



# UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT

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*May 20, 2023 • Kirkeby-Over Stadium  
Augustana University*

# ORDER OF PROCESSION

## **MACE CARRIER**

Dr. Paul Egland, Professor of Biology and Faculty President

## **PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY**

Stephanie Herseth Sandlin, J.D.

## **PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT**

Dr. Colin C. Irvine

## **CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Jill Weber Aanenson '93

## **INVOCATION**

Jonathan Splichal Larson '06, Interim Campus Pastor

## **FACULTY MARSHALS**

Dr. Jennifer Gubbels, Associate Professor of Biology and Chair, Natural Sciences Division  
Dr. Lindsay Twa, Professor of Art, and Chair, Humanities Division

## **FACULTY EMERITI AND FACULTY**

## **REGISTRAR**

Joni L. Krueger, M.S.

## **CLASS OF 2023 SPEAKER**

Courtney Elizabeth Chrystal '23

## **STUDENT MARSHALS**

Dr. Reynold Nesiba, Professor of Economics  
Dr. Michelle Gierach, Associate Professor of Nursing

## **CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES**

# ORDER OF EXERCISES

## **THE PROCESSIONAL**

## **THE INVOCATION**

## **WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

## **PRESENTATION OF FACULTY AWARDS**

The Vernon and Mildred Niebuhr Faculty Excellence Award  
The Jane and Charles Zaloudek Faculty Research Fellowship

## **STUDENT COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS**

## **THE AUGUSTANA ALMA MATER**

## **THE PRESENTATION OF THE CLASS OF 2023**

## **THE CONFERRING OF DEGREES**

Bachelor of Arts  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

## **PROGRAM COMPLETION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Augie Access Program

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

## **THE RECESSIONAL**

The Gauntlet

# ROSTER OF GRADUATES

## BACHELOR OF ARTS

Jennifer E. Aadland, Laramie, WY  
Business Administration, Spanish  
Magna Cum Laude  
In Absentia

Robert Lyle Achterberg, Watertown, SD  
Exercise Science

Grace Ahles, Sioux Falls, SD  
Religion (Distinction), Sociology  
Magna Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Kanan Ahmadov, Baku, Azerbaijan  
Physics, Mathematics, Dual-Degree Engineering  
Cum Laude

Emily Noel Alama, Watertown, SD  
Exercise Science (Distinction)  
Magna Cum Laude

Sara Naji Alhasnawi, Sioux Falls, SD  
Biochemistry (ACS), Spanish  
Civitas Honors

Maryam Aljeelawi, Sioux Falls, SD  
Biology

Allison McKae Altwine, Crofton, NE  
Art, All-Grades Education  
Cum Laude

Gabriella Amick, Tucson, AZ  
Sign Language Interpreting

Robert Seth Amundson, Sioux Falls, SD  
Biology, Classics

Eve Clara Marie Anderson, St. James, MN  
Elementary Education, Special Education  
Magna Cum Laude

Isaac Powers Anderson, Sioux Falls, SD  
Business Administration, Accounting  
Summa Cum Laude  
In Absentia

Laura Arce Vieyra, Ciudad de Mèxico, Mexico  
Finance, Management,  
Computer Information Systems  
Cum Laude

Josie Lorraine Arduser, Lincoln, NE  
Exercise Science  
Magna Cum Laude

Tsegab Arega, Sioux Falls, SD  
Government & International Affairs,  
Sociology (Distinction)

Piper Asche, Raymond, MN  
Marketing

Ashley Lynn Ask, Garretson, SD  
Biology  
Cum Laude

Trinity Lynn Faythe Atkins, Hartford, SD  
Biology, Environmental Studies  
Magna Cum Laude

