie Charlynn Adams
Ashlyn Alter
Meshi Alterson
Maria Blanca Andrade
Jose Luis Del Aguila
Melina N. Diaz ¹
Sulma Noemi Fuentes
Eduardo Galindo
Reuben Guerra
Savannah Christine Kunkel ²
Steven Lam
A’Nease VaMeil Linnear
Natalie Fehemeh Shajarat
Aden Feleke Tadese ¹
Katherine Tonner ³
Vanessa Patricia Winakur
Amy Lychang Yos

**Interpersonal Communication**
Skylar A. Moles
Jessica Brooke Pople ²
Daria Flagg Savannah
Buddy Lynn Walker

**Journalism**
Adoracion D. Aceves
Brandon J. Barber
John L. Boudreaux ³
Andrew Edgren Carlson ¹
Stephanie Ciau
Marissa Michelle Cummings
Danny P. Do
Reagan D. Earnst
Kimberly Flores
Kelly Fuentes
Mildred S. Espinoza Galarza

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1 Summa Cum Laude – 2 Magna Cum Laude – 3 Cum Laude
Henry Alfonso Garcia
Anita Marissa Gomez
Emmanuel Alexis Gonzalez
Marisol Gonzalez
Ivane Louise Guevara
Abigail Guevara-Reyes
Latasha Jones
Kristina Anna Knowles
Mitchell Blake McCluskey
Maria Paula Mendieta
Quyen Hoang Nguyen
Abigail Guevara-Reyes
Latasha Jones
Kristina Anna Knowles
Mitchell Blake McCluskey
Maria Paula Mendieta
Quyen Hoang Nguyen
Vanessa Nkechinyere Onyekwere
Alejandra Del Carmen Caceres Parra
Christopher Alexander Rodriguez
Christopher Javier Rodriguez
Giovann Alexandra Rosales
Sara Marie Stelling
Michelle Charrisse Thomas
Abigail Rose Trout
Beranice Villarreal
Nicholas Lee Williamson
Lourdes Dora Zavaleta
Gabriela Alejandra Peraza Zerpa

**Media Production**
Sean Roman Arnold
Micah Canaan Askins
Whitney Ranae Basinger
Matthew Vincent Curran
Kimberly Brooke Dunn
Francesca Nicole Ervin
Karen G. Favela
Somya Gupta
Javier Eduardo Gusart
TaDaris Roderick Jones
William Jeffery Lindsey II
Mariela G. Lujan
Christopher Alan McElroy
Chloe Mendez
Oziel Morales
Benjamin Clifford Onda
Tierra Denise Phipps
Nicolas C. Randle
Connor L. Sipes
Daniel Umansor
Roberto Francisco Vazquez
Andrea Gabriela Alba von Buren
Jacqueline N. Yacoub

**Media Studies**
Danielle Nichole Jacobo

**Public Relations**
Yasmine Usama Abdallah
Liliana Andrade
Abigail Barrientos
Luigginia Susana Boiano
Andrew David Bradley
Quia Tian Brown
Ashley Bunton
Jenna Rae De Los Santos
Cody A. Harris
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Aubrey Nicole Jacobson
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Dania Saed Kurd
Nida Fatima Lakhani
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Wendi Joryina Palomera
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Ashley Marie Rodriguez
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Natasha Saad
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1 Summa Cum Laude – 2 Magna Cum Laude – 3 Cum Laude
Sarah Khan Sohail
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Lexy Waters
Claudia G. Zolezzi

Department of Communication
Sciences and Disorders

Banner Bearer
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Devan L. Barrett
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Philip R. Walk

