MESSAGE TO THE GRADUATES

This is a special moment for you and your family, and we are so proud of your accomplishments! On behalf of The University of Texas at Dallas, we extend our very best wishes for your continuing success.

Commencement and the ceremonial traditions associated with it bind us to generations of scholars. Even though this unusual year requires that we conduct commencement in a virtual format, we want to acknowledge that you and your classmates have demonstrated commitment, creativity and talent – and perseverance.

Class of 2020, we encourage you to make the most of what you have learned at UT Dallas as you move into your chosen profession and into the community.

Finally, we very much hope that you stay connected with UT Dallas and continue to be a part of our bright future. Congratulations!

Richard C. Benson  
President  
\textit{Eugene McDermott Distinguished University Chair of Leadership}

Inga H. Musselman  
Provost  
\textit{Cecil H. Green Distinguished Chair of Academic Leadership}
This program contains the names of candidates for degrees and honors at time of publication. Inclusion in the program does not constitute evidence of completion of degrees or honors.

* Indicates Summer 2020 graduates and/or doctoral students walking from a previous semester.
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CANDIDATES FOR BACHELOR’S DEGREES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

Alaa A. Abouseif
Farah Rafat Awadat
Tiwalope Solomon Babayemi*
Taylor Carlilie Beach
Carlos Eduardo Trejo Betancourt
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Ying-Hsin Chen*
Abdullah Faruk Coban*
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Tina Darabadey
Ryan Wesley Devlin
Fatoumatta Dibba
Loretta Mae Ondonaldson
Akila Donepudi
Ka’Toria Nadeau Edwards
Jihad El Allami
Matthew Alexander Galvan
Major William Grant
Kathy Estefany Guerra
Casey Lange Hatfield
Eric B. Hernandez
James Mon-Errn Huang
Dylan John
Kenneth Tyler Johnson
Wongani Kalengamaliro
Ali Khalil
Zaryaab Nasir Khan
Jieun Kim
Junjae Lee
Eva Martinez
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Phuc Bao Thien Nguyen
Stephen Angelito Pagdilao
Syed Hamza Quadri
Adnan Raii
Nundini D. Rawal
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Catherine P. R. Scarrow
Regina Yvonne Shumaker

Cally Soh
Isaac Benjamin Sokol
Xiaoxiao Tao
Katherine M. Thames
Josiane Tshououngang
Heather Elizabeth Vanderpool*
Jagriti Yadav

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER ENGINEERING

Gideon Ahferom Akilas
Cesar A. Avellaneda
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Neilesh Arvind Betrabet*
Mario J. Bolivar*
Caleb Fang Burnett
Carlos Canto*
Frank Alexander Cazarez
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Dana Temitayo Kayode
Patrick Quang Le
Nicholas Roch Malzac
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Huy Duc Nguyen
Sujeet Ojha*
Shivam Patel
Hemraj Polavaram*
Ayush Kumar Sah*
Cody Layne Smith*
Tan Thanh Tran
Senjuti Twisha
Chukwuka Kelechi-Xhos Van-Lare
Victor Vu
Emily Megan Wojciechowski
Sarah Michelle Worley
Robert Brian Wu
Daoqun Yang
Michael Nathan Yesudas
Abdulkadir Talha Yilmaz

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

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Tin Dai Banh
Sean Connor Barnett
Mohamed Benaisa
Joshua Canik Berndt
Adrienne Marie Bull
Deiv Merc Castillo
Josue Gustavo Flores Chavez
Layne Austin Clendenin
Chase Alan Crocker
Olivier Damanan
Ahmad Dweik
Tyler Christopher Eley
Mekuanet Getachew Eyasu
James Michael Fasolino
Matthew D. Flores
Brett Joseph Friedheim
Mario De Jesus Molina Fuentes
Amirali Haghighipodeh
Karl Daniel Harber
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Anant Kanungo
Wyatt Keller
Kingshu I. Khan
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Lindsey Jo Leith
Nan Liu
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Jonathan Maldonado
Brian Patrick McGinnis
Jonathan Christopher Memmer
Daniel Monclova
Isai Murillo
Aric Anson Nasr
Hai Xuan Ngo
Selena Trang Nguyen
Tochukwu Franklin Osuagwu
Brittany Nicole Parga
Andrew Clayton Pearce
Drew William Pierpont
Rhett Loren Rasmussen

