Convocation

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES, ANTHROPOLOGY, GENDER & WOMEN’S STUDIES, LATINA/LATINO STUDIES and SOCIOLOGY

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES
LAS ADMINISTRATION
Gene E. Robinson, Interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Swanlund Chair in Entomology
Angela Graham, Assistant to the Dean
Barbara Hancin-Bhatt, Associate Dean for Student Academic Affairs
Robert Kessler, Assistant Dean for Finance and Resource Planning
Kelly A. Ritter, Associate Dean for Curricula and Academic Policy
David H. Tewksbury, Executive Associate Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Area Centers
Matthew A. Ando, Associate Dean for Life and Physical Sciences
Clare Haru Crowston, Associate Dean for Humanities and Interdisciplinary Programs
Joan M. Volkmann, Associate Dean for Advancement
Isabel Molina-Guzmán, Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion
W. Brad Petersen, Executive Director of Communications and Marketing
Derek Fultz, Director of Facilities
Randy McCarthy, Faculty Director of ATLAS

DEPARTMENT HEADS/CHAIRS
Dr. Brenda M. Farnell, Head of Anthropology
Dr. Ronald William Bailey, Head of African American Studies
Dr. Soo Ah Kwon, Head of Asian American Studies
Dr. Siobhan B. Somerville, Chair of Gender & Women’s Studies
Dr. Jonathan Xavier Inda, Chair of Latina/Latino Studies
Dr. Tim F. Liao, Head of Sociology
TO OUR GRADUATES

Today you are graduates of the University of Illinois. It is a remarkable achievement, and we hope that you celebrate the occasion with loved ones. Commencement is a joyous and deeply symbolic event for all, including the faculty members and staff who have supported you on your journey. It is profoundly disappointing that we are unable to celebrate it together this spring. The Class of 2021 will long be remembered, however, for not only what was lost, but for your resilience and determination as you finished your degree in the face of one of the greatest challenges in our nation’s history. Congratulations, and we look forward to learning of your future success.
ACADEMIC DRESS

Academic dress, consisting of cap, gown, and hood, originated about the twelfth century and was worn primarily for warmth. Subsequently, the material of the gown and lining, and the shape of the hood, represented the economic and social, as well as academic status of the wearer.

In the United States, the great majority of the academic costumes now worn are in accordance with the general provisions of the Intercollegiate Code of 1895, which was revised in 1932 and again in 1960. Under this code, the bachelor’s gown has pointed sleeves, the master’s gown has oblong sleeves with an arc at the bottom, and the doctor’s gown has bell-shaped sleeves. All gowns are black, although the adoption of colored gowns by individual institutions in the United States is becoming more prevalent.

The bachelor’s and master’s gowns are untrimmed. The doctor’s gown is faced down the front with velvet and has three bars of velvet across the sleeves. The facing and bars may be black or may be the color of the subject to which the degree pertains. The bachelor’s gown is worn closed; the master’s and doctor’s gowns may be worn open or closed. Women may wear white collars with the bachelor’s gown when no hood is worn.

Hoods are also black. The bachelor’s hood is 3 feet in length, the master’s is 3 ½ feet, and the doctor’s is 4 feet. Hoods are lined with the official color or colors of the college or university conferring the degree. At the University of Illinois, the lining is orange and blue.

The colored velvet border of the hood, which is 2 inches, 3 inches, and 5 inches wide for the bachelor’s, master’s, and doctor’s degree respectively, identifies the faculty or field of study to which the degree pertains.

The black mortarboard cap is standard in the United States. Usually, all tassels are black, but where the graduating seniors do not wear hoods, as at the University of Illinois, the color of the cap tassel indicates the department of study. At the University of Illinois, candidates for degrees wear tassels on the right front quadrant of their caps before degrees are conferred, and move them to the left front quadrant after degrees are conferred. Caps are considered a part of the costume and are customarily removed only during an invocation or benediction, and then by men only.

For all academic purposes, including trimmings of doctor’s gowns, edging of hoods, tassels of caps, and linings of banners, there are different colors associated with the different disciplines. The color for Liberal Arts & Sciences is white.

