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. While safety concerns due to the COVID-19 pandemic required us to conduct commencement virtually this semester, we want to acknowledge that you and your classmates have demonstrated commitment, creativity and talent — and perseverance.

Graduates, 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 hope that you will return in August when we will hold in-person ceremonies on campus. In the meantime, please stay connected with UT Dallas and continue to be a part of our bright future. Congratulations!

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This program contains the names of candidates for degrees and honors at
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<td>Harsha Vardhini Vasu</td>
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<td>Prachi Vats</td>
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<td>Alroy Vaz</td>
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<td>Pattabhi Ramanna Vella</td>
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<td>Vishwashrisiram Venkadhithiappasamy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sreenivasan Koduvayoor Venkataraman</td>
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</tbody>
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**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vyasa Akilesh Sashank Akondi</td>
<td>Lohith Alla</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vineeth Budamkayala</td>
<td>Diego Sebastian Chacon</td>
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<td>Sung-Lin Chen</td>
<td>Sameer Nitin Chourkar</td>
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<td>Kevin Maurice Daniel</td>
<td>Maheshwer Naini Ezhilone</td>
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<td>Jainam Sanjaykumar Gandhi</td>
<td>Toby Simon Krakauer Ganz</td>
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<td>Naeemul Hassan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Maureen Higgins</td>
<td>Mohammed Nabeel Idrees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pranav Jayaram</td>
<td>Rakesh Krishna Katakam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew A. Karnes</td>
<td>Teja Reddy Kollu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chaitanya Veera Venkata Ramana Kolluru
Sumanth Kumar Reddy Kotareddy
Sanmitha Kotebagilu
Jasmine Lee
Yajie Li
Jia-Hong Lin
Linda Loghmani
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Preethika Sulake
Diego Jose Tacsas
Senyan Tan
Kirthika Venkatesan
Nathan Zhang

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Dan N. Le
Dallin Odean Nielsen

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Karuna Sitaula
Samantha Elizabeth Smith
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Chinthoorie Yogalingam

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Ruta Tesfagergsh Teklehaimanot
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Cynthia Elizabeth Castillo Padron
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Shweta Satish Ingale
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Haoliang Yu

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Haan Mo Johng

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING
Zohre Ranjbar-Mojaveri
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.

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Priyanka Agrawal
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Lyanne Alfarawati
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Shayling Zhao  

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Vrunda Agnihotri  
Swapnil Agrawal  
Huda Ahmad  
Taha Yusuf Ahmed  
Nabil Amit Ajmeri  
Layla Abdinasir Ali  
Razan Salman Ali  
Massa Almufi
Majd Hawwar
Hallie Rose Hays
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Sudarshana Jagadeeshi
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Hunter Ken
Ayesha Khalfe
Qanitah Khalid
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Dat Manh Tran
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Rishi Sai Ada
Margaret Elizabeth Aderholt
Adeeb Ahmed
Muhammad Rubeel Akram
Tala Al Shawa
Istafa Syed Ali
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Gowtham Anche
Tandav Argula
Amina Akhtar Aslam
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Umaymah Syed Aziz
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Sree Thei Bandi
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Eric Miers Beights
Serena Sandeep Bhadsavle
Md Fiaz Islam Bhuiyan
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Cameron Joseph Bossalini
Sarah Elizabeth Bostic
Alexa M. Boushey
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Justin Samuel Briggs
Daniel Paul Brown

Brianne P. Welkener
Xingyan Wen
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Taryn Nichelle White
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Sureya Yilixiati
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Faiza Rumani Zaman
Elaine Yanran Zhang
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Grant Michael Zierer
Shiraz Zoubi
Khadeeja Zulqarnain

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Chloe Rose Castanon
Krishnasai Chalasani
Minh Han Chang
Asmita Aniruddha Chitale
Pranav Mahavir Chopada
Saqib Mohammed Chowdhury
Noah Christian Corbitt
Jeffrey Bobby Counts
Anna Masten Crain
Maria Margarita Yap Del Mundo
Christopher Michael Delagarza
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Rachel Lynne Denman
Siddartha Devic
Elena Ezinne Dike
Megan My Doan
Nicholas John Dobmeier
Danny Hunter Dunn
Trevor Martin Ellis
Savannah Eren
Alexander Sanchez Estrada
Sergio Alan Sanchez Estrada
Casey Coles Farrell
Kiyanoush Mehdi-Reza Forough
Emily Christine Fought
Vinlexus Franks
Tyler Douglas Galbraith
Sabrina Melissa Gambini
Mythreyan Raghu Ganesh
Pratima Gangupantula
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.

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Alex Mark Najjar

MAJOR HONORS

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Syra Gail Abraham
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Swapnil Agrawal
Huda Ahmad
Taha Yusuf Ahmed
Tala Al Shawa
Amina Akhtar Aslam
Shannah Alcachupas Avila
Leonard Ayala
Shannen Rikki Icao Barrameda
Ruqiya Jama Barreh
Stephanie Taylor Batch
Shaghayegh Tashakori Beheshti
Sweta Bhamidipaty
Sabrina Bharia
Blake Alan Birdwell
Sarah Elizabeth Bostic
Beatriz Menezes Brandao
Chelsey Brawner
Tiffany Dawn Page Carter
Chloe Rose Castanon
Dilayda Celik
Sarah En Yi Chan
Minh Han Chang
Samuel Sung Chang
Juntra Chanthavisay
Irene Chen
Asmita Aniruddha Chitale
Seo Won Cho
Jacqueline I-Hsuan Chou
Noah Christian Corbitt
Shannon Elizabeth Cotts
Jack M. Craig
Anna Masten Crain
Rosemary Ann Culver
Ridaa Yusuf Dadani
Kristen Nicole Damico

John Crawford Davis
Taylor Hannah Kyes Davis
Sarah Anne Deininger
Maria Margarita Yap Del Mundo
Rachel Lynne Denman
Siddartha Devic
Elena Ezinne Dike
Bao-Doan Do
Megan My Doan
Danny Hunter Dunn
Shivam Dutt
Savannah Eren
Sergio Alan Sanchez Estrada
Briana A. Evans
Kiyanoush Mehdi-Reza Forough
Charles Wilmore Franznick
Sabrina Melissa Gambini
Pratima Gangupantula
Anishk Goel
Sidney Peyton Good
Megha Sandeep Goyal
Justin Patrick Greisz
Sharvari R. Gupta
Thuan D. Ha
Madeline Rose Hale
Cedric Godwin Hatol
Hamza Jamil Iqbal
Aniqa Islam
Sejal Shrikant Jannu
Jennifer Elizabeth Jenks
Brian David Jensen
Vishwa Shardul Joshi
Felicia Hong Ju
Ezinwa Eden Kalunta-Crumpton
Coral Katave
Bhavana Keerthi Keepudi
Jasmine Kim
Mauli Bijal Kinkhabwala
Vinson Kok
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.

Isra Abdulwadood
Stephanie T. Abe
Priyanka Agrawal
Taha Y. Ahmed
Uma G. Akalkotkar
Jesse C. Ardila
Amina A. Aslam
Surbhi S. Banubakode
Shannen Rikki I. Barrameda
Stephanie T. Batch
Alyssa N. Beardsley
Aaron C. Beatty
Ayala Ben David
Ruth L. Bennett
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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.
Welcome to the UT Dallas Alumni Community

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 120,000 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.

Kyle D. Edgington PhD’13
Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations
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 2021 website that includes all the resources you’ll need as a new graduate. Wherever you are, show us how you celebrated using #UTDGrad

alumni.utdallas.edu/classof2021

Follow @UTDallasAlumni
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

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