Maddux James Baggs, Ames, IA  
Exercise Science  
In Absentia

Seth Arion Baker, Redlands, CA  
Psychology, Sociology

Jillian Sky Barkus, Sioux Falls, SD  
Fitness Management

Madeline G. Basso, Rapid City, SD  
Exercise Science

Isabel Bathke, Mitchell, SD  
Biology, Psychology  
Cum Laude

Anna Kathleen Bauman, Sioux Falls, SD  
Biology, Psychology  
In Absentia

Declan Poulsen Beers, Luverne, MN  
History

Nicole Isabel Bellis, Urbandale, IA  
Sport Management

Cooper James Benning, Davis, SD  
Communication/Business  
Cum Laude

Beata M. Benson, South St. Paul, MN  
Interdisciplinary Studies

Brenden R. Bergquist, Washburn, ND  
Business Administration

Hayden Kyle Berhow, Pierce, NE  
Finance, Computer Information Systems  
Magna Cum Laude

Claire Lucille Bernard, Jefferson, SD  
Chemistry (ACS), Environmental Studies

Sydney Suzanne Bernhard, Rapid City, SD  
Biology  
Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Kavina Mercedes Berry, Lennox, SD  
Sociology, Psychology

Olivia Renae Bertino, Omaha, NE  
Journalism, Marketing, Spanish,  
Business Administration  
Magna Cum Laude

Brianne Lynn Bertsch, Miller, SD  
Communication Disorders

Brynn Ashley Berven, Sioux Falls, SD  
Psychology

Isabella JoLynn Bicknase, Welcome, MN  
Sociology, Psychology  
In Absentia

Lily Johannah Blechinger, Sioux Falls, SD  
Biology  
Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Borislav Daniel Bogdanovic, Sioux Falls, SD  
Accounting, Finance, Business Administration  
Magna Cum Laude  
In Absentia

Bentley William Boike, Maynard, MN  
Elementary Education

Madison Shae Bollweg, Harrold, SD  
Government & International Affairs,  
Communication Studies

Thomas Joseph Bonnema, Willmar, MN  
Religion, Philosophy

James Borges, Sioux Falls, SD  
Physical Education, All-Grades Education  
In Absentia

Melanie Darison Borson, Kingston, WA  
Computer Science & Software Engineering,  
Data Science  
Summa Cum Laude

Katherine Anne Boyens, Omaha, NE  
Elementary Education, Special Education  
Summa Cum Laude

Colten Ronald Brand, Winona, MN  
Exercise Science (Distinction),  
Fitness Management  
Summa Cum Laude

Abigail Brandsrud, Huron, SD  
English  
Summa Cum Laude

Macintyre Joseph Braun, Rapid City, SD  
Finance  
Magna Cum Laude

Sabdi Abidi Bravo, Lismore, MN  
Biology, Languages, Literatures & Cultures  
Cum Laude

Ashtyn Engel Breit, Sioux Falls, SD  
Psychology, Sociology  
Magna Cum Laude

Bailey Ronald Brengle, Sioux Falls, SD  
Exercise Science

Jonah Richard Breuer, Albertville, MN  
Exercise Science  
Cum Laude

John Alexander Bridges, Rapid City, SD  
Biology

Katherine Iverson Brown, Shoreview, MN  
English, Theatre

Gabrielle Marie Brunkow, Anoka, MN  
Sociology, Spanish  
Cum Laude

Joshua Michael Buddenhagen, Hartford, WI  
Accounting  
Cum Laude

Carly Ann Buehner, Rapid City, SD  
Communication Disorders  
Magna Cum Laude

Abigail Grace Burbach, Vermillion, SD  
Psychology  
In Absentia

Trevor J. Burkhart, Brandon, SD  
Biology

Hunter Gregory Burnett, Pipestone, MN  
Education Studies

Kallee Jane Bushfield, Harrisburg, SD  
Accounting, Finance  
Summa Cum Laude

Carter R. Canfield, Watertown, SD  
English  
Summa Cum Laude

Abigail Olivia Carter, Eden Prairie, MN  
Spanish, Government & International Affairs,  
International Studies  
Magna Cum Laude