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

Ashima Soni

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Arsalaan Mustafa Abbas
Samantha June Aceves
Onan Zehab Ahmed
Yooujun Ahn
Osama Jamal Albanna
Duraid Mufeed Alheerti
Deng Chol Amol
Jin Hyung Bae
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Daniel Wesley Bone
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Braden Conrad Butler
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Karthik Dharmalingam
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Brandt Ali Farazian
Jaime Ernesto Flores
Dennis Jesus Gaona
Chase Cain Gonzales
Ryan Alexander Graham
Andres Rolf Hachmeister
Zachery Thomas Hamilton
Kori Michelle Harlan
Hakim Saleh Hasan
Natalie Rose Heath
Matilda Ho
CANDIDATES FOR MASTER’S DEGREES

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING
Muhammad Umer Ahmad*
Bushra Bilal Amarnah
Bhuvana Lakkasetter Chandrashekar
Sophie Ellen Farmer
Danielle Herubin
Brenden Nicholas Kolthoff
Matthew Francis Maale
Kaitlin Gail Rabe*
Spandana Skandan
Jeffrey Bryan Sum

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN
COMPUTER ENGINEERING
Ameya Abhijit Chitnis
Yiheng Gao*
Abhishek Jagdish Ghadigaonkar
Aishwarya Nandakumar Joshi
Zachary Cameron Kearney
Priyadarshini Nagaraju
Nishith Rao*
Santosh Shankar Shetty
Zhalun Shi
Harshambika Venkatesh
Manoj Vijay
Gen Zhou

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN
COMPUTER SCIENCE
Ashika Prakash Acharya
Abdulmateen Ayandeji Adebiyi
Anmol Agarwal
Ashutosh Agrawala*
Prashuk Ajmera
Surya Alla
Vineet Vilas Amonkar*
Preethika Anand*
Manindra Kumar Anantaneni
Sanjana Annamaneni
Ron Adrian Pura Antonio
Surajit Baitalik*
Zoey Wilson Baker*
Sreekar Balabommala*
Rutali Dilip Bandivadekar*
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Xavier A. Cadot
Chao Cai
Lucas D. Castro
Cristian James Cave
Che Ho Chan
Anusha Chandrasekaran*
Vignesh Chandrasekharan
Rajarshi Chattopadhyay
Siddhi Chechani
Yi Ting Chen
Arihant Rajesh Chhajed
Yi-Yuan Chiang
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Yen-Ting Chou*
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Sreyas Reddy Dadi
Hanxuan Dai*
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Kareem Ahmed Hassan Ahmed Darweesh
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Deepesh*
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Li Ding
Gage Mikal Dittmer*
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Yiqun Dong
Arpita Dutta*
Lawrence Eric Castillo Evangelista
Zhongming Fan
Zhou Fang*
Chieh Fu*
Yuan Tai Fu
Aishwarya Madabushi Gadavarthi
Pawan Anantrao Vaidya
Sheela Keerthi Vallabhaneni*
Anjali Sundareswaran Varier
Bhushan S. Vasisht
Carla Patricia Vazquez
Roopasri Vemula
Adharsh Viswanath*
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Huibin Wang
Jikai Wang
Mengru Wang
Qi Wang
Yeqi Wang
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Darrin Michael Wiley*
Wayne Mark Winski
Hao Wu
Hanzhang Xie
Max Ya-Kai Xie
Kairui Xu
Edward Inserni Yang Jr.
Zhaohua Yang
Qiang Yao
Harichandana Yeleswaram
Yashwanth Yella
Ming-Hsuan Yen
Joel Yin
Dylan Sidarta Yu
Xinyue Yu
Zailin Yuan
Zhichao Yuan
Wenxi Zeng
Shen Zhang
Shouzhe Zhang
Yijia Zhang
Zenong Zhang*
Dish Zheng*
Yi Zheng