Liberal Studies
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Kourtney Burgess
An Tuong Dinh
Calvin Van Do
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Kevin Anthony Hesse
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Crimson Dana Jordan
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Ibraheem Adel Foteh
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Austin Allen Goin
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John David Jeanes
Benjamin Toyokazu Jose
Mahan Khaghani
Max Jaime Levy
Matthew William Macioce ²
John Donald McWilliams
Alexis Morua
Taylor Curtis Mowery
Danny Bachir Nahas
Marco A. Nava
Austin Ngo
Theodore Truong Nguyen
Vuong Duc Nguyen
Sira Nubari Ntagha
Reagan Andrew Page
Fidel David Pineda
Zully Vianney Romo
Edrick Rougeau
Alexander Robert Ryan
Fatoumata Zahara Savane
Ryan Matthew Spanier
Carlos Garcia Teruel
Marisa Thein

Zachary Y. Tjok
Marco Antonio Tovar
Anh Quoc Trinh
Nina Marie Turcios
Jose M. Valladares
Anisha Varati ³
Samuel Pryce Young
Christopher J. Zalesky

Department of English
BANNER BEARER
Demointe Tyreme Wesley ²

Creative Writing
Maryam Ahmed
Kathryn Alexandria Bell
Elio Bonilla ³
Brandi Shantey Demars
Rachel B. Freeman
Nubia Vanesa Larin
Andrew Michael Moreno
Rachel Anne Penland
Kyle James Russell
Thomas Richard Santos ³
Musi A. Trappe ³

Literature
Victoria M. Agnew
Blake Evan Campbell
Alejandra Dubon
Pablo Duran ³
Jessica Michelle Erales
Murad Gafarov ²
Joanna Garza
Dustin Aaron Jackson
Ameer Bashir Jangda
Reece William Karger
Julia A. Najera
Blythe Alexandra Nguyen
Jared Thomas Siegel

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Jacqueline Danielle Taylor
Demointe Tyreme Wesley
Elizabeth Ann Wilson
Ryley A. Wilson
Tyson Lee Woolman

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Aleem Allauddin Patel

Human Nutrition and Foods
Rima Ismail Abed
Omar M. Aboudawoud
Mahak Ahsan
Paola Martinez Bolton
Taylor Lauren Clark
Ashli Barre Cooper
Kathryn Cumbus
Larissa I. Davis
Alma C. Diaz
Mary Joy Chidera Ebirim
Alah Elasmar
Miraf Eshetie
Jordyn Michelle Flemons
Brittany M. Fuentes
Dulce Isabel Garcia
Kimberly D. Gilliam
Wajeema I. Hameed
Rafaela Horrillo
Zina Housammy
Lillian Yanira Ixcamparij
Jeby Kalathoor
Terisa Bich Chi Khuu
Jamie A. Le
Kelly Leming
Chelsea Monique Manuel
Marina E. Mathew
Heather Megan McBride
Collin Murray Moore
Veronica Moreno
Anna Marie Mores
Alysha Kayla Nagar
Olumide O. Olaseinde
Paulina Paczkowska
Yolanda Annette Pringle-Lancaster
Edwin Rivera
Jawahar Syeda
Hanan Teklu
Cristina M. Tovar
Nghi Le Hoang Tran
Dona Jose Uthirakulathu
Karen Annette Vallejo
Gabriela Villarreal
Alisha Virani
Tracey T. Vo
Jane H. Vu

Kinesiology – Exercise Science
Carmen Cecilía Abilucea
Catherine Ada A’Bunam
Jance A. Acosta
Gabriela Aguilar
Maher Ali
Itsel Arreguin
Jincy Arthungal
Alan Rolman Avila
John Michael Ballos
Brenda Burgos
Abigail Jean Cabagay
Lisa Carolina Calderon
Erika A. Carranco
Amanda Jean Carrico
Sydni Lauren Centers
Rachel Checki
Gabrielle Taylor Curiano
Rebecca Dang
Marilyn M. De Freitas ’
Jacqueline Delagarza
Ivan Delgado 3
Christian Edgardo Diaz
Rachel Denise Donkor
Sharon Anette Diaz Fernandez
Shailee Sanjay Gandhi 3
James Kurian George
William Adam Gibbens
Aaron Michael Gilbert
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Taylor C. Groves
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George Jolly
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Elizabeth Lara
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Victor Arthur Mainwaring
Nivea Sandra Manuel
Chasity Janai Mayes
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Megan Nicole Mitchell
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Leslie Thanh-Binh Nguyen 2
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Karla Ivette Torres
Valeria M. Torres
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Amy L. Tsang 2
Darlene Y. Tu
Michael Ukpong

