

University of Houston Fall 2023 Commencement

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Saturday, December 16, 2023 • Fertitta Center





College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

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Commencement Ceremony

Saturday, December 16, 2023, 9:00 a.m. Fertitta Center

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Message from Renu Khator, President

Message from Diane Z. Chase, Provost



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Message from the President

Dear University of Houston Graduates,

Congratulations on receiving your college degree. Today, your longtime dream becomes a reality, and I join your family and friends in celebrating this milestone with you. I am a big believer in the power of dreams and resiliency. To graduate from college, despite the challenges of the past few years, is a testament to your

unwavering commitment and ability to dream big.

Whether you're the first in your family to graduate from college or hail from collegiate scholars, your hard work and determination have brought you to this milestone. You are a generation who faced a global pandemic yet stayed focused on your studies and goals. You excelled against the odds, and this adversity has prepared you to face the professional world with more grit than any generation before. I applaud you for all that you have achieved.

Please take time to thank your professors, advisors, family and friends who supported you on this journey. It takes community to accomplish your goals, and I ask that you stay humble and give back to those in need as you go on to even greater heights.

You have received a Tier One education from the University of Houston. This is the home of industry leaders, nationally top-ranked academic programs, world-renowned faculty, an NCAA Final Four basketball team, cutting-edge research and so much more. I know in my heart that you are now ready to compete and become leaders in your chosen careers. Now, work hard, dream big and shine on.

Go Coogs!

Warmest regards,

Kenu khator

Renu Khator President, University of Houston



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Message from the Provost

Dear Fall Graduates,

You've traveled a long road to reach this moment, but here you are! Congratulations on earning a degree from the University of Houston.

Whether you're the first in your family to graduate from college or perhaps a second-generation Cougar, today's ceremony marks a

significant moment in your lives. It's also special for the University of Houston as your success has been our priority since you first stepped foot on campus.

Now, you embark on new journeys. Some of you may be entering the workforce. Others may be headed to graduate school. No matter your destination, please remember those who helped you get to this point.

Stay in touch with peers, professors and staff members and remind them that their guidance supported your academic journeys. Also, thank your spouses, siblings, parents, grandparents and others in attendance today for their daily inspiration.

Of course, be sure to truly recognize the one person responsible for today's celebration—you! You balanced classes, work, family and other obligations. It wasn't easy, but you did it. Now, you are poised to reap the rewards of a degree from UH.

Although you are leaving this wonderful campus, you will remain a member of our University family. You now carry the proud tradition of past UH graduates and will represent our institution in your professional endeavors. Be proud of your time here, and let others know that you are now and forever a Cougar.

Once again, congratulations!

Sincerely,

Diane Z. Chase

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, University of Houston

Commencement Ceremony

University of Houston System

BOARD OF REGENTS

Tilman J. Fertitta, Chairman
Alonzo Cantu, Vice Chairman
John A. McCall, Jr., Secretary
Durga D. Agrawal
Gregory C. King
Beth Madison
Jack B. Moore
Tammy D. Murphy
Ricky Raven
Mielad Ziaee

University of Houston

PRESIDENT

Renu Khator

PRESIDENT'S CABINET

Diane Z. Chase Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

Raymond S. Bartlett
Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance

Bettina Beech Chief Population Health Officer

Eloise Brice Vice President for University Advancement and Alumni

Dona Hamilton Cornell Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel

Susie Gronseth
President, UH Faculty Senate

Lisa K. Holdeman
Vice President for Marketing and Communications

Michael Johnson Chief of Staff Ramanan Krishnamoorti Vice President for Energy and Innovation

Elwyn C. Lee Vice President for Neighborhood and Strategic Initiatives

Daniel M. Maxwell Interim Vice President for Student Affairs

Claudia Neuhauser Interim Vice President for Research

Michael Pedé Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations

Chris Pezman
Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics

Jason Smith Vice President for Government and Community Relations

Stephen J. Spann
Vice President for Medical Affairs and
Founding Dean, Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine

Commencement Ceremony

University of Houston Deans

Heidi Appel
The Honors College

Leonard M. Baynes

UH LAW CENTER

Andrew Davis
Founding Dean
Cullen Foundation Endowed Dean's Chair
KATHRINE G. McGOVERN COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Jim Granato
Hobby School of Public Affairs

Catherine Horn
Elizabeth D. Rockwell Chair
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Athena N. Jackson

Elizabeth D. Rockwell Endowed Dean's Chair

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LIBRARIES

Sarah C. Larsen
Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School
Interim Dean
GRADUATE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

Teri Elkins Longacre
Senior Vice Provost and Dean
Undergraduate Student Success – Integrated Studies

Daniel P. O'Connor

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Patricia Belton Oliver

ACSA Distinguished Professor

GERALD D. HINES COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

Paul A. Pavlou

Cullen Distinguished Chair

C. T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

F. Lamar Pritchard Humana Endowed Dean's Chair in Pharmacy COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Dennis Reynolds
Barron Hilton Distinguished Chair
CONRAD N. HILTON COLLEGE OF
GLOBAL HOSPITALITY LEADERSHIP

Pradeep Sharma Interim Dean Hugh Roy and Lillie Cranz Cullen Distinguished University Professor Cullen College of Engineering

Stephen J. Spann
Founding Dean
Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine

Kathryn M. Tart
Founding Dean
Humana Endowed Dean's Chair in Nursing
Andy and Barbara Gessner College of Nursing

Michael Twa

Humana Endowed Dean's Chair in Optometry

College of Optometry

Dan E. Wells
Distinguished Professor of Science
College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Commencement Ceremony

University of Houston History



The University of Houston was established as the Houston Junior College in 1927. As the college grew, it prospered and officially became the four-year University of Houston in 1934. Two years later, the college attained land for a permanent campus, and in 1939 it constructed its first building, the Roy G. Cullen Building. The University became a state institution in 1963.