Tatiana Marie Chance, Sioux Falls, SD  
Elementary Education, Theatre

Xi Chen, Beijing, China  
Data Science, Dual-Degree Engineering  
In Absentia

Matthew Rierson Chitty, Nevada, IA  
Exercise Science, Biology  
Cum Laude

Courtney Elizabeth Chrystal, Dakota Dunes, SD  
Government & International Affairs (Distinction)  
Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Lap Pui Chung, Sioux Falls, SD  
Data Science, Philosophy, Mathematics  
Magna Cum Laude

Jack Dylan Churchill, Montevideo, MN  
Accounting, Finance, Business Administration

Connor James Clayton, Norfolk, NE  
Exercise Science

Andrew Bryan Collins, Lakeville, MN  
Biology, Secondary Education

Tyson John Cowger, Kansas City, MO  
Business Administration  
Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Madison Elisabeth Croomes, Lincoln, NE  
Biology  
Magna Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Carissa Rose Cunningham, Luverne, MN  
Biology, Sociology

Sophia Isabella Curriel, Willmar, MN  
Psychology  
Magna Cum Laude

Cade Andrew Damgaard, Sioux Falls, SD  
Biology

Lauren Aspen Dan, Tea, SD  
Anthropology

Madeline Margaret Deetz, Sioux Falls, SD  
Accounting  
Magna Cum Laude

Joel Ryan DeHaai, Sioux Falls, SD  
Physical Education, Health Education,  
All-Grades Education  
Cum Laude

Jessica Faith DeLair, Pennock, MN  
Biochemistry (ACS)

Alexis Marie den Hoed, Sioux Falls, SD  
Biology

Sydney Lee Denekamp, Becker, MN  
Journalism, Anthropology, Spanish  
Magna Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Kelana Justine DeRuyter, Boyden, IA  
English, History  
Magna Cum Laude

Luke Michael Detert, Sioux Falls, SD  
Finance, Business Administration

Allison Ann Dix, Aberdeen, SD  
STEM Composite, Secondary Education  
Cum Laude

Grace Daphne Dixon, Olathe, KS  
Art, History

Jedidiah Emanuel Dooyema, Luverne, MN  
Exercise Science

Karsyn Lynn Dorris, Madison, SD  
Biology  
Magna Cum Laude

Amy Yuka Dow, Sioux Falls, SD  
Biology

Anna Elizabeth Dow, Sioux Falls, SD  
Sociology, Media Studies  
Cum Laude  
In Absentia

Leanna Marie Drenkow, Sioux Falls, SD  
Communication/Business

Sierra Michelle Drum, Henning, MN  
Psychology, Sociology

Brandi Lynn Drumm, Mankato, MN  
Environmental Studies,  
Government & International Affairs  
Cum Laude

Thomas Michael Duran, Sioux Falls, SD  
Exercise Science, Fitness Management  
In Absentia

Anna Michelle Earley, Sioux Falls, SD  
Psychology, Biology

Ashtyn LeAnn Eben, Marshall, MN  
Computer Science & Software Engineering,  
Marketing, Computer Information Systems  
Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Hannah Rae Eberts, Freeman, SD  
Biology  
Summa Cum Laude

Taylor Ann Eggers, Worthington, MN  
Exercise Science  
Cum Laude

Taylor Leigh Eggert, Howard, SD  
Government & International Affairs  
Magna Cum Laude

Charles Robert Ellingson, Sioux Falls, SD  
Government & International Affairs  
In Absentia

Patricia Jo English, Elko, MN  
History, Government & International Affairs  
Summa Cum Laude