Caps and gowns were worn for the first time at the University of Illinois Commencement ceremony of 1897. In the early 1900s the Commencement procession marched up Burrill Avenue to the old Armory. After diplomas were received, the procession marched back to the lawn south of Green Street. The seniors sang the State song and “Auld Lang Syne” before they said good-bye to each other and the campus.
HONORS

UNIVERSITY HONORS

Also known as the Chancellor’s Scholars Program, the Campus Honors Program offers special challenges and opportunities to a small number of talented and highly motivated undergraduate students from all University of Illinois colleges. The small entering class of Chancellor’s Scholars is selected from prospective freshmen based on exceptional academic achievement, and on evidence of creativity, leadership, intellectual curiosity, and willingness to be an active member of this community. Chancellor’s Scholars are admitted from all University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign colleges, selected from students who are strongly motivated not only to excel, but also to make a difference — at Illinois, and in life after graduation.

COLLEGE HONORS

Each college at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign has a James Scholar Program. These programs are named for Edmund J. James, the fourth president of the University of Illinois (1904-1920), who brought world-class scholars and researchers to the campus, developed many new undergraduate and graduate programs, and fostered a sense of community among faculty and students. His achievements helped to transform the University of Illinois into a center of international importance. Within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, the James Scholar Honors Program encourages academically gifted students to develop their abilities fully, and to achieve the college's highest academic recognition. By annually maintaining certification as James Scholars, participating students seek sustained intellectual achievement as undergraduates.

Bronze Tablet honors the top 3% of graduates from each college. These students receive special recognition and regalia at graduation ceremonies, and their names are inscribed on the tablets in the first-floor corridors of the University Library.

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign recognizes more than 50 independent honor societies. Among the prestigious national honor societies with campus chapters at Illinois is Phi Beta Kappa (LAS).

DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

Many Illinois academic departments award Distinction, High Distinction, or Highest Distinction for the completion of honors-quality work as specified in these curricula.
AWARDS AND HONORS

SPECIAL HONORS

ANTHROPOLOGY

Liebman Engaged Anthropology Award
Patricia Rose Avent
Priyasha Hancin Bhatt
Celeste Courtney
Israel Ramses Gomez Raffoul
Yolanda Rivera
Hayat Hanaa Zarzour

Patricia O’Brien Award
Celeste Courtney

GENDER AND WOMEN’S STUDIES

Jean Scharre Thompson Scholarship
Alaina Bottens

Special Mention, Jean Scharre Thompson Scholarship
Margaret Joan Scovic

LATINA/LATINO STUDIES

Latina/Latino Studies Undergraduate Research Paper Award
Lydia Socorro Alvarez

Dr. Jorge Chapa Memorial Scholarship in Latina/o Studies
Isabella Rose Marquez

SOCIOLOGY

Outstanding Senior Award
Seetha Ramaswamy

Student Engagement Award
Joseph Kreiling

Douglas Barnes Graduate Student in Sociology Scholar
Mona Khneisser

Florian Znaniecki Graduate Publication Prize
Brian O’Neill

Beslow Graduate Paper Award
Nehal Elmeligy

UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE, AND DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

JAMES SCHOLARS
Alaina Bottens
Madison Jackson
Brooke Kadel
Isabella Rose Marquez
Taylor Ann Mazique

CHANCELLOR’S SCHOLAR, CAMPUS HONORS PROGRAM

PHI BETA KAPPA
Kasey Bo-min Kim

DISTINCTION
Madison Jackson
Simrah Yameen Khaleel
Tiffany Rodela
Embrya Townsend
AWARDS AND HONORS

HIGH DISTINCTION
Lydia Socorro Alvarez
Karen Bucio
Melody Contreras
Joseph W. Kreiling
Leah Rose Macy
Isabella Rose Marquez
William H. Murphy
Seethalakshmi Ramaswamy

HIGHEST DISTINCTION
Courtney Ann Augello
Patricia Rose Avent
Allison J. Duncan
Anna D. Johnson
Brooke Kadel
Kassidy Elizabeth Mahoney
Qiwen Mai
Eric Mateusz Nocon
Alexis Pantoja-Gonzalez
Haeley Alaina Peters
Seethalakshmi Ramaswami
Kira Rutledge
Kimberly Ramona Wilson
Hayat Hanaa Zarzour
The lists are organized by degree. Because of deadlines, lists may be incomplete.