The University includes 14 academic colleges, one school, and the multidisciplinary Honors College that teach a wide array of subjects – from math, arts and engineering to law, pharmacy and business. What started as a campus with a single building has grown into a world-class university, offering more than 270 undergraduate and graduate programs to more than 46,000 students annually.

UH is a Carnegie-designated Tier One public research university, and its public service and community activities, such as cultural offerings, clinical services, policy studies and small business initiatives, serve a diverse metropolitan population. Likewise, the resources of the Gulf Coast Region complement and enrich the University's academic programs, providing students with professional expertise, practical experience and career opportunities.

In keeping with the University's commitment to excellence, UH raised the benchmark of academic achievement when Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest and most prestigious academic honor society, awarded UH the approval to start a chapter in 2015. This designation welcomed UH to an elite group of the nation's most esteemed colleges and universities.

Commencement Traditions

Academic costumes of today have a history of nearly eight centuries. In medieval Europe, all townspeople wore long flowing robes and gowns. The materials and colors were governed by royal decree. Gradually, distinctive gowns were developed for the various professions, trades and guilds. Scholars wore robes and hoods to protect their shaved heads. Later, skullcaps were worn on the head, and the hoods became a cape that could be pulled over the head during unpleasant weather.

As additional universities were founded, distinctive forms of the gown and hood were adapted by their faculties for bachelor's (apprentices of the arts), master's (teachers) and doctoral (teachers who had completed postgraduate studies). When caps and hats came into fashion in the 15th century, the hoods became ornamental, draped over the shoulders and down the back.

The academic hat was first worn as a symbol of the master's degree and existed in various forms. The mortarboard style comes to us from Oxford University. When academic costumes came to America in 1754, styles were quite varied. In Europe, they still are; however, in our country, usage has been standardized by the Intercollegiate Code of Academic Costume.

GERALD D. HINES COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

Bachelor's Degree Tassel: Violet
Master's Degree Hood: Violet
Tassel: Black

KATHRINE G. McGovern College of the Arts

Bachelor's DegreeTassel: BrownMaster's DegreeHood: BrownHood (Music): Pink

Tassel: Black

Tassel: Red

Doctoral DegreeHood: Pink
Tassel: Red

C. T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Bachelor's DegreeTassel: Dark BlueMaster's DegreeHood: Drab
Tassel: BlackDoctoral DegreeHood: Dark Blue

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree Tassel: Light Blue
Master's Degree Hood: Light Blue
Tassel: Black

Doctoral Degree Hood (Ed.D.): Light Blue

Hood (Ph.D.): Dark Blue

Tassel: Red

CULLEN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

 Bachelor's Degree
 Tassel: Orange

 Master's Degree
 Hood: Orange

 Tassel: Black

 Doctoral Degree
 Hood: Dark Blue

 Tassel: Red

CONRAD N. HILTON COLLEGE OF GLOBAL HOSPITALITY LEADERSHIP

Bachelor's Degree Tassel: Navy

Master's Degree Hood: Navy, Red and White

Tassel: Black

Doctoral Degree Hood: Dark Blue

Tassel: Red

Commencement Ceremony

UH LAW CENTER

Master's Degree Hood: Purple

Tassel: Black

Doctoral Degree Hood: Purple

Tassel: Red

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Bachelor's Degree Tassel: Citron
Master's Degree Hood: Citron

Tassel: Black

Doctoral Degree Hood: Dark Blue

Tassel: Red

TILMAN J. FERTITTA FAMILY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Doctor of Medicine Degree

Hood: Kelly Green Tassel: Red

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

Bachelor's Degree *Tassel:* Golden Yellow

Master's Degree Hood: Golden Yellow

Tassel: Black

Doctoral Degree Hood: Dark Blue

Tassel: Red

ANDY AND BARBARA GESSNER COLLEGE OF NURSING

Bachelor's Degree Tassel: Apricot

Master's Degree Hood: Apricot

Tassel: Black

COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

Master's Degree Hood: Gold

Tassel: Black

Doctor of Philosophy Degree

Hood: Royal Blue

Tassel: Red

Doctor of Optometry Degree

Hood: Seafoam Green

Tassel: Red

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Bachelor's Degree Tassel: Olive

Master's Degree Hood: Olive

Tassel: Black

Doctor of Philosophy Degree

Hood: Royal Blue

Tassel: Red

Doctor of Pharmacy Degree

Hood: Olive Tassel: Red

GRADUATE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

Master's Degree Hood: Citron

Tassel: Black

Doctoral Degree Hood: Citron

Tassel: Red

HOBBY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Master's Degree Hood: Peacock Blue

Tassel: Black

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SUCCESS – INTEGRATED STUDIES

Bachelor's Degree Tassel: White

Ceremonial Symbols



THE SEAL

Throughout history, seals have been used to authenticate official documents. The University of Houston and UH System seals both bear the Official Seal of Arms of General Sam Houston, as handed down to him from his noble ancestors. It includes the escutcheon in the center of the seal — consisting of checkered chevrons denoting nobility — and three martlets, gentle lowland birds that symbolize peace and deliverance. A winged hourglass is placed above the shield. Surmounting this is the motto "In Tempore," meaning "In Time." The greyhounds indicate speed of giving aid. The UH seal was first adopted in 1938 as the present campus was established. Although the look of the seal has evolved over the years, the first version was etched into the floor of the Roy G. Cullen Building.