1 Summa Cum Laude – 2 Magna Cum Laude – 3 Cum Laude
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
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Shannon Varghese
Ana Cristina Villa
Daniel Vo
Sarah Thi Vo
Yen H. Vo
Zhengfan Ye
Ernesto Zarate

Kinesiology – Fitness and Sports
Emily Elizabeth Su
Joselyne Marjory Tobar
Ryan G. Valdez

Kinesiology – Sports Administration
John Stephen Baker
Cody James Clayton
Christopher Alan Donawho
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Ketzy Garcia
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Jordan T. Watkins
Arianna S. Young

Department of Hispanic Studies
BANNER BEARER
Andres Vazquez

Spanish
Kelley Catherine Adams
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Adriana Marcela Caniz
Juan Pablo Cianceruso
Nolan Colchado
Laura Jane Cowling
Shellby Montserrat Michel De Maldonado
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Carmen Virginia Julian
Chelsi Leian Marks-Sellers
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Mayreen Ramirez
Luz Amada Salazar
Dafne Carolina Sanchez
Chaveli Solis
Andres Vazquez

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Ariana Fritz Carruth
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Cameron Tayler Doubenmier
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Cameron A. Garcia
Deanna Elizabeth Lopez
Trevor N. Mace
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Meghan L. Miller
Vinh S. Nguyen
Jessika Dianne Nowak
Lauren Park
Jamie Michael Piatt

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Aman Booker Washington  
Dylan Eric Zengota

**Department of Modern and Classical Languages**

**BANNER BEARER**  
Suzana Korac 

**Chinese Studies**

Ruiyang Qin  
Ling Wang

**French**

Samalla Henning Parker  
Natalie A. Plata  
Emily R. Stewart

**Italian Studies**

Suzana Korac

**World Cultures and Literatures**

Breon Amore’ Brothers

**Department of Philosophy**

**BANNER BEARER**

Sarah Blakelock

**Philosophy**

Sarah Blakelock  
Taylor Bridges  
Jeffrey Thomas Gonzales II  
Tyler Martin Holloway  
Courtney M. Lairsey  
Savanna Skye Nava  
Daniel Smith

**Department of Political Science**

**BANNER BEARER**

Miguel Mendez

**Political Science**

Mohammad Hussein Abdellatif  
Shahnawaz Sultan Abdullah  
Apolinar Abonza  
Randa Shawky Abushmeis  
Cynthia Mercedes Albarran  
Troy Anthony Allen  
Miryam Lizeth Banuelas  
Valerie Barcenas  
Yusuf G. Bavi  
Karen Ben-Moyal  
Hannah M. Bonner  
Dejah Brierrier Boudreaux  
Serjio Sanchez Brereda  
Charles D. Brooks  
Austin Lane Caldwell  
Silvia Carolina Chicas  
Jordan Lewis Dancer  
Michelle Nicole Diemert  
Kervens Paul Dor  
Santiago Franco Echavarria  
Sandra Carolina Moreno Estrada  
Abeer Maqsood Farid  
Gabriela Fernandez  
Lea Noemi Gonzales  
Rosa I. Gonzalez  
Ameer Hamza  
Alyssa Lavelle Hashem  
Cris Arnoldo Hernandez  
Bianca Elida Hoffner  
Fariha Jawed  
Fawaz Khammash  
Moez I. Khanmohamed  
Vasili Nikolaos Kritikos  
Tracey H. Le  
Sean Michael Maloney  
Mitchell Blake McCluskey  
Chelsee Janae’E McClothin  
Miguel Mendez  
Daniel Josue Meza  
Ahmed Fathy Moawad  
Monique Monroy