Andrew Scott Erkonen, Brandon, SD  
Management  
In Absentia

Colin Joseph Ferri, Sioux Falls, SD  
Accounting, Business Administration

Heather Nicole Fluit, Canton, SD  
Biology  
Cum Laude

Emily R. Foiles, Raymond, SD  
Sociology  
Cum Laude  
In Absentia

Kathryn Marie Ford, Sioux Falls, SD  
English

Abigail Lynn Funke, Larchwood, IA  
Biology  
Magna Cum Laude

Brianne N. Garr, Albert Lea, MN  
Exercise Science, Fitness Management

Grace Gramlow Geffre, Fargo, ND  
Biology, Spanish  
Summa Cum Laude

Kellie Renae Geigle, Yankton, SD  
Biology, Spanish  
Cum Laude

Angelina Helen Gibson, Sioux Falls, SD  
Music (Distinction), English, Religion (Distinction)  
Magna Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Claire Olivia Godber, Tea, SD  
History  
Magna Cum Laude

Benjamin Lee Goehring, Humboldt, SD  
Computer Science & Software Engineering  
Summa Cum Laude  
In Absentia

Mitchell Robert Goodbary, Sioux Falls, SD  
Exercise Science  
Summa Cum Laude

Emily Meghan Granson,  
Coaldale, Alberta, Canada  
Biology  
Magna Cum Laude

Jace Michael Grosdidier, Mitchell, SD  
Biology  
Magna Cum Laude

Anna Christine Gross, Rochester, MN  
Biochemistry (ACS)  
Summa Cum Laude

Hannah Kay Guenther, Watertown, SD  
Elementary Education  
Magna Cum Laude

Madison Elizabeth Guetter, Wabasso, MN  
Marketing  
Summa Cum Laude

Kinzie Jo Gullikson, Warren, MN  
Elementary Education  
Summa Cum Laude

Zemenu Deneke Hailemariam,  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
Computer Science & Software Engineering,  
Computer Information Systems