UNIVERSITY MACE

The University Mace, which is carried in academic processions, is a staff symbolizing the University's authority and unity. The tradition of the academic mace began in the late 14th century when two ancient instruments, the royal scepter and the battle mace, were combined to form a university president's symbol of authority.

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

Commencement Ceremony

Academic Honors

Academic honors are based on the requirements of the catalog year students entered the University. The final designation for honors is determined by the Provost's Office upon final completion of all degree requirements.

Undergraduates who have graduated with the stated academic honors have achieved the following grade point averages earned in the last 54 hours completed at the University of Houston.

3.90 TO 4.0 Summa Cum Laude (with Highest Honors)
3.70 TO 3.89 Magna Cum Laude (with High Honors)
3.50 TO 3.69 Cum Laude (with Honors)

This roster does not include the names of degree holders who chose to withhold information under the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act.

Summa Cum Laude – 4.0 GPA Graduates

The following graduates are recognized for achieving Summa Cum Laude with a 4.0 cumulative grade point average while also completing their degree within four years of starting their first semester in college at the University of Houston.

FALL 2023

Anahy Baca
Bachelor of Science in Retailing and Consumer Science
Cullen College of Engineering

Kayla Huhn

Bachelor of Arts in English

Bachelor of Arts in Spanish

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Malak Khalil Bachelor of Science in Political Science College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Emily Nguyen

Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance
C.T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

My Tran
Bachelor of Business Administration
in Management Information Systems
C.T. Bauer College of Business

Trinity Tran

Bachelor of Science in Teaching and Learning

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION



President's Medallion

THE HONORABLE SYLVESTER TURNER

Mayor of the City of Houston

SYLVESTER TURNER is the 62nd mayor of Houston, a position he has held since 2016. Born and raised as one of nine children in the Acres Homes community of northwest Houston, Turner was a natural-born leader. During high school, he was president of Student Council, a member of the science, chess and Mu Alpha Theta clubs, and class valedictorian. He earned his bachelor's degree in political science

from the University of Houston in 1977 and graduated from Harvard Law School in 1980.

Since taking office, Turner has passed seven balanced budgets, led the city's remarkable rebound from Hurricane Harvey, championed historic pension reform, created the Hire Houston Youth program and launched Houston's first Climate Action Plan – a comprehensive strategy for Houston to lead the global energy transition. One of Turner's signature priorities is Complete Communities — an initiative to revitalize and improve Houston's most underserved neighborhoods. In complement of the initiative, in 2018 he announced a \$30 million joint agreement with Harris County to transform seven streets around UH and Texas Southern University.

Before becoming mayor, Turner served for 27 years in the Texas House as the representative for District 139. During his tenure, he served on the House Appropriations Committee, Legislative Budget Board, as Speaker Pro Tem and on several budget conference committees.

Turner has received numerous honors including the Ohtli Award, the Mexican government's highest honor; Rice Kinder Institute's Stephen L. Klineberg Award; the United States Conference of Mayors Local Arts Leadership Award; and the President Bush Medal for Empowerment of People with Disabilities, among others.

He's been a proud and vocal supporter of UH, recognizing its symbiotic relationship with the city. For his unwavering dedication and service, Turner has been awarded UH's Distinguished Alumni Award, the Elected Public Official of the Year award and its Pioneer of Public Service Award. The Sylvester Turner Academic Distinction Scholarship and the Sylvester Turner Scholarship Endowment Fund within the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences were established in his honor.

The President's Medallion is awarded at the sole discretion of the President to individuals and organizations that have distinguished themselves by their support of the University of Houston and the community.



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Message from the Dean

Dear College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics Graduates,

Congratulations! Today, we celebrate a significant milestone in your educational career.

A few years ago, you came to the University of Houston with a personal goal. Now, you have attained it. Your degree is more than a testament

to your hard work; it is the foundation upon which you will build as you continue to learn throughout your lifetime.

As graduates of NSM, you have proven that you are driven by inquiry, exploration, and innovation. You will be the force behind discoveries that will revolutionize our lives and impact our state, nation, and the entire world.

As you leave UH and NSM, you hold the knowledge your professors shared with you, the wisdom you gained as you matured, and the benefit of personal experiences, professional connections, and friendships that will last a lifetime.

The faculty and staff of NSM are proud of your achievements. You have my best wishes for much success and happiness. Go Coogs!

Sincerely,

Dan E. Wells, Ph.D.

Dean and Distinguished Professor of Science

) E WOOZ

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Commencement Ceremony

Saturday, December 16, 2023, 9:00 a.m. Fertitta Center

PROCESSIONAL Moores School of Music

PRESENTATION OF COLORS Houston Battalion ROTC Color Guard

NATIONAL ANTHEM Moores School of Music

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS Dan E. Wells

Dean

Distinguished Professor of Science

GREETINGS FROM THE David Ibarra, '10
NSM ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Secretary, NSMAA

STUDENT ADDRESS Fatima Mirza

PRESENTATION OF THE DAN E. WELLS Jeremy May

OUTSTANDING DISSERTATION AWARD Associate Dean, Graduate Affairs

PRESENTATION OF ACADEMIC HONORS Donna Stokes

Associate Dean, Undergraduate Affairs and Student Success

RECOGNITION OF 4.0 STUDENTS Associate Dean Stokes

PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES Dean Wells

Associate Dean May

Associate Dean Stokes

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES Dean Wells

CLOSING REMARKS Dean Wells

ALMA MATER Moores School of Music

RECESSIONAL Moores School of Music

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Commencement Ceremony

Summer 2023 – *Graduates*

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Atmospheric Sciences

Ronald J. Albright Advisor: Xun Jiang, Ph.D.