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Allen Mousavi
Glory N. Okafor
Brennen James Perry
Tanya Mercedes Pezina
Maja Pranic
Maria G. Puente
Adriana Sabel Rivas
Justin Michael Rogers
Jessica L. Ruland
Ian Martin Sadler
Celina Cruz Saenz
Brittney Nicole Stewart
Kyle Ryan Tohdacheeny
Anthony Ryan Torres
Sean Michael Velasquez
Madelyn Ann Dickerson Wilson
Rodney James Woods, Jr.
Jehnytssa Doharep Zetino

Department of Psychology
BANNER BEARER
Sarah Spencer

Psychology
Faven Solomon Abraha
Madison Sue Abshier
Javeria Ahmed
Sophia S. Ahmed
Zoha Alam
Joanna Michelle Amaro
Craig Amos
Cindy Estefania Andrade
Nermin Mahmoud Aqel
Ansiya Arakkal
Blene Aseffa
Maria Avila
Rosalba Barbosa
Breannah L. Barker
Marina Mackenzie Bassana

Misty Michelle Baxter
Carlos Alfredo Rivera Berrospi
Ashlye L. Berry
Tatiana I. Briscoe
Zaineb Khadijah Brown
Maxine Maria Calzada
Kimberly Ann Carpenter
Rosio Minerva Carranza
Amber Lynn Casas
Mischa Alexandra Catalani
Amy Katherine Catlin
Francisco Cedillo
Janette Cerrillo
Alexis Cervantes
Erica Danielle Choate
Marcello A. Cirino
Cierra Monique Collins
Cristina Marie Coy
Angela Craff
Sarah Elizabeth Dancer
David Wesley Daniel
Asia Vondraia Davis
Latasha E. Deese
Vivian Diep
Gabriela Dominguez
Yasmina Fayed
Ikra Fazil
Victoria Charlene Fotheringham
Jamelah Fheyb Louise Francisco
Rachel Franco
Melissa Jennifer Funes
Hailee Corren Fusano
Ashlee Elizabeth Galliford
Kourtnei K. Gartman
Aaron W. Guerra
Ana-maria Guillen
Cindy Ha
Sara A. Haats

1 Summa Cum Laude – 2 Magna Cum Laude – 3 Cum Laude
Samuel Hassell
Akeem A. Hector
Gia Dawn Henley
Sarah Kathleen Hernandez
Reniqua Shaye Hicks
Kayla Hollimon
Eden Marie Homrighaus
Robert M. Horne III
Lexis Hughes
Virginia Hui
Nohal Anwar Hussain
Duong Thuy Huynh
Malaysia Uniece Jackson
Kimberly Anaiz Jimenez
Jershayla Johnson
Nathan Dorcye Amadeus Johnson
John R. Juarez
Julia Nicole Kahla
Michelle Lee Kincer
Elizabeth King
Huy Quoc Le
Qiming Liu
Angelica A. Lopez
Karina Lopez
Mariana Selene Lopez
Joseph I. Malcaba
Diane M. Maldonado
Alange Chol Manyang
Amy K. Martinez
Noemi Medina Martinez
Lacy Mariah Mayo
Madelyn Claire McAnally
Jessica Marie McClamma
Ray Rae McWilliams
Natalie Medina
Khoula Mehmood
Umair Memon
Michelle Deumy Menjivar

Kendall Miguez
Emily Mitchell
Monet N. Mitchell
Dena Moghtader
Geneva Molina
Natalie Murillo
Andy Adisorn Nakmanee
Alicia Alejandra Rodriguez Nava
Katee L. Neel
Mandisa Agusta Ngoma
Jordan Janae Nichols
Faith Odosa Mawam Nomamiukor
Kristina Seroy Obediente
Alexandra P. Fuentes Ochoa
Wesley Okereke
Dora Julianna Olvera
Crystal Chiwendu Onyenaucheya
Rachel Elizabeth Oreilly
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Liliana Sanchez