Steven Zoltan Hajas, Delano, MN  
Computer Science & Software Engineering

Hailey Jo Handeviddt, Jackson, MN History, Secondary Education	Katherine Anne Jensen, Sioux Falls, SD Communication Disorders Magna Cum Laude	Jonas Kulzer, Andover, KS Computer Science & Software Engineering
Reese Regan Hanna, Rapid City, SD Anthropology	Laura Ann Johnson, Nerstrand, MN Anthropology, Journalism Magna Cum Laude	Luke Julius Kwan, Singapore Chemistry, Mathematics
Connor B. Hansen, Aberdeen, SD Government & International Affairs, Economics	Madison Leah Johnson, Sturgis, SD Biology	Morgan D. Langeslag, Medford, MN Communication Disorders Magna Cum Laude
Cassandra Jo Harper, Sioux Center, IA Psychology (Distinction), Government & International Affairs Magna Cum Laude	Devon Jones, San Diego, CA Marketing	Ignacio Larios, Marshall, MN Biology
Casey Ann Hayes, Kimball, SD Psychology Summa Cum Laude	Valerie Ann Kaiser, Fordyce, NE Accounting, Business Administration Magna Cum Laude	Blake Christopher Larson, Sioux Falls, SD Business Administration, Finance In Absentia
Sydney Kathleen Hayes, Sioux Falls, SD Fitness Management	Elizabeth Grace Karp, Andover, MN Biology Magna Cum Laude	Nicholas Charles Larson, Omaha, NE Physics Cum Laude
Olivia Rose Hazelbaker, Farmington, MN Psychology, Sociology	Rose Kathleen Kellogg, Brandon, SD Biology	Avery Elizabeth Laursen, Mitchell, SD Biology
Nathan Daniel Healy, Sioux Falls, SD Finance	Lauren Kathleen Kelly, Sioux Falls, SD Biochemistry (ACS) Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors	Julia Claire Lee, Lincoln, NE Exercise Science Cum Laude
Brynn E. Heinert, Sioux Falls, SD Anthropology Cum Laude	Mollie Kelly, Sioux Falls, SD Elementary Education Magna Cum Laude In Absentia	Daniel Penedo Leite, Niterói, Brazil Computer Science & Software Engineering
Andrew M. Henrich, Omaha, NE Business Administration, Fitness Management In Absentia	Molly Elizabeth Kelvington, Jordan, MN Business Administration	Sean W. Lemke, Sioux Falls, SD Psychology (Distinction), Anthropology Magna Cum Laude
Clay Walter Herding, North Mankato, MN Business Administration	Nicholas McDowell Kemper, Sioux Falls, SD Exercise Science	Molly Sue Lenz, Sutherland, IA English, Secondary Education Magna Cum Laude
Amanda Jo Hoffman, Wabasso, MN Business Administration, Marketing Magna Cum Laude	Lujain Khan, Sioux Falls, SD Psychology	Abigail McKenzie Lien, Lakeville, MN Mathematics, Secondary Education
Julia Danielle Hopes, Sioux Falls, SD Fitness Management, Exercise Science	Hallie Ann Kinney, Omaha, NE Elementary Education, Special Education Cum Laude	Theron Deandre Liggons Jr., Sioux Falls, SD Biochemistry (ACS) Civitas Honors
Jack Huffman, Omaha, NE Business Administration, Finance	Aleksandra Kistanova, Seversk, Russian Federation Economics, Business Administration Summa Cum Laude	Benjamin David Limburg, Rochester, MN Chemistry, Philosophy Summa Cum Laude
Brooke Elizabeth Hunter, Hayti, SD Exercise Science	Kelly Rose Kleekamp, Olathe, KS Biology	Bergen Elizabeth Lindner, Sioux Falls, SD Business Administration, Marketing, Management Magna Cum Laude
Shaleija Monikke Hunter, Lincoln, NE Psychology, Sociology	Justin Lee Klepel, Mantorville, MN Mathematics, Secondary Education Magna Cum Laude	Lawrence Loimoi Lokonobei, Sioux Falls, SD Engineering Physics, Physics
Caleb Scott Irvine, Sioux Falls, SD Computer Information Systems Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors	Sarah Ann Knutson, Sioux Falls, SD Biochemistry (ACS) Magna Cum Laude	Nicholas Lee Lundberg, Garretson, SD History, Secondary Education Cum Laude
Keaton Davon Jackson, Sioux Falls, SD Psychology In Absentia	Zachary Loren Knutson, Canton, SD STEM Composite, Secondary Education In Absentia	Jack William Lust, Sioux Falls, SD Business Administration
Annika Grace Jacoby, Paynesville, MN Communication/Business, Marketing Magna Cum Laude	Kolby J. Kost, Rapid City, SD Mathematics, Data Science	Emma Mae Malcom, Sioux Falls, SD Communication Disorders Magna Cum Laude
Caleb Michael James, Des Moines, IA Exercise Science, Fitness Management Cum Laude	Tait Espen Krogstad, Fort Collins, CO Music Education, All-Grades Education	Kelly Elizabeth Martin, Tomahawk, WI General Studies
Zachary William Jansen, Omaha, NE Computer Information Systems Cum Laude	Andrew James Gray Kronaizl, Vermillion, SD English, Journalism Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors	Katherine Irene Mathias, Eau Claire, WI Chemistry, French