Claudia Marie Bernier

ADVISOR: Yuxuan Wang, Ph.D.

Madeline Dolores Statkewicz

ADVISOR: Bernhard Rappenglueck, Ph.D.

Biology

Siddarth Venkata Arza

ADVISOR: Sanghyuk Chung, Ph.D.

Danial Asgari

ADVISOR: Richard Meisel, Ph.D.

Ritu Bohat

ADVISOR: Weiyi Peng, Ph.D.

Rachel K. Staples

ADVISOR: Ricardo Azevedo, Ph.D.

Chemistry

Huanhuan Chen

ADVISOR: Tai-Yen Chen, Ph.D.

Zipeng Gu

ADVISOR: Robert Comito, Ph.D.

Mengnan Hu

ADVISOR: Robert Comito, Ph.D.

Mina Omidiyan

ADVISOR: T. Randall Lee, Ph.D.

Pooria Tajalli

ADVISOR: T. Randall Lee, Ph.D.

Mengfan Wang

ADVISOR: Chengzhi Cai, Ph.D.

Yuteng Zhang

ADVISOR: Tai-Yen Chen, Ph.D.

Computer Science

Soodeh Atefi

ADVISOR: Amin Alipour, Ph.D.

Brian Michael Holtkamp

ADVISOR: Jaspal Subhlok, Ph.D.

Rishabh Sharma

ADVISOR: Nikolaos Tsekos, Ph.D.

Geology

Xiang Ling

ADVISOR: Qi Fu, Ph.D.

Claire A. Ong

ADVISOR: Qi Fu, Ph.D.

Geophysics

Yuesu Iin

ADVISOR: Yingcai Zheng, Ph.D.

Zhehao Li

ADVISOR: Hua-wei Zhou, Ph.D.

Mathematics

Jasmine Bhullar

ADVISOR: Vaughn Climenhaga, Ph.D.

Nickolas Fularczyk

ADVISOR: Demetrio Labate, Ph.D.

Gregory Hemenway

ADVISOR: Vaughn Climenhaga, Ph.D.

Yewen Huang

ADVISOR: Demetrio Labate, Ph.D.

Jae Youn Kim

ADVISOR: Andreas Mang, Ph.D.

Jennifer J. May

ADVISOR: Bernhard Bodmann, Ph.D.

Chunmei Sun

ADVISOR: Robert Azencott, Ph.D.

Stephen Phillip Thacker

ADVISOR: Emanuel Papadakis, Ph.D.

Physics

Jonathan Gonzalo Ball Cap

ADVISOR: Rene Bellwied, Ph.D.

Connor Cheek

ADVISOR: Gemunu Gunaratne, Ph.D.

Zhenyu Dai

ADVISOR: Ricardo Vilalta, Ph.D.

Carlos Andres Sjogreen Blanco

ADVISOR: Lawrence Pinsky, Ph.D.

MASTER OF ARTS

Mathematics

Melissa B. Johnson

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Applied Mathematics

Alina Rajbhandari

Biology

Carolynn Nyona Porter Andres Navarro Roman

Sayda X. Soto

Computer Science

Mai Trinh

Geology

Oriyomi Nsikanabasi Ojelabi

Geophysics

Diego Luis Mostaccero Perez

Statistics and Data Science

Benjamin Freestone

Ruiqi Jiang

William Clark Mask

Hooi Min Ooi

Mudiaga Ovuede

Anthony Suon

Kristen Michelle Taylor

Robert Diego Trevino

Yuhong Wang

Johnny Luke Warns

Jake Zhu

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Commencement Ceremony

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Physics

Jake A. Manahan

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Biochemical and Biophysical Sciences

Paulo Gonzales ² Michael Hernandez Emma M. Houn ³

Biology

Sakina B. Abideen Cade Adelman Noor Dhamin Najris Al Dhamin Laeticia Guenoun⁷ Carter Elliott Herweck Lukas Taylor Isley Long V. Lam Fangnuo Liu Susanna Lopez-Herrera² Shannon Manderscheid Simin I. Mohammad Kevin D. Morales³ Hyuntak Oh

Claudia Fernanda Padilla Maxximus Ganesh Ramsaroop ² Monet Kennedy Swain

Chemistry

Peter Dao

Computer Science

Dosbol Aliev ³
Ana C. Arredondo
Andrew Emanuel Carranza
Julianna Margaret Cruz
Tung Son Dinh ³
Nader Elasmar
Victor M. Rodriguez
Fardad Sadeghi
Eric Robert Schutz
Austin D. Thibodeaux ³

Davidson Tan Vu

Geology

Gerardo Canedo Jarely Mendez Edgar Eduardo Moreno, Jr. ² Bjorn Trivon Springer ³ Jack K. Thomson Faith R. Walton

Geophysics

Joseph David McNease ¹ Gemma Rodriguez

Mathematics

Sareef Nyaichyai Juan Ignacio Pantoja Ilian Vanessa Rodriguez-Perez Erick Sanchez

Physics

Janita Hussain Minh Ngoc Nguyen

Fall 2023 – Candidates for Graduation

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Atmospheric Sciences

Ali Mousavinezhad ADVISOR: Yunsoo Choi, Ph.D.