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
Bhakti Rajeev Bilwanikar*
Bryan Co
Allen Paul Devaprasath*
Sharmila Gomathi
Anvesha Goyal
Aishwarya Gupta*
Kavya Gupta
Colbey Nathaniel Hair
Marlon Dewayne Hodge
Sesa Sai Aditya Venkatappaiah Sarma Inguva
Salar Jafarlou
Mahmoud Wajdi Jaffal
Jayashree Jayabalan
Franson Joshua Jeromenath*
Ramya Karnamadakala
Sumanth Kumar Reddy Kotareddy
Swaminadh Kottana
Rohith Venkata Bhargav Reddy Kovvuri
Akshay Raju Krishnani*
Parikshit Krishna
Tyler Malone*
Anandha Natarajan Manickam
Aadhavan Sibi Mathivanan
Baalakraishnan Meenakshisubramanian
Shubham Gautam Mungekar*
Nijita Kesavan Namboothiri
Ayush Noshine*
Justin Nguyen
Genchang Peng
Puneeth Prahalad
Sana Raji
Aishwarya Ravichandran
Siddharth Regmi*
Omkar Venkatesh Revankar*
Mohamed Abrar Sait
Shreyas S. Shastry*
Meena Mudha Chandra Shekar*
Sreyas Surendar
Talha Tahir
Aditya Tarey*
Mahereen Sultana Tazree
Rahul Singh Thakur*
Aditya Sharadkumar Thanawala
Sai Kiran Voruganti*
Aaron Mitchell Wittenhiller
Zhaoran Yin
Zihang You
Tianliang Zhang*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
Carlos Hugo Avila Avendano
Connor Crabtree
Pedro Emanuel Rocha Flores
Ramyapriya Krishnasamy
Kolade Augustine Oyekan
Zhiyang Qin*
Peter Dirk Jan Reyntjens*
Zeshaan Shammi
Vidushi Singh
Udumbara Chethana Wijesinghe
Weijie Xu
DOCTORAL DEGREE RECIPIENTS

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

Cedric Paul Ambulo
Professors: David Schmidtke
Taylor Ware
Dissertation: 4D Printing Liquid Crystalline Actuators toward Assistive Devices

Pooneh Soltantabar
Professor: Mihaela Stefan
Dissertation: Microfabrication of an Organ-On-A-Chip Device to Model Cardiotoxicity Induced by Chemotherapies for Cancer Nanomedicine Evaluation

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Imrul Chowdhury Anindya
Professor: Murat Kantarcioğlu
Dissertation: Understanding and Mitigating Privacy Risks Raised By Record Linkage

Srijita Das
Professor: Sriraam Natarajan
Dissertation: Sample Efficient Cost-Aware Active Learning

Partha De
Professor: R. Chandrasekaran
Dissertation: Robust and Adaptive Optimization
Yuanzhen Guo
Professor: Nicholas Ruozzi
Dissertation: Variational Inference Methods for Continuous Probabilistic Graphical Models

Navdeep Kaur
Professor: Sriraam Natarajan
Dissertation: Efficient Combination of Neural and Symbolic Learning for Relational Data

Anahita Mahzari
Professor: Ravi Prakash
Dissertation: Exploiting Mobile Edge Computing to Improve Efficiency of 360° Video Streaming

Kelvin Khuong Mai
Professors: Murat Kantarcioglu
Alvaro Cardenas
Dissertation: Anomaly Detection in SCADA Networks Using Expert Models and Machine Learning Based Techniques

Nandini Ramanan
Professor: Sriraam Natarajan
Dissertation: Efficient and Effective Structure Learning of Graphical Models