1 Summa Cum Laude – 2 Magna Cum Laude – 3 Cum Laude
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
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Lalita Ann Yindeemark

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Alexis Adell Steele
Ja’Braylin Christopher Thomas

Department of Women’s, Gender & Sexuality Studies
BANNER BEARER
Elizabeth Ann Aguilar

Elizabeth Ann Aguilar
Sarah N. Gomez

1 Summa Cum Laude – 2 Magna Cum Laude – 3 Cum Laude
**Doctor of Philosophy in Economics**

Taylor Adam Collins  
Three Essays in Applied Time Series Econometrics  
**Advisor:** Dr. David Papell

**Doctor of Philosophy in English**

Sara Terese Cooper  
Between Convention and Invention: Toward a New Rhetoric of Form in Writing Instruction  
**Advisor:** Dr. Jennifer Wingard

Sarah Reanna Fish  
Anxiety and American Education: An Examination of 20th Century Federal K-12 Curriculum Reform in Moments of National (Security) Crisis  
**Advisor:** Dr. Jennifer Wingard

Erin Cooper Singer  
Lyric Vistas: Genre and the American Long Poem from Whitman to Neruda (1855-1950)  
**Advisor:** Dr. David Mikics

Zachary J. Turpin  
Some Subtle Sympathy: Connecting with the Living and the Dead in Walt Whitman's 'Jack Engle' and 'Leaves of Grass'  
**Advisor:** Dr. Michael Snediker

**Doctor of Philosophy in History**

Alexandria E. Castillo  
Constructing Race: The Catholic Church and the Evolution of Racial Categories and Gender in Colonial Mexico, 1521-1700  
**Advisor:** Dr. Susan Kellogg

**Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science**

Yea Ji Kim  
Education and Democracy  
**Advisor:** Dr. Eduardo Alemán

Margarita Maria Ramirez Rubio  
Why do Legislators COF? Congressional Open Forum Speeches and Electoral Incentives in Presidential America  
**Advisor:** Dr. Eduardo Alemán

**Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology**

William Alexander Alverson  
Relationships Among Cognition, Symptom Validity, and Self-Reported Disability  
**Advisor:** Dr. Paul Massman

Tannah E. Chase  
Exploring Emotion Regulation Difficulties in Samples of Civilians and Veterans  
**Advisor:** Dr. Michael Zvolensky

Allison Hanife Kalpakci  
An Ecological Momentary Assessment (EMA) Study of Affective Reactivity Within an Interpersonal Context in Young Adults With Borderline (BPD) Traits  
**Advisor:** Dr. Carla Sharp

Jennifer Leigh Noblin  
The Role of Cultural Worldview to Mortality Salience  
**Advisor:** Dr. Rheeda L. Walker

Katharine C. Reynolds  
Impact of Experimental Sleep Extension on Adolescent Social Emotion Regulation  
**Advisor:** Dr. Candice A. Alfano
Alexandra Snead
Savanna M. Tierney

Department of Sociology
MASTER OF ARTS
Fernando Clark
Michael Edward Ohsfeldt

Bachelors of Arts
Bachelor of Science

Jack J. Valenti School of Communication

Advertising
Guido Falconi
Juliet Taylor Hillbrand
Emily Jackson

Corporate Communication
Jocelyn Yaritza Ascencio
Vivien Leigh Rivera

Integrated Communication
Bessy J. Flores-Murillo
Deven Elizabeth Linious Gradney
Zachary Ryan Salerno

Interpersonal Communication
Miranda Jade Del Bosque
Matthew Henry Horne
Jodi Elyssse Sandoval

Journalism
Robert D. Alvarez
Connor Jacob Behrens
Ilse Monette Gonzalez
William C. Grimes
Daranesha Richa Herron
Quentin B. Hope
Trey Strange

Riley J. Morgan Vaughan
Austin Lane Wilson

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Destiny I. Edokpa
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Christopher Lewis Moore II
Dustin Michael Rios

