

HISTORY and PHILOSOPHY

CONVOCATION

MAY 17
2025



College of Liberal
Arts & Sciences

TO OUR GRADUATES

Today you are graduates of the University of Illinois.

This is a remarkable achievement, and we are thrilled to celebrate the occasion with you. Commencement is a joyous and deeply symbolic event for all, including the faculty members, staff, family, friends, and others who have supported you on your journey. As members of the Class of 2025, you have overcome many challenges to earn your degree. Congratulations, and we look forward to learning of your future success.

ORDER OF EXERCISES

1:30 p.m. | May 17, 2025

WELCOME

Adrian Burgos, Jr., *Professor and Head, Department of Philosophy*

PROCESSION

Faculty and Degree Candidates from the Departments
of History and Philosophy

Music Provided by Sycamore Brass Quintet

GREETINGS FROM THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

Robert Morrissey, *Associate Dean for Humanities &
Interdisciplinary Programs, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences*

CONVOCATION SPEAKER

Professor Ekow N. Yankah, *Associate Dean for Faculty
and Research Thomas M. Cooley Professor of Law at
the University of Michigan Law School, Richard W. and
Marie L. Corman Scholar and Assistant Professor of Law
at the University of Illinois School of Law.*

PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES

Robert Morrissey, *Associate Dean for Technology and Online
Learning, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences*
Andrew Smith, *Academic Advisor, Department of Philosophy*

James Brennan, *Director of Undergraduate Studies,
Department of History*
Marc Hertzman, *Associate Chair and Director of Graduate
Studies, Department of History*

CLOSING REMARKS

Rob Kar, *Professor and Interim Chair, Department of Philosophy*

SINGING OF "HAIL TO THE ORANGE"

Hail to the Orange,
Hail to the Blue,
Hail Alma Mater,
Ever so true.
We love no other,
So let our motto be,
Victory, Illinois
Varsity!

RECESSION OF FACULTY AND GRADUATES

Music Provided by the Sycamore Brass Quintet

Guests are asked to remain seated until the faculty and
graduates have left the Hall.

FACULTY ATTENDING TODAY'S CEREMONY

Rob Kar, *Law and Philosophy*
Andrew Smith, *Philosophy*
Helga Varden, *Philosophy*
Shelley Weinberg, *Philosophy*
Dave Beck, *History*
James Brennan, *History*
Adrian Burgos, *History*
Antoinette Burton, *History*
Angela Maria Diaz, *History*
Stefan Djordjevic, *History*
Peter Fritzsche, *History*
Marc Hertzman, *History*
Marco Jaimes, *History*
Robert Morrissey, *History*
Dana Rabin, *History*
Yuridia Ramírez, *History*
Leslie Reagan, *History*
Roderick Wilson, *History*

MARSHALS

Stefan Djordjevic, *History*
Anna Ivy, *English*
Marco Jaimes, *History*

VOLUNTEERS

David Ju, *History*
Haiyi Li, *History*
Chloe Parrella, *History*
Marica Szczybura, *History*
Shannon Warden, *History*

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY ADMINISTRATION/STAFF

Adrian Burgos, Jr., *Professor and Chair*
Marc Hertzman, *Professor, Associate Chair and Director of
Graduate Studies*
James Brennan, *Associate Professor and Director of
Undergraduate Studies*
Stefan Djordjevic, *Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies*
Nathan Oliveira, *Business Manager*
Shannon Croft, *Graduate Program Coordinator*
Dawn Rena Voyles, *Account Specialist*
Cindy Gilbert, *Office Support Specialist*
Anthony Frasca, *Undergraduate Program Director*
Heather Gernenz, *Communications Coordinator*

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY ADMINISTRATION/STAFF

Rob Kar, *Professor and Interim Head*
Luvelt Anderson, *Professor and Associate Head*
Kohei Kishida, *Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies*
Jonathan Livengood, *Associate Professor and Director of
Undergraduate Studies*
Andrew Smith, *Academic Advisor*
Kathy Elston, *Business Manager*
Kara Cantrall, *Office Support Associate*
Kevin Scharp, *Director of Research*
Heather Gernenz, *Communications Coordinator*

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.

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.

GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES

The lists are organized by degree. Not all graduates listed are participating in today’s ceremony. Because of printing deadlines, lists may be incomplete.

BACHELOR OF ARTS

HISTORY

- Henry Louis Peter Anderson
- Sophia Monet Andrade
- Joseph Arellano
- Nina A. Avis
- Katelyn Emily Barbour
- Emma Grace Barszcz
- Jessica L. Bastian
- Evan Michael Berman
- Jaquari Booker
- Michael Andrew Borowiak
- Emily Ann Branstad
- Trevor Daniel Brooks
- Andrew Jamison Cannell
- Samuel (Sam) Robert Carens
- Trent Loren Chassy