**ANTHROPOLOGY**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ANTHROPOLOGY**

- Kyrie Jevon Agee
- Heather Elizabeth Aubry
- Patricia Rose Avent
- Priyasha Hancin Bhatt
- Karina Cordova
- Doran Patrick Cotter
- Celeste Courtney
- Israel Ramses Gomez Raffoul
- Amber Haines
- Emma Kathryn Harnsberger
- Drew Hong
- Ashley Victoria Ireland
- Nia Symone Jones
- Brooke Kadel
- Antonio M. Pierre
- Yolanda Rivera
- Kirin Amberlin Schlabitz
- Chloe Isabelle Sherwin

- Caroline Marie Tarantino
- Stefanie Villalpando
- Zehui Wang
- Hayat Hanaa Zarzour

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE/ANTHROPOLOGY**

- Amogh Dendukuri
- Nicholas Tower Frey
- Reva Kulkarni
- Uma Paroma Pal
- Sravya Reddy Patakota
- Kai Rae Wiest

**AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS**

- Brooke Brown
- Madison Jackson
- Destinee Pullen
- Embrya Townsend

**MAJOR OF ARTS**

- Matthew Fort
- Grazzia Grimaldi Calderon
- Zarino Lanni

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**

- Erin Benson (August 2020)
- Katharine Lee (August 2020)

- Ezgi Guner (December 2020)
- Yoonjung Kang
- An-Di Yim

**AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS**

- Brooke Brown
- Madison Jackson
- Destinee Pullen
- Embrya Townsend

**GENDER & WOMEN’S STUDIES**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS**

- Alaina Bottens
- Nicole Lee Capesius
- Taylor Ann Mazique
- Margaret Joan Scovic
- Mia Simone Seeley
- Rebekkah Lyhn Sherrard
- Sadie Urban
LATINA/LATINO STUDIES
BACHELOR OF ARTS
Lydia Socorro Alvarez
Karen Bahena
Karen Bucio
Melody Contreras
Isabella Rose Marquez
Jocelyn Rodriguez
Gabriel Sanabria
Jailine Santiago
Ivan Saucedo
Cristian Solorzano

SOCIOLOGY
BACHELOR OF ARTS
Noah Rodney Adams
Daniel Michael Ahern
Courtney Anne Augello
Meiyia Sydney Black
Lazarrick Blair
Joel Caldero

GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES
Gabriela Castellanos
Victoria Daniels
Charmaine Sheree Dortch
Allison J. Duncan
Kendrick Joseph Green
Lillian Makenzie Marie Harris
Nathan Dewayne Hobbs
Alexis Rae Ivanic
Anna D. Johnson
James K. Knight
Joseph W. Kreiling
Emmanuel N. Kwaning
Dezirae Laird
Jeongmin Lee
Joo Young Lee
Isabella Marie Loya
Leah Rose Macey
Kassidy Elizabeth Mahoney
Qiwen Mai
Kayla Denise Malone
Helen Lizeth Morales
William H. Murphy
Eric Mateusz Nocon
Jahnavi Pandrangi
Alexis Pantoja-Gonzalez
Haeley Alaina Peters
Tucker W. Petersen
Angela Maria Przywara
Seethalakshmi Ramaswamy
Rokyah Aerieal Robinson
Tiffany Rodela
Fernando Ruiz
Kira L. Rutledge
Miyanna Rae Smith-Stamps
Aida Annette Sorour
Kristin Stellhorn
Joel Yngwie Swanson
Nicholas Marcel Walker
Jasmine Tia Wiley
Da’Monte A. Williams
Kimberly Ramona Wilson
Ricardo Ramos
Jeeyoung Won
Lily Angelica Zavala
Phillip E. Zelditch

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
Fatima Castillo
Lizette Guadarrama
Simrah Yameen Khaleel
Jamison D. Post
Jonathan M. Woo
Kelsey Lauren Woodbury
Yijing Zhang

MASTER OF ARTS
Daniel C. Hale

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
Julie C. Krueger
THANK YOU

A special thank you to all who helped organize this convocation. Thank you to the family and friends who have supported the graduates throughout their time at the University of Illinois.

Degree Information

This program contains an unofficial list of degree candidates for May 2021, as well as a list of graduates who received degrees in August and December 2020. Due to printing deadlines, names of some degree recipients may not appear while names of some degree candidates who have not yet completed degree requirements may be included. The University’s official registry for conferral of degrees is the Office of the Registrar, 901 W. Illinois St., Urbana, IL 61801.