

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  
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

### Professional Photography

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### Special Thanks To:

Office of the Chancellor - Commencement and Special Events  
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The Graduate College  
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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.



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Arts & Sciences**

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