Jeremy L. Jenkins, Elgin, IL Business Administration, Management, Marketing	Rebecca Lee Krull, George, IA Exercise Science	Luke Davis Matzner, Sioux Falls, SD Physics (Distinction) Magna Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Kacper Tomasz Mayerberg, Oświęcim, Poland Finance, Management	Owen Nelsen, Sioux Falls, SD Music Education, All-Grades Education	Shannon H. Rebelein, Brookings, SD Biology Civitas Honors
Andrea Jennifer McCabe, Janesville, MN Environmental Studies, Journalism Magna Cum Laude	Ashley Irene Nettifee, Hartford, SD Biochemistry (ACS), Environmental Studies Cum Laude	Meredith Nicol Reiner, Sioux Falls, SD Mathematics, Data Science, Computer Science & Software Engineering Magna Cum Laude
Ashley Constance McCain, Brandon, SD Sign Language Interpreting Summa Cum Laude	Jennifer Mai Nguyen, Sioux Falls, SD Biology	Ashley Lauren Reisch, Sioux Falls, SD Elementary Education Magna Cum Laude
Bailey G. McCullough, Hugo, MN Exercise Science Cum Laude	Hannah Joy Niederkofler, Forest City, IA Sign Language Interpreting	Claire Elyse Ringelspauh, Spearfish, SD Government & International Affairs
Maddie McElroy, Sioux Falls, SD Elementary Education Magna Cum Laude	Henry B. Oberman, Lino Lakes, MN Data Science, Mathematics Magna Cum Laude	Carter D. Robinson, Appleton, WI Marketing, Business Administration Cum Laude
Katie McKee, Sioux Falls, SD Medical Laboratory Science Magna Cum Laude	Nathan Scott Ochsner, Tea, SD Biochemistry (ACS) Cum Laude	Gracie Paige Rozeboom, Luverne, MN Marketing, Management
Greta Lindbery Mecklenburg, Minnetonka, MN Biology Magna Cum Laude	Olivia Oistad, Jordan, MN Communication Disorders Magna Cum Laude	Matthew Walter Ruesch, Sioux Falls, SD Mathematics, Secondary Education Cum Laude
Maxwell Edward Meier, Omaha, NE Mathematics	Ella Marie Olsen, Sioux Falls, SD English, Communication Studies Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors	Mason John Runia, Sioux Falls, SD Exercise Science
Tesa Rae Meier, Jeffers, MN History, Secondary Education	Madeline Grace Olson, Brooklyn Park, MN Philosophy, Biology	Mia Loraine Salas, St. Michael, MN Exercise Science (Distinction) Magna Cum Laude
Alemayehu Mekonen, Sioux Falls, SD Computer Science & Software Engineering In Absentia	Jett Dean Olszewski, Sioux Falls, SD General Studies	Kaja Kleppe Salemonsens, Haugesund, Norway Government & International Affairs, Spanish
Anna Grace Meyer, Worthington, MN Elementary Education Cum Laude	Grace Emily Onstad, Champlin, MN English	Eli Jon Samuelson, Comfrey, MN Business Administration, Finance
Andrew Millikan, Sioux Falls, SD Computer Science & Software Engineering	Brian Daniel Opstad, Canton, SD Business Administration In Absentia	Mateo Lalo Sanchez, Sioux Falls, SD Business Administration
Myah Marie Mollenhoff, Jordan, MN Psychology	Matthew Joseph Osmanski, Brookings, SD Biochemistry (ACS) Summa Cum Laude	Ethan J. Sannes, Nisswa, MN Business Administration, Accounting Summa Cum Laude In Absentia
Mekhi Maurice Moore, Spring, TX Sign Language Interpreting Cum Laude	Kaye Marie Paschka, Alexandria, MN Exercise Science Magna Cum Laude	Courtney Jo Saxlund, Sioux Falls, SD Communication Disorders In Absentia
Isaiah LeRoy Roger Morin-Baxter, Rapid City, SD Biology Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors	Om N. Patel, Sioux Falls, SD Biology, Philosophy Cum Laude	Elizabeth Hope Schaefer, Rapid City, SD Biology Summa Cum Laude
Tommy Lee Morrison, Sioux Falls, SD Sociology	Pramit Patel, Fairmont, MN Biology	Michael Duane Schepp, Harrisburg, SD Mathematics, Data Science Magna Cum Laude
Samantha Shea Mrazek, Motley, MN Sign Language Interpreting	Morgan Christine Pederson, Sioux Falls, SD History (Distinction), Environmental Studies Cum Laude	Liza Margaret Schoenbeck, Webster, SD Biology Magna Cum Laude
Cade Austin Mueller, Cologne, MN Marketing, Business Administration Cum Laude	Eli Robert Peterson, Sioux Falls, SD Biology	Matthew August Edward Schoessow, Wyoming, MN Accounting, Finance
Mateya Lynn Murtha, Valley Springs, SD Religion Magna Cum Laude In Absentia	Mackenzie Rae Peterson, Sioux Falls, SD Biology	Ella Terese Schrader, Cedar Rapids, IA Anthropology, French
Thadd Jeffrey Myrlie, Rock Rapids, IA Biology Cum Laude	Zachary David Peterson, Perham, MN Accounting, Finance	Alexa Virginia Rae Schroeder, Sioux Falls, SD Art
Marcus Johann Naess, Bergen, Norway Computer Science & Software Engineering, Art	Madelyn Marie Powell, Meckling, SD Environmental Studies, Philosophy	Maycie M. Schultz, Sioux Falls, SD Biochemistry (ACS), Mathematics
Michelle Brenda Kuhl Neece, Pipestone, MN Psychology Magna Cum Laude	Marcos Vinicius De Faria Quadros, Divinópolis, Brazil Government & International Affairs Cum Laude In Absentia	Morgan Marie Schumacher, Sioux Falls, SD Psychology In Absentia