Biochemistry

Micah B. Castillo

ADVISOR: Preethi Gunaratne, Ph.D.

Sumit Gautam

ADVISOR: Brigitte Dauwalder, Ph.D.

Zahra Mazhar

ADVISOR: James Briggs, Ph.D.

Biology

Amrita Barua

ADVISOR: Qin Feng, Ph.D.

Scott Clark

ADVISOR: Kerri Crawford, Ph.D.

Nicholas Andrew Egan ADVISOR: Weiyi Peng, Ph.D.

Xuan Ji

ADVISOR: Yu Liu, Ph.D.

Saurav Mohanty

Charles C. Tran

ADVISOR: Arne Lekven, Ph.D.

Monali Naik

ADVISOR: Seema Khurana, Ph.D.

Nadine Ammar Nijem

ADVISOR: Arne Lekven, Ph.D.

Chemistry

Abdullah Al Mamun

ADVISOR: Arnold Guloy, Ph.D.

Chenggang Jiang

ADVISOR: Thomas Teets, Ph.D.

Natasha Kuegler

ADVISOR: Arnold Guloy, Ph.D.

Po Kai Peng

ADVISOR: Jeremy May, Ph.D.

Shirin Shabahang

ADVISOR: Gregory Cuny, Ph.D.

Computer Science

Steve Aibuedefe Aigbe

ADVISOR: Christoph Eick, Ph.D.

Muhammad Naeem Akram

ADVISOR: Guoning Chen, Ph.D.

Suyash Bakshi

ADVISOR: Lennart Johnsson, Ph.D.

Siva Uday Sampreeth Chebolu ADVISOR: Thamar Solorio, Ph.D.

Ayman El Aassal

ADVISOR: Stephen Huang, Ph.D.

MD Tanim Hasan

ADVISOR: Ioannis Pavlidis, Ph.D.

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Commencement Ceremony

S M Salah Uddin Kadir ADVISOR: Stephen Huang, Ph.D.

Nassima Noufail

ADVISOR: Fatima Merchant, Ph.D.

Urmila Sampathkumar

ADVISOR: Fatima Merchant, Ph.D.

Amanveer Wesley

ADVISOR: Ioannis Pavlidis, Ph.D.

Geology

Kamil Ahmed Qureshi
ADVISOR: Shuhab Khan, Ph.D.

Joanna Walker

ADVISOR: John Castagna, Ph.D.

Kuan Wang

ADVISOR: Guoquan Wang, Ph.D.

Geophysics

Nour Alzamil

ADVISOR: Hua-wei Zhou, Ph.D.

Veronica Valentina Guzman Mendez ADVISOR: Aibing Li, Ph.D.

David Z. Li

ADVISOR: Yingcai Zheng, Ph.D.

Xinvan Li

ADVISOR: Jiajia Sun, Ph.D.

Oyedoyin Opeoluwa Pelemo-Daniels ADVISOR: Robert Stewart, Ph.D.

Zohreh Golnaz Souri

ADVISOR: Yingcai Zheng, Ph.D.

Boming Wu

ADVISOR: Hua-wei Zhou, Ph.D.

Mathematics

German Villalobos

ADVISOR: Andreas Mang, Ph.D.

Physics

Trevor Bontke

ADVISOR: Ching Wu Chu, Ph.D.

Joel Gard

ADVISOR: Greg Morrison, Ph.D.

Bigyan Kandel

ADVISOR: Oomman Varghese, Ph.D.

Lilly A. Schaffer

ADVISOR: Oomman Varghese, Ph.D.

MASTER OF ARTS

Mathematics

Amy Maureen Germain

Roger Ramirez

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Applied Mathematics

An T. Vu

Chemistry

Yen An Young

Computer Science

Varshitha Challa Praveen Kumar Chukkapalli

Jordon K. Garza

Mohammad Javadi Darshan Lakhankiya

Rupesh Manukonda

Anukriti Mishra

Yashwanth Moturi

Sravan Sai Rahul Nalla

Durga Deepika Navuluri

Pranitha Neerudu

Ianaki Obillaneni

Pushpitha Reddy Patur

Dhanunjay Valluru

Bhanu Prakash Reddy Vangeti

Hari Krishna Vinjam

Venkata Siva Sai Charan Reddy Vundela

Jordan T. Yu

Geology

Mohamed Abdelfatah

Debra L. Bailey

Robert M. Comas

Svdnev M. Gutierrez-Gomez

Michael Ruben Martinez

Devin Renee McQuaig

Kaitlin Jade Thomas

Julia A. Villafranca

Geophysics

Charles A. Clapsaddle

Lynn Nguyen

Sezai Simsek

Physics

Andres Ignacio Covarrubias

Statistics and Data Science

Urvashi Arora

Ravik S. Chand

Sheethal Ramesh Holla

Maria Ciara Lalata

Huy Hoang Nguyen

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Chemistry

Rabiya Selenga Yuksel

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Biochemical and Biophysical Sciences

Samantha Karen Agyapong

Tawhid A. Ahmed

Amal T. Altatar

Khai Manh Bui ³

Yadhira Carrillo

Samantha Faye Chilton

Emad Uddin Chowdhury

Ethan K. Davis²

Saul A. Duran

Desmond C. Etumnu

Eric L. King³

Lucila Maria Laveran

Rael Merry Memnon Kenny Huynh Nguyen³

Si T. Nguyen

Tan B. Nguyen 1

Thomas Thien Quang Nguyen

Vanna H. Nguyen 1

Mary Quach 2

Cinthya E. Saravia Heyman

Dinesh Subedi

San My Tran ²

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Commencement Ceremony

Thi Ngoc Tran Tran Alexander Vela Maryam Zakaria

Biology

Huzafa Adnan

Zara Mubashir Ahmed Ishmam A. Alam ^{1,4} Fatimah K. Al-Jaburi ² Shams F. Almafrachi