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Jianqi Chen
Professor: Benjamin Carrion Schaefer
Dissertation: Leveraging the Advantages of High-level Synthesis: From Hardware Security to Low-Power Design

Lin Cong
Professor: Hoi Lee

Mohamed Fouad Marzban
Professor: Naofal Al-Dhahir

Ayon Quayum
Professor: Hlaing Minn
Dissertation: Signal Design and Processing for Grant-Free Access

Haoran Wei
Professor: Nasser Kehtarnavaz
Dissertation: Deep Learning Solutions for Continuous Action Recognition Using Fusion of Inertial and Video Sensing and for Far Field Video Surveillance

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Akash Anilkumar Laturia
Professor: William Vandenberghe

Siddartha Srinivasan Nandagopala Krishnan
Professor: Manuel Quevedo-Lopez
Dissertation: Scalable Low-Cost Large-Area Micro-Structured Thermal Neutron Detectors
Udumbara Chethana Wijesinghe  
Professor: Mark Lee  

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING  

Yi Guo  
Professor: Tyler Summers  
Dissertation: *Stochastic Optimization and Optimal Control for Complex Networked Infrastructures*  

Jonathan Corwin Horn  
Professors: Robert Gregg  
Tyler Summers  
Dissertation: *Nonholonomic Virtual Constraints for Bipedal Locomotion*  

Meenakshi Narayan  
Professor: Ann Majewicz Fey  
Dissertation: *Data-Driven Models for Real-Time Prevention of Adverse Events in Robotic Needle Interventions*  

Mark Russell Yeatman  
Professors: Robert Gregg  
Mark Spong  
Dissertation: *Energy and Passivity Based Control for Bipeds and Assistive Walking Devices*  

Rui Zhang  
Professor: Dong Qian  
Dissertation: *Multiscale Methods for Fatigue and Dynamic Fracture Failure and High-Performance Computing Implementation*
Students graduating with Latin Honors have enrolled and successfully completed a minimum of 45 undergraduate hours at UT Dallas. Each Latin Honors level requires a minimum grade point average (GPA) to be attained over all course work taken at UT Dallas.

**Summa cum laude:**
The grade point average that represents the top 5 percent of all graduates in a particular school is considered the threshold for awarding summa cum laude honors.

**Magna cum laude:**
The grade point average that represents the next 10 percent of all graduates in a particular school is considered the threshold for awarding magna cum laude honors.

**Cum laude:**
The grade point average that represents the next 15 percent of all graduates in a particular school is considered the threshold for awarding cum laude honors.

### CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES WITH LATIN HONORS

**CUM LAUDE**

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Steven Anthony Adorno  
Rehnuma Afreen  
Kanupriya Agarwal*  
Sonia Lorena Aguilera*  
Samantha Arely Aguinaga*  
Irslan Ahmad*  
Hamza Akbar  
Rashwan Walid Alameddine  
Ramazan Ali  
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Kamren Nicole Bell  
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Lalo Bediso Borodge  
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Adrienne Marie Bull  
Noelle Kristine Caballero  
Aubree Lynn Cantabrina  
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James Allan Castanho  
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Dustin Lee Middleton
Abed M. Mir
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Jacqueline Morel
Nadia Elise Muhammad
Alerice Mazie Nakho
Tavia Christina Neal
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Joshua Presley Newman
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Kenny Khang Nguyen*
Phuc Bao Thien Nguyen
Richard Giangsan Nguyen
Tu Nguyen
Sahar I. Noor
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Luis David Castro Ochoa
Megalion Oei
Natalia Ortiz
Krutika Abhijit Pandit
Tajagna Kanhal Parikh
William Cotton Payne
Jovanna Paz
Brian Q. Pham
Ngan Xuan Phan
Turner Christopher Pikulinski
Christle Jean Pinheiro
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Naushin Afruz Rahman
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Omar Sheikh Riaz*
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Fida Farheen Riayas
Brianna Alexis Rodriguez
Crystal Ivette Alvarado Rodriguez
Skyler Gabriel Rogers
Kenzie Lueree Rooks
Jacob Henry Rose
Ryan P. Sadovsky*
Hussein Safaoui
Alisha Zuhra Saiyed*
Jazmin Roxanne Salinas
Thalina Crystal Salinas
Salina Sarker
Catherine P. R. Scarrow
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Rai H. Shaw
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Jackson Joseph Sims
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Moselle Grace Smith*
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Madison Elizabeth Stevens
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Anjana Swami
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Itzel Ramirez Tapia
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Brock Carson Thorne
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Kausicka Tivakar
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Dan Anh Ton
Andrea My Tran
Toan T. Tran
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Josiane Tshououngang
Candace Tu
Alisia Cornelia Tumac*
Senjuti Twisha
Jose S. Valerio
Robertus Dulfo Van Tilburg
Alexis Reed Vandercook
Karthika Venugopalan
Ngan Boi Vi
Autumn Alyss Villa
Martin Leon Vincent*
Thang D. Vu
Stephanie Wang
Anju Watanabe
Robert Thomas West
J. Lander Finley Williams
William Jacob Wilson
Emily Megan Wojciechowski
Timothy Nathan Zaman
Payam Branden Zamhariri
Ziming Zhao
MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Irtiza Ahmed*
Ayesha Ali
Maria Mohammad Ali*
Amanda Nicole Allen
Wendy Ampuero
Chloe Delphine Anderson
Sarah Aqil Ansari
Johana Jaramillo Arboleda
Alexander Ryan Armstrong
Evan Scott Bahr
Samuel Isaac Bell
Mohamed Benissa*
Bruno Bernardon
Olena M. Bogdashkina
Andrew Robert Bond-Harris
Kyndall Paige Brown
Lillian Rae Brown
Analisa Cabrera
Rachel Maribella Calderon*
James William Carter*
Anna Nikolaevna Cavnar
Megan D. Cepak
Sarah Chang
Nianhuan Chen
Roman Viktorovich Chernov
Hope Nicole Cory
Caroline Lee Cutbirth
Ali Asad Damani
Jennifer Savannah Dan
Latoya Victoria Darden
Blake Thomas Day
Thomas Michael Decker
Bianca Marie Del Rio
Graziella Faye Buena Detecio
Alexandra Lynn Diaz
Taylor Tuan Diep
Ahmad Dweik*
Harrison Frazier Eagle*
Trevor Osborne Edwards
Amanda Nicole Ehnis
Dominique Justine Eule
Rachel Anne Farley
Lily Victoria Fernandez
Benjamin Thomas Fields
Jaime Ernesto Flores
Matthew D. Flores
Rebecca Rose Garrard
Mary Jean Garsea
Madalyn Elizabeth Goetz
Carmen Maleny Mejia Gonzalez
William Peter Goudreau
Timothy Patrick Graham*

Edwin Esequiel Guzman
Youstina N. Habeeb
Hannah Hadidi
Ali Anwar Haggaz
Shadman Hameed
Karl Daniel Haggaz
Casey Lange Hatfield
Ronak Prakash Hegde
Sawyer Alan Hill
Matilda Ho
Claire E. Hoffmann
James Mon-Ern Huang
Zara Ibrahim
Ayah Musa Ilteiha
Patrick Stewart Isom
Brian Wesley Jameson*
Thomas Liong Jerdee
Rachel Jiang
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Nikith Kandunuri
Wyatt Keller*
Raquel Marie Key
Fatima Khan
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Meghan Mechele Kitchen
Marion Carol Kretschmann
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Britney Lam
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Tran Thien Phuc Le
Jason Lee
Audrey Christine Lewis
Julia Rachael Little
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Sharmeen Makda
Markus Damen Makela
Tamara Aisha Mambo
Anmol Singh Mandara
Brady Scott Manning
Allison Maria McNally
Alexandra Lynn McNeill
Tanupriya Mehra
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Suhail Mirza*
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Ashley Lashay Montgomery
Joshua Taylor Moore
Esteban Fernandez Morales
Patrick Russell Morganto
Madhav Mukundan*