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Public Relations
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Erika Cortes
Amira Liela Maruf
Meredith A. Tompkins
Sydney Marie Walker
Claudia Ginnett Moscoso Xesspe

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Zoraida M. Magana
Sydni Alexandria Oliver
Genesis Rios
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Jasmin Kyla Weaver

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Priscilla Vanessa Chacon
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Xiomara Izel Galarza
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Jungmi Jung
Mariam Emaan Khan
Christopher Lemus
Huyen Phuong Nguyen
Nhu-An Chi Nguyen
Kalliopi Podia
Nida Siddiqui
Dana Rae Batac Tardieli-Cyril

**Kinesiology – Exercise Science**
Roselyn Anochiwa
Christina Apolonia Armstead
Doroteja Bednjanez
Noland Alfonso Carcamo
Raven Nicole Charles
Jannie Urrego Fontenot
Melanie Garcia
Baldomero Garza
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Julie Chilan Kim Murphy
Mimi H. Nguyen
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Joel Oghenekaroh Onemu
Ricky Lee Pena
Sean Michael Rophail
Cody Alan Sabol
Abel Salazar, Jr.
Misty Leigh Statum
Reagan Michele Stump
Shefali Sharontez Webster

**Kinesiology – Fitness and Sports**
Richard Luis Bocanegra

**Kinesiology – Sports Administration**
Raymond J. Clarage
Taylor Renee Delany
Kiera A. Duffie
Michael Anthony Esparza
Cody C. Gamble
Alexander R. Golabian
Justin Hardy Moore
Raul Anthony Roman

**Department of Hispanic Studies**

**Spanish**
Cindy Galvan
Heidy Estefania Paz Maradiaga
Maria Del Carmen Rincon
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

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Department of History
Andres Marcelo Acosta
Andrew N. Forestieri
Felicity Isabel Pereyra
Ryan Trinidad Valdez

Department of Modern and Classical Languages
Chinese Studies
William H. Nisbett

World Culture and Literatures
Trey Strange

Department of Philosophy
Billal Said Saleh

Department of Political Science
Auristela Rios Aldrett
Daniela Paola Armenta
Kelly D. Canales
Delaney Catlettstout
Henrich John De Belen Espiritu
Nia Chanel Gilbert
Jason Christopher LaBarbera
Jose Mendez III
Gavino Portales
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Rebecca Rose Wells
Amy Elizabeth Wolfe

Department of Sociology
Steven Bennett Broussard
Johan Siri Lagos

1 Summa Cum Laude – 2 Magna Cum Laude – 3 Cum Laude
The Honors College at the University of Houston offers students special opportunities to develop their academic abilities. Below are the Honors College honors designations.

**University Honors with Honors in Major**
Students who complete the Honors College curriculum (36 hours) and complete a senior honors thesis.

**University Honors**
Students who complete the Honors College curriculum and elect not to complete a senior honors thesis.

**Collegiate Honors and Collegiate Honors with Honors in Major**
Students who fulfill the requirements for the honors program in the college of their major, including 21 hours of honors courses; who complete an Honors College minor; or who complete 21 hours of approved honors courses. If students also complete a senior honors thesis, they graduate with Collegiate Honors with Honors in Major.

**Membership in The Honors College and Membership in The Honors College with Honors in Major**
Students who affiliate with the Honors College during their undergraduate years and complete fewer than 21 hours of honors courses. If students also complete a senior honors thesis and fulfill the requirements of their major with distinction, they graduate with Membership in The Honors College with Honors in Major.

