



College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

COMMENCEMENT
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2017





UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

Letter from the President

December 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

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which reads "Antonio D. Tillis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

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 <i>Moore School of Music</i>
WELCOME ADDRESS	Antonio D. Tillis <i>M.D. Anderson Professor of Hispanic Studies</i> <i>Dean of the College</i>
INTRODUCTION OF PLATFORM PARTY	Dean Tillis
HONORS COLLEGE	Lawrence Curry
CANDIDATES RECOGNITION	<i>Professor Emeritus</i>
RECOGNITION OF HONORS	Lawrence Curry
RECOGNITION OF GRADUATE CANDIDATES	Catherine Patterson <i>Associate Dean of Graduate Studies</i>
PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION	Beth Olson and Richard Armstrong
<i>JACK J. VALENTI</i> <i>SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION</i>	Temple Northup
<i>DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION</i> <i>SCIENCES AND DISORDERS</i>	Lynn Maher
<i>DEPARTMENT OF COMPARATIVE</i> <i>CULTURAL STUDIES</i>	Janice Hutchison
<i>DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS</i>	David Papell
<i>DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH</i>	James Kastely
<i>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH</i> <i>AND HUMAN PERFORMANCE</i>	Daniel O'Connor
<i>DEPARTMENT OF HISPANIC STUDIES</i>	Liz Goodin-Mayeda
<i>DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY</i>	Philip Howard
<i>DEPARTMENT OF MODERN</i> <i>AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES</i>	Hildegard Glass

<i>DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY</i>	David Phillips
<i>DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE</i>	Susan Scarrow
<i>PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION</i>	James Thurmond
<i>DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY</i>	Jack Fletcher
<i>DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY</i>	Amanda Baumle
<i>WOMEN'S, GENDER & SEXUALITY STUDIES</i>	Elizabeth Gregory
<i>CONCLUDING REMARKS</i>	Dean Tillis
<i>ALMA MATER</i>	Soloist Marissa Suazo <i>Moore's School of Music</i>

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Fall 2017

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

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Yen-Nhi Hoang Pham

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The Honors College Honors

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.

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

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Recipients

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Hannah Marie Bonner	Mark Jason Ruiz
Laura Jane Cowling	Ian Martin Sadler
An Tuong Dinh	Jasmine Marie Tamez
Calvin Do	Kathy Tran
Rachel B. Freeman	Daniel Clifford Trevino
Reece William Karger	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

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Brandi Demars	Kyle Russell
Murad Gafarov	Guadalupe Gabriel San Miguel

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ACADEMIC HERALDRY

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.

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

DOCTORAL DEGREE	<i>Gown:</i> Black <i>Hood:</i> Dark Blue <i>Tassel:</i> Old Gold
MASTER'S DEGREE	<i>Gown:</i> Black <i>Hood:</i> Citron <i>Tassel:</i> Black
BACHELOR'S DEGREE	<i>Gown:</i> Black <i>Tassel:</i> Citron

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SPECIAL THANKS

A special thanks to the Convocation Team of Volunteers who assisted in making this memorable event possible.

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The Alma Mater

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



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