25
Autumn Rebecca Murray
Alis Nahapetyan
Hope Reem Nasr
Jandel Bartolome Nelvis
An Q. Nguyen
Dylan D. Nguyen
Linh Khanh Nguyen
Madelina Lan Nguyen
Sydney Nguyen
Aaron Lyndel Norris
Sujeet Ojha*
Luke Elijah Palaparthi
Kristina Michelle Paliwoda
Juhi Mehul Patel
Kavita Rajen Patel
Radhika Suresh Patel
Nikhil Patil
Tram Pham
Megan Nicole Pinksa
Mahwish Zahid Quraishi
Rafael Ramirez
Savanna Kate Ramsey
Laya Rao
Safiya Rasheed*
Rhett Loren Rasmussen*
Benjamin Davis Ray
Christopher Eli Reyna
Taha Salman
Scott H. Sasajima
Gaurav Sethi*
Miral Vijay Shah
Zulfiqar Ali Shah
Riya Katrina Sharma
Regina Yvonne Shumaker
Chase Benjamin Shurts*
Abdullah Sohaib Siddique
Aisha Ahmad Siddiqui
Farida Sodawaterwala
Nicole Vargas Solis
Ashima Soni
Barbara Elaine Sorhe
Chloe Catherine Sparks*
Umaymah Shams Sultana*
Pouya Tabyanian
Tarini Sai Talluri
Dev Mahesh Thimmisetty
Tan Thanh Tran
Caroline Tseggay*
Brianna Nicole Vargas
Alexandra Marie Vguilla
Laney Thuy Vo
Clarish M. Vu
Anh Thuy Vuong
Neil Jacob Whitney
Keith William Winterton
Chase Austin Wood
Samantha Wood
Allison Marie Wuensch
Yewon Yang*
Giovanni Zamboni
Sarah Zariwala
Haley Marie Ziomek

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Ali Abbas
Sumayah Abdulla
Syra Gail Abraham
Paul Charles Adams*
Simbran Zulfqar Ali
Ahmed Mohammed Alshaikhsalama
Mays Alshaikhsalama
Paul Alexander Anderson
Charles Travis Awalt*
Faraaz Anwer Azam
Karianna Yazmin Barreto
Edward Michael Bates
Nicholas Dell Beaufait
Nathan Alexander Beck
Hadar Bernstein
Neilesh Arvind Betrabet*
Saad Ahmed Bhatti
Virginia Katherine Blackwell
Brandon Quinn-Osharob Borick
Andrew Wayne Brocious
Liron Bunker
Newton Dang Cao
Savannah Marie Cargill
Ching-Hsuan Chang
Josue Gustavo Flores Chavez
Justin James Chemplanikal
Stephanie Jouan Chen
Jenna Rene Cherrey
Danielle Jina Choi
Enrique Jose Rodriguez Cupello
Loretta Mae Donaldson
Lauren Estelle Duernberger*
Shelley Meihua Fang
Mariam Nargess Farahmand
Lujain Abu Farha
James Michael Fasolino
Alyssa Isabelle Flores Fontanilla
Carlos Matthias Franco
Alexandra Gamboa
Eric R. Gaunt*
To earn Major Honors in their disciplines, students must meet criteria set by the faculty within their school. Each program provides two levels of recognition: Honors and Distinction. Student must have completed a minimum amount of coursework at UT Dallas to be recognized with Major Honors.