**Honors in Major**
Students who complete a senior honors thesis but are not members of the Honors College.
Recipients

**University Honors with Honors in Major**
- Talia Mergi
- Faith Odosa Nomamiukor

**University Honors**
- Konstantina Angelides
- Patrick M. Berry
- Sarah Michelle Blakelock
- Andrew E. Carlson
- Yasmina Fayed
- Charlie-Anne Gagne
- Kaitlyn A. Jarr
- Fariha Jawed
- Emily Wenhwei Johnson
- Miguel Mendez
- Elena Rose Nickerson Miller
- Meghan L. Miller
- Dena Moghtader
- Rashad J. Moody
- Maria G. Puente
- Brian R. Roan
- Emily R. Stewart
- Chloe Mirelle Stowell
- Trey Strange
- Meena Sundaresan
- Christine H. Torossian
- Cristina M. Tovar
- Amanda Elizabeth Wilson

**Collegiate Honors**
- Stacia Marie Absalon
- Hannah Marie Bonner
- Laura Jane Cowling
- An Tuong Dinh
- Calvin Do
- Rachel B. Freeman
- Reece William Karger
- Andressa Louise Lessa
- Mark Jason Ruiz
- Ian Martin Sadler
- Jasmine Marie Tamez
- Kathy Tran
- Daniel Clifford Trevino
- Demointe Tyreme Wesley

**Membership in The Honors College with Honors in Major**
- Andrew Pearson

**Membership in The Honors College**
- Sara A. Haats
- Diane M. Maldonado

**Honors in Major**
- Marina Bassana
- Rachel O’Reilly
- Brandi Demars
- Kyle Russell
- Murad Gafarov
- Guadalupe Gabriel San Miguel
THE ATTIRE of the participants dates back to the 12th and 13th centuries, when universities began to be established in Europe. In 1321, at the University of Coimbra in Portugal, gowns were required attire not just for faculty members but also for students of all classifications. Other European universities started requiring gowns, but there was not a standard design. In 1887, Gardner Cotrell Leonard volunteered to design the graduation gowns for his class at Williams College. His design, as well as the standardization of colors to denote areas of study, were later adopted by an intercollegiate commission and are the ones used today by most United States colleges and universities.

**Gowns:** The bachelor’s gown has long pointed sleeves; the master’s gown has an oblong sleeve open at the wrists (some older gowns may be open near the upper part of the arm); the doctoral gown is fuller than the others with full-length velvet panels on the front and three velvet crossbars on each sleeve in black or in the color distinctive to the academic discipline of the wearer’s degree.

**Hoods:** The hood, worn by masters and doctoral degree recipients, drapes over the shoulders and down the back and indicates the academic discipline to which the degree pertains; the field of the hood denotes the university that conferred the degree. The size of the hood indicates the level of the degree.

**Caps:** The black mortarboard is the most common cap used. The tassel fastened to the center of the cap is black, although it may be the color appropriate to the subject of the degree. The tassel for the doctor’s cap may be of gold thread. Candidates for bachelor’s degrees wear the tassels on the right side, shifting it to the left side after being awarded their degrees. Candidates for master’s and doctoral degrees wear their tassels on the left side from the outset and do not shift them after receiving their degree.

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**College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**

**DOCTORAL DEGREE**  
*Gown:* Black  
*Hood:* Dark Blue  
*Tassel:* Old Gold

**MASTER’S DEGREE**  
*Gown:* Black  
*Hood:* Citron  
*Tassel:* Black

**BACHELOR’S DEGREE**  
*Gown:* Black  
*Tassel:* Citron
A special thanks to the Convocation Team of Volunteers who assisted in making this memorable event possible.

Lauren Abbott
April Alex
Sakeena Andrade
Chad Arnold
L. Wayne Ashley
Leen Basharat
Minnie Byrd
Jyoti Cameron
Linda Canales
Kimberly A. Cooks
Eric Dowding
Andrea Elizondo
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Bobbie Sue Schindler
Norma Sides
Antonio Sustaita
Arianna Taylor
Andrew Trinh
Flor Velasquez
Maricela Villanueva
Demetria Walton
All hail to thee,
Our Houston University.
Our hearts fill with gladness
When we think of thee.
We’ll always adore thee
Dear old varsity.
And to thy memory cherished,
True we’ll ever be.

Words and music by Harmony Class of 1942