Ali B. Amer ²

Jimena Rosa Maria Arroyo- Soto²

Meryem Mualla Atik Oluwatoyosi Y. Ayilara Roxana Beltran Riti R. Bhardwaj Afia Adiba Bhuiyan Genie X. Bui

Raul Caballero Montes

Arian Cabrera ³ Eliya L. Cajiles Giselle Lyn Campos ²

Ena Izabella Campos-Hensley

Aldona Cela ³ Bipana Chundali Preston V. Chung ¹ Michaela Brooke Coleman

Katelyn Marie Javier Cortez

Ivan A. Danawi Vyshnavi Davuluri ¹

Maria Natasha De Rosa Fahd ² Princess Jemeala Deranamie ³

Giselle M. Duarte Vy Hoang Thao Duong Alan Jaime Eguia Avalos Emmanuel Osaro Emovon ⁷ Emilio Ramon Espinosa ²

Alexis Eugene ²
Arlene Y. Garcia
Brendan Vedeja Garriel ³
Fiona Lynn Gavilan
Daniella Guerrero
Huy Nguyen Ha
Zaid Khaled Hamash

Nathan Edward Hanby 1

Tate Kristianson Haugvoll Victor Damian Hernandez Leandro Herrera Alvarez

Kaitlyn Hill

Hussein Samir Hoballah Jordan M. Holub Hasan Husain Yazan A. Husein² Diana M. Huynh³ Sanjana Rebecca Jacob¹

Iman Jaka

Aneise Renee Jameson Sydni Katherine Johnson Kci Mbangu Kalenga Ruhaifa Iyad Khalil ³ Inara Rahim Khawaja Geyasri Naidu Kondapaneni Sophia Joy LaRochelle ²

Hafsa Latif Emily A. Lee Skye Liwag

Gabriela Melissa Lovo Argueta 3

Elizabeth A. Magelky Meera Mahesh² Qusai E. Manasra³ Mobin S. Marashi²

Joriale Kerwine Matsing Pessonka

Joyce S. Matta

Audrey Colleen McLaughlin

Dafne C. Medrano Eyarico Samson Mekonen Abigail Christina Mendoza

Vinayak Misra ³ Angel E. Montelongo ² Madison Nicole Moore ²

Nor Mortaja ² Cinthia Nguyen Davis T. Nguyen Jason Hung Nguyen Kim Nguyen Tien P. Nguyen Trinh Kieu Nguyen Healy J. Oelfke

Oyinoluwa Adesewa Ogunjobi Stanley Chidozie Onyeagba Lesly Esperanza Ordonez Xic

Eve Denise Perez ³
Catherine H. Pham ¹
Isabella Polic
Kaylan Prater
Sakina Quaid ¹
Vahran Samir Rahba

Yabran Samir Rahbani Husam Karam Rassam ¹ Brendan C. Reilly Azhar A. Rizvi Kendall A. Roberts Carolina Isabel Rodrigu

Carolina Isabel Rodriguez Ethan Daniel Rothschild ³ Taylor Michelle Roy Yheimy Salamanca Salomon E. Serur ¹ Samarjit Satish Seshadri

Ryan Seto Jonathan Shnol Matthew Song Hannah C. Stallings Marina F. Stephenson Mikaela Simone Chi Tamayo

Emily T. Tran
Johny Tran
Kim Cuc Tran ¹
Steven H. Trinh
Onyinyechi I. Turner ²
Makeda A. Uzoma
Ray Luis Vasquez
Mariah Velez
Francisco Villa
Frida E. Villalobos
Xinyan Wang ²

Yasmin Torres

Stephanie Lynn Wenzlawsh Jessica Erin Wiedenfeld Matthew William² Daniel Yebo Yisa Zania J. Ysaguirre³ Zakirah Zaheen³ Walid Michael Zeitouni³

Chemistry

Cody James Alcocer 3

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Commencement Ceremony

Lukas P. George Lily A. Huang Brianna D. Monroe

Arwa M. Naeem ^{2,4} Giao Ngoc Phuong Nguyen Truc Tien Thi Nguyen

Javier Padron Molly Leah Rhodes ³

Sara Ristic Ranele Tazae Weary

Computer Science Zachary Marwan Abdallah

Bryan R. Abner Yazan Abu Naser David Aguayo Sami Ahmed

Nauman Tariq Akbani²

Kabeer Ali²

Moataz Mohammad Moosa Altaweel³

Rafey Abdul Alvi Damian Andaya Josh Aneke Ayesha I. Arab ² Luciano Arroyo Tommy Au Samuel Barroso Eric Hunter Bluhm

Elie Delwende Bonkoungou

Caleb J. Bowser

Anthony Alexander Calandra, Jr.