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES WITH MAJOR HONORS

MAJOR HONORS WITH DISTINCTION

Paul Alexander Anderson

MAJOR HONORS

Alexander Ryan Armstrong
Matthew Earl Barnes
Brandon Quinn-Osharov Borick
Justin James Chemplanikal
Rachel Ellen Franko
Leslie Guerrero*
Edwin Esequiel Guzman
Graham Josiah Hiss
Marghi Manish Jani*
Jerin Jose
Alan Sui-Lun Liang
Katherine Marie Merola

Addison Cain Miller
Niyati Manish Modha
Esteban Fernandez Morales
An Q. Nguyen
Krutika Abhijit Pandit
Madeline Avery Preston
Bonnie Scot Price
Syed Ahmedullah Qadri
Gaurav Sethi*
Katrina Sharee Smith
Lauren Elizabeth Sunderhaus
Jennifer Huan Zheng
A student graduating with the distinction of Collegium V Honors has completed at least 24 hours of honors level coursework at UT Dallas, has presented a senior capstone project and has graduated with at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA.

Nathan Alexander Beck
Benjamin Thomas Fields
Tanner Bradyn Hausman
Natalie Rose Heath
Matilda Ho
Kestrel Ann Kiegel
Nguyen Hoang Phuong Le
Chiho Lin
David Philopateer Mikhail
Addison Cain Miller
Audra Madison Miller

Vy Hoang Nguyen
Laya Rao
Adiva Sahar
Ashley Blair Simpson
Ashima Soni
Shreyas Srinivasan
Dev Mahesh Thimmisetty
Karthika Venugopalan
Naureen Zeenat Wajahat
Joshua David Wiedemeier
COMMENCEMENT SYMBOLS

Academic symbols date to the Middle Ages and include the mace, chain of office, academic regalia and gonfalons.

THE CEREMONIAL MACE

The mace is a ceremonial staff of authority that administrators and faculty at universities worldwide carry at the head of academic processions. Traditionally made of wood and clad with metal, the mace was originally a weapon of war used to knock an enemy from his horse or crush his armor. The mace evolved into a symbol of peaceful leadership and kings encrusted them with jewels and precious metals.

The UT Dallas mace was handcrafted from wood from the 600-year-old Treaty Oak tree in Austin, which is said to have shaded Stephen F. Austin as he signed the first boundary agreement between American Indians and settlers in 1824. The tree was also said to be the last of a grove of live oaks where Native Americans once held feasts and religious ceremonies.

The 4-foot, 10-pound mace includes a sterling silver University seal surrounding a wafer embedded with Texas Instruments microchips, which represent the company's role in the founding of the University. A steel band in the headpiece and the metal foot of the staff are fashioned from a scientific instrument designed by the UT Dallas Space Sciences Institute and flown aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavor in September 1995. The mace stands in the president's office when not in use.

CHAIN OF OFFICE

The UT Dallas chain of office is the traditional symbol used to signify the responsibilities and authority of the University president. The links of the chain are engraved with the names of the presidents of the University above a large medallion in the form of the University seal.

The seal of The University of Texas at Dallas has as its central feature a shield that is divided into two fields, the upper and the lower. In the lower field are the historic wreath — the right half of which is an olive branch, the left half a live oak branch — and the star of the Great Seal of the State of Texas. In the upper field is an open book, a fitting symbol for an institution of learning.

The shield rests in a circle and contains the motto “Disciplina Praesidium Civitatis.” The motto is the late Dr. Edwin W. Fay's terse Latin rendering of the famous quotation from Mirabeau B. Lamar: “Cultivated mind is the guardian genius of democracy.” Around the disk is a larger one, bearing the words “The University of Texas at Dallas.”
ACADEMIC REGALIA

Students in the medieval universities of Paris, Bologna, Oxford and Cambridge organized into guilds and gradually their costumes of flowing robes became distinctive for Bachelors (apprentices) of Arts, masters (teachers) and doctors (teachers who had completed postgraduate studies).

The academic hood worn by today’s master’s and doctoral students derives from the medieval cloak worn over the gown. The color on the outside trim of the hood indicates the degree earned; the colors on the hood lining area those of the university granting the degree.