- Chris J. Chong
- Zachary Crane
- Caroline Da Rocha Birnfeld
- Alexandria Dauer
- Maddox Xavier De La Cruz
- Molly Peyton Degelmann
- Peter Martin Derrah
- Yudany Lizbeth Díaz
- William (Will) Henry Doty
- Angelina (Lina) Marisha Echevarria
- Anthony Erkan
- Tyler Nicolas Fennelly
- Brittney Jireh Flowers
- Morgan Rae Fox
- Grant Thomas Friel
- Joseph Frulla
- Colin Burton Gilreath
- Artem Giro
- Eva Isabelle Grein
- Joseph Griffith
- Thomas (Tommy) Ben Gulumian
- Lucas David Hardwick
- Oche Shomari Harris
- Matthew (Matt) Robert Hawthorne

- Atticus Cole Helfer
- Daniela (Dany) Herrera
- Matthew (Matt) Layton Hester
- Margaret (Marge) Mary Holohan
- Kaixi Hu
- Kyle Neil Hubert
- Iliane Izeradjene
- Audriauna (Audri) K. Jennings
- Haley Jin
- Brody James Johnson
- Brandon Maxwell Keer
- Mitchell (Mitch) Patrick Kelley
- Christine (Chrissy) Jiwoo Kim
- Edmund Otto Koch
- Raymond (Ray) James Krueger
- Nicole Liana Kubecki
- Gustave (Gus) A. Lackner
- Jack LaMorte
- Marie Leininger
- Sean Lindquist
- Elena Cristina Lynch
- Claudia Lorelei Madsen
- Elizabeth Paige McNutt
- Adrianna Menjivar

David Louis Mercado
Rachel Elise Danna Mulick
Kevin Joseph Murphy
Lucas Woodfill Nolte
Brandon Edward O'Keefe
Stephen Robert Olexa
Morgan Elizabeth Paoli
Mariana Concepcion Patino
Giulia K. Pauli
Wyatt Jonathan Peek
James Joseph Perkovich
Alina Popatia
Nicholas Charles Pratt
Issac Noah Proudfoot
Sophia (Sophie) Rainey
Dylan John David Rapp
Isabella Reyna Sauer
Emily Rose Saul II
William (Will) P Schmitt
Michael Shirley
Jacob James Shockley
Austin Simon
Tess Marta Slowinski
Francesco (Franky) Antonio Smeriglio

GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES

Paul Kelly Staudacher
Brody Robert Suski
Matthew Eugene Thery
Rory Thomas Tovcimak
Madison Treppa
Zion Anthony Trinidad
Bridget Ulbert
Thomas (Tom) Francis Unkraut
Jacklyn Samantha Vargas
Thomas Jacob Weber
Karsyn Anniece Wetzel
Anna Mackenzie Wheeler
Justin Michael Wytmar
Zhilingyun Zhang
Nathan Lawrence Zock

PHILOSOPHY

Al Unood (Alunood) Al Dhawi
Akash Arunabharathi
Anthony Berdeja
Diana Luna Bruce
Zhengyang Cai
Xinshuo (Darren) Chen

Munyu (Mike) Cheng
Justin Cheon
Tyler Robert Craig
Kunal Daftari
Aniket Kumar Das
Charles (Charlie) James DeAngelis
Sylvia E
Declan Fortier
Jamie Camille Gleason
Prachi Gyanmote
Alexander (Alex) Hall
Evelyn Therese Huzenis
Ayaan Ahmed Jabbar
Kervi Jay Javonillo
Julien Jin-Asma
Abhinav (Jason) Kandula
Sophie M. Kapica
Wilson Scott Kenny
Stevie Nicole Lawless
Wentao (Victor) Li
Yangze Liu
Bandhuli Maity
Vishwanatha (Vishwa) Mallampooty
Jackson William Manchik
Abigail (Abby) Ann McGuire

Addison Elisha McMillan
Kevin Mei
Michail Misho Metodiev
Maja Helena Nawrocka
Kaden Paris
Kali Jo Pollitt
Robert Matthew Porter
Aditya S. Prerepa
Lily Claire Rachlis
Marisol Sanchez
William (Will) Connor Scharnagl
Ayushi Tarak Shah
Michael Shan
Vinay Siva
Jian Song
Talia Sriram
Arttiracha (Art) A. Suthigoseeya
Christopher (Chris) Hong Huang Tang
Selina Yufei Tang
Jack Kenneth Thorton
Anna Maria Toneva
Eric Matthew Waldschmidt
Jessie Wang
Siddhant (Sid) Anand Wanjara
Victor Alexander Woszczak

GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES

Liangtong (Errol) Wu
Yiqu (Shawn) Xiong
Alexander Zhang

MASTER OF ARTS
& MASTER OF
SCIENCES

HISTORY

Camryn (Cam) Kianna Burkins, MA/MS
Lily Beatrice Denehy, MA/MS
Rebecca Stover, MA/MS

DOCTOR OF
PHILOSOPHY

HISTORY

William Crane
Eric William Denby
Rhannon Aiyana Hein
Adam Joseph LoBue
Damir Vucucevic

PHILOSOPHY

Derrick Adam Baker

THANK YOU

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Special Thanks To:

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Degree Information

This program contains an unofficial list of degree candidates for May 2025, as well as a list of graduates who received degrees in August and December 2024. 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.



**College of Liberal
Arts & Sciences**

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