Dylan H. Cao Michelle Cao

Karla Christina Castello Anthony Josue Castillo Derek Ian Castillo Armando Cecilio

Emmanuel Chavez Ming-Kai Chen Iliana G. Chevez William R. Childres Anthony Ciocco

Ammar A. Dada Donesh Davatgar

Amanda Nicole Cox

Soheil Dejnabadi Nadeem Karachi
Debbie DeLeon Amsal A. Kassam
Zackary Delheimer Rahman Kholeelur Khandakar ³

Alan Thomas Dileep Victor C. Kwok ¹
Corey Alden Dillard ³ Son Hoang Thai La ¹
Arben Djencic Justin Lam ³
Khue Nhat Do ² William Le

Quang Nhat Du ³ Sabin M. Lehaci
Duc M. Duong Nathan A. Lilly
Paul Jacob Edson Feng Liu
Jared R. Feliprada Kevin Liu ^{1,4}
Andres M. Flores ² Abdiel Loera
Jacob Alan Fogle Elijah Samuel Lopez

Cristal Abrileidy Franco Otano Brian A. Lowry
Noah Michael Fuentes Fausto Mbomio Mabale Nengono

Christian Belardo Gabriana Vicky Mai

Jared Gallardo Saad Pervaiz Malik
Eduardo Daniel Gamez Allen Naushadali Maredia
Joshua Isaias Garcia Arsh Noorali Maredia
Nicole Garcia Ethan Mark Maxey
Juan Gerardo Garcia Dominguez Brett Michael McLain

Gabriel Leonardo Gauthier

Denny K. George

Yahya Ghazanfar

Gabriel J. Giron

Thomas K. Gonzalez

Alejandro Gonzalez Perez

Fiza Mohammed Asif Gubitra ²

Hunter Jerry McPherson

Fatima Mirza ¹

Rabil S. Momin ²

Jacob M. Montemayor

Ruben Daniel Montemayor

Michael Moorman ^{1,4}

Precious Michelle Mungin

Angel E. Gutierrez

Momin Hamdani ³

Jonathan R. Hayes ³

Jacob M. Hegy ²

Nickolaus A. Hiller

Gwyneth Hines

Alexis Navarrete ²

Luong Thuy Ngo ³

Binh N. Nguyen

Derick D. Nguyen

Jessica Nghi Nguyen

Johnny Nguyen ³

Han Hoang ¹ William Thien Toan Nguyen ³
Terry Tam Hoang ² Dragomir Radkov Nonov
Alex Huang Henry C. Onyejelem ²
Yury N. Ionov ² Abraar Iqbal Patel ¹
Sonny Sommon Trivon Islandar

Sonny Samman Tajvar Jahanara David Perez

Wahab Javed ² Sebastian Perez De Leon ² Kuo Jiang Erick Khai D. Pham Joseph Jophy ² Sandy Pham ² Justin Isaac Jose Steven Hai Pham Karthik Datta Kallakuri ³ Thanh Thien Pham ³ Saroj Kapali ³ Tommy T. Pham

1 Summa Cum Laude – 2 Magna Cum Laude – 3 Cum Laude – 4 Banner Bearer

Fall 2023 Commencement

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Commencement Ceremony

Duong H. Phan Benjamin David Price Thanh H. Quach Grace Anne A. Rabano 3 Zevad Ramadan Irma Griselda Ramos David Ramos Bautista Guillermo Reves Amine Mohamed Rezki Jason V. Roberts

Christina Elaine Rodriguez 3

Juan I. Rodriguez Juan Manuel Rosales 3 Benjamin Lee Rosen Miguel Angel Salamanca Elijah C. Salandanan Johnathan Saldana³ Kevin Saldana Avilez Hatem Saleh 3 Sameer M. Salman²

Preston Douglas Satterfield³ Christian Joseph Schuering

Mitchell Anil Sharma² Benjamin Shek Pasang Jangbu Sherpa Brayan L. Sosa² Jason P. Suerte 1 Nibras Sultan Michael Summers 3 Austin Sunil

Zerubbabel W. Tadele Mehmet Furkan Tasdelen 3 Benjamin Thomas Tat³ Christopher P. Terry

Andy Tes

Filip James Torres

Chuong Uy Tran 1 De Phat Tran Francis V. Tran Justine Yen Ngoc Tran Nathan A. Tran² Tran N. Tran Trong Nghia Tran Benjamin Quang Truong³

Lupita Valle 3

Luis Fernando Waldo ³ Aaron D. Walker Brian I. Waobikeze Zachary Ray Winter² Brandon L. Won Misbah Yasin Yaqi Yu Nebil E. Yusuf

Environmental Sciences

Jannatun Nahar Zaman

Ainagul Bakenova Kayla Michelle Dean Justine L. Gomez Amanda Harmon² Kelsey Merretta Long Phillip Austin Murray Angie G. Pena 3 David Rodarte Elizabeth Rodriguez Alicia J. Spencer Irvin Omar Vivanco³ Tina Vothanh

Geology

Leo George Urnau Collier Karen Marie Dabroi Jameson Hampton 3

Patrick Kabeya Kabengele Jack Robert McLaughlin 2,4 **Emily Corinne Stivison** Abigail Torres

Geophysics

Johanna Villagomez

Honors Biomedical Sciences

Noor Shabaneh²

Mathematics

Nathan Gregory Acosta² Jewel Ivy Anders 3 Colton Baker

Benjamin Davis Brecher

John Friday Brianna Gaskamp Justin J. George 3,4 Alexander Hernandez Amanda Grace Ivers Terry Ellis Medford Daabir Deedar Momin Rohan Mukherjee² Erik Perales 3 Alan Q. Pham Natalie Pham Rodrigo Resendez³

Sandra Rojas 3 Jiahao Tian Steven T. Tran² Bill T. Truong Anh Vo 3

Theodore Pascual Vo

Physics

Jeseleth Benavides 4





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Message from the Dean

Dear Fall 2023 Graduates,

I am thrilled to congratulate the first class of fall graduates during my tenure as the Dean of the Honors College. You are a group of highly motivated and talented individuals, and we celebrate your tremendous accomplishments. We know, as you do, that teamwork and collaboration make your impressive achievements possible. I hope that you view the faculty, staff and fellow

students of the Honors College as members of your team — cheering you on as you begin your careers or continue your studies in graduate or professional programs. We know that you are well prepared to lead in your chosen field and will continue to contribute solutions to the grand challenges that we face.