The academic cap was a later development, first conferred as a symbol of the master’s degree. Some caps were stiff, some soft; some were square, some found with a tuft. The tassel of today is an elaboration of the tuft. Round caps are still used by some institutions. The square mortar board style originated at Oxford.

In the United States, the Intercollegiate Code has taken the Oxford costume and standardized academic regalia. The master’s gown has long, pointed sleeves; the doctoral gown has closed sleeves with three bars of velvet on each and velvet facing.

Six colors of tassels are worn by UT Dallas graduates. The white tassel is worn by those receiving the Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts; the golden tassel is worn by those receiving the Bachelor of Science and Master of Science; the drab tassel is worn by those receiving the Master of Business Administration; the peacock blue tassel is worn by those receiving the Master of Public Affairs; the brown tassel is worn by those receiving the Master of Fine Arts; and the gold tassel is reserved for Doctors and Presidents.

GONFALONS

The gonfalons — or college banners — add a wonderful element of color and pageantry to The University of Texas at Dallas commencement and convocation ceremonies. The gonfalon is a long banner that is suspended from a crossbar. The name derives from medieval Italy, where “gonfalone” was the name given to a community meeting in Florence. Each neighborhood had its own flag and coat of arms and the word gonfalon eventually came to be associated with the flag.

All gonfalons have in common several elements that symbolize the unified mission of the University. Among these common elements are the school colors, green and orange. The color orange represents The University of Texas System and is derived from the burnt orange UT Austin, the first UT school. In the world of academia, the orange color symbolizes engineering. UT Dallas’ green color stems from the green olive and oak branches that are represented in the UT Dallas seal. Olive branches symbolize peace, and oak branches symbolize strength and endurance.
UT DALLAS ALMA MATER

Music by Robert Xavier Rodriguez
Words by Bill Dunn and Neely Reynolds

UT DALLAS ORANGE AND GREEN

FOUNDERS’ VISIONARY DREAM

TO INFLAME THE SCHOLAR’S HEART

LIGHTING PATHWAYS THROUGH THE DARK

REACHING OUT FROM EARTH TO SPACE

SERVING ALL THE HUMAN RACE

JOINED AS ONE IN UNITY

ALMA MATER UTD
Your graduation from The University of Texas at Dallas is a celebration of years of hard work and incredible achievement. Congratulations on all that you have accomplished! Let me be the first to welcome you to our alumni community of more than 113,000 worldwide.

As you prepare to take on the exciting new opportunities open to you as a graduate of this great institution, all of us at the University look forward to seeing what you will do in the future. We hope that you will remain connected to UT Dallas and invite you to officially become a member of the UT Dallas Alumni Association.

As an Alumni Association member, you can keep up-to-date with your fellow Comets through our online alumni directory and continue to enjoy use of the UT Dallas Career Center, Activity Center and Eugene McDermott Library. Members also receive special perks and discounts at the UTD Bookstore, Tech Store and local businesses, among other benefits.

Visit alumni.utdallas.edu to learn more and stay “joined as one” with your fellow Comets.

I wish you the best of luck as you begin this next chapter in your lives.
There are many ways to stay connected and continue to leave an impact on UT Dallas. As a new graduate, we invite you to become a UT Dallas Alumni Association member at a **discounted rate of $19.69** in celebration of our founding year.

**YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**
All new UT Dallas Alumni Association members will receive the official alumni box — featuring an exclusive alumni T-shirt — as part of their first-year welcome gift.

**TEMOC SOCKS**
Show your Comet pride with Temoc socks! Collect them all and a portion of your purchase will go back to the University.

**LEGACY LANE BRICKS**
Leave your mark on UT Dallas. As a new graduate, we invite you to purchase your brick at a discounted rate of $50.

**NEW GRADUATE RESOURCES**
Check out the Class of 2020 website that includes all the resources you’ll need as a new graduate. Wherever you are, show us how you celebrated using #UTDGrad