During your time with us, the Honors College has challenged you to ask big questions in the Human Situation and in your upper division courses. You've been guided to go beyond the classroom and take part in the many offerings in research or service learning. You have been encouraged to find your place in this community and be bold in action to make UH, the Honors College and Houston a better place. You are not in the same place you were when you began this journey. I urge to you to take stock of how far you've come since your first Human Situation lecture. Keep exploring and engaging with big ideas in your next chapter, whatever that may be.

Although you're graduating, the Honors College will always be a part of you. I encourage you to keep in touch and share your personal and professional experiences with us. We take pride in your achievements. I also hope that you will give back to support future Honors College scholars. Continued support from alumni and friends is essential to the success and growth of the Honors College and the generations of students that will come behind you.

Go Coogs!

Heidi Appel Dean

Heid Hopel



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 designations.

University Honors and University Honors with Honors in Major

Students who complete the Honors College curriculum (36 hours) graduate with University Honors. If students also complete a senior honors thesis, they graduate with University Honors with Honors in Major.

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.

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University Honors with Honors in Major

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Kayla Huhn Angela L. Jardina

University Honors

GERALD D. HINES COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

Isabella R. Raska

C. T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Garance Alfon
Samay Hassan Azhar
Brianna Denise Chambers
Megan Chen
Enoc Curiel
Allison Nga Dang
Anjali Rajesh Dharamshi
Valentina Patricia Diemer
Ben Drewell
Alyssa Nadia Durrani

Kayla Amy Ehman Sarah Elizabeth Evans Andrea Mishelle Ibanez-Flores Macy Carlisle Katapodis Lindsay Michelle Klotz Smriti Korampally Mai Lan Vy Le Calvin Mai Jumana Motiwala Steven Nguyen

Nithya Ramankulangara Simone Semple Perla Silva Perez Francesca Hoang Su Mark Jeffrey Theeuwes Natalie Khiet Tran Tam Truong

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Shrey Pranav Bhakta Massimo Coletta Maryam Helin Erdal Maya Annika Garza Juan Pablo Guardia Melinda Herrera Douha Karroum Alicia Ashanti Tatyanna Mcwilliams Joseph Gray Mulligan

Sameen Hanif Nandolia Yareli Olivares Evie Louise Rickard Helen Souza De Sampaio Auburn Jodee Waid

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Trisha Ashish Shah

CULLEN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Smithson Arrey-Tabot Arrey Karen Majala Beck Wesley Michael Salazar Cherry Andrei Lucian Coarfa Ravi N. Desai An H. Dinh William Garrett Lipscomb Itzel Muñoz Monroy

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

.....

Kabeer Ali Amal Altatar Meryem Mualla Atik Melanie Bustos Natalie Bustos Aldona Cela

Katelyn Marie Javier Cortez Ethan Davis Vyshnavi Davuluri Giselle M. Duarte Desmond Etumnu

Justin John George Juan Pablo Guardia Amanda Harmon Kaitlyn Hill

Sanjana Rebecca Jacob Sophia Joy LaRochelle Ayan Mammadova Dafne Medrano Arwa M. Naeem Nha Nguyen Alexis Ruiz Noor Shabaneh Filip J. Torres Alexander Vela

Daniel Yebo Yisa

The Honors College

Collegiate Honors with Honors in Major

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

Nathan Edward Hanby

Collegiate Honors

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Somtochi S. Anyalebechi Christianna Avouris Zaina Boriek Tyler Austin Hermes Rohit Shajan

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Fnu Nashita Kazim Myra Qamar

CULLEN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Baiamir Douglasovich Edgeller Salam Habra Arun Suresh Mohammad Rami Tuffaha

HOBBY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Rachel Lauren McGregor

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

Julio Cacho-Bravo
Lukas P. George
Momin Hamdani
Diana Huynh
Iman Jaka
Hafsa Latif
Gabriela Melissa Lovo Argueta
Joriale Kerwine Matsing Pessonka
Rael Merry Memnon
Preston Douglas Satterfield
Salomon E. Serur

Membership in The Honors College

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Christopher Eugene Railsback Kendall C. Raymond

KATHRINE G. McGOVERN COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Frank Thomas Eddy

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Rhea Devraj Nayak

CULLEN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Minnah Imtiaz Tarami Khalil Readus Anh Thu N. Tran

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS Saul Duran

UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENT SUCCESS –
INTEGRATED STUDIES
Candace McCray

Honors in Major

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

Raul Caballero Montes







Message from the UH Alumni Foundation Board President

Let me be the first to welcome you to the UH Alumni Association. You are joining a global network of over 305,000 Cougars. With your participation, we can only grow stronger. As you embark on this next chapter, know that your Alumni Association is here to help you stay connected with your beloved alma mater. From volunteering at an event, joining an Association or Network, signing on to UH Link, to becoming a Life Member, the opportunities to engage are endless.

Please click the QR code below to enjoy all the activities that soon await you. In the meantime, savor this moment and continue to soar.

True we'll ever be and Go Coogs!

Michael Sachs ('97)

UH Alumni Association Foundation Board President

Have You Completed Your Alumni Checklist?



https://houstonalumni.com/recent-grads/



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