Cailey Paige Scott, Mitchell, SD  
English (Distinction)  
Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Serena Abby Scott, Sioux Falls, SD  
Elementary Education  
Cum Laude  
In Absentia

Ashley Nicole Seitz, Anchorage, AK  
Psychology

Jason Seitz, Kearney, NE  
Exercise Science  
In Absentia

Yasmeen Shafai, Rapid City, SD  
Elementary Education  
In Absentia

Barsha Shah, Kathmandu, Nepal  
Interdisciplinary Studies  
In Absentia

Dariga Shektybayeva, Astana, Kazakhstan  
Physics, Art, Dual-Degree Engineering  
Magna Cum Laude

Zoë Rae Shriner, Raymore, MO  
Media Studies  
Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Camryn Grace Simmons, Minneapolis, MN  
Government & International Affairs, Spanish  
Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Emma Marie Siverling, Sioux Falls, SD  
Environmental Studies, Religion, Philosophy

Tyler Jordan Skradski, Omaha, NE  
Communication/Business  
In Absentia

Lydia Marie Smith, Fargo, ND  
Elementary Education, Special Education  
Magna Cum Laude  
In Absentia

Sierra Marie Smith, Rock Rapids, IA  
Psychology, Government & International Affairs  
Magna Cum Laude

Claire Alpha Sorenson, Sioux Falls, SD  
Multimedia Entrepreneurship  
Magna Cum Laude

Teciah Isabella Spotted Tail, Mission, SD  
Sociology

Jordan Marie Squires, Le Center, MN  
Elementary Education

Haidyn Leigh Stahl, Fargo, ND  
Psychology  
Summa Cum Laude

Lydia Starr Stednitz, Gretna, NE  
Anthropology, German,  
Languages, Literatures & Cultures  
Cum Laude

Matthew Robert Steiger, La Crescent, MN  
Accounting, Finance  
Summa Cum Laude

Grace Lyn Steinmeyer, Wisner, NE  
Biology  
Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Justine Kimberly Stellmaker, Victoria, MN  
Elementary Education  
Summa Cum Laude

Molly M. Stevens, Northfield, MN  
Computer Information Systems, Economics  
Magna Cum Laude

Sabrina Joleen Stevens, Sioux Falls, SD  
Communication Disorders  
Magna Cum Laude  
In Absentia

Cameron Kay Streff, Madison, SD  
Exercise Science (Distinction),  
Fitness Management

Jakob Ralph Studer, Mitchell, SD  
Biochemistry (ACS)

Elaine Elizabeth Taggatz, Sioux Falls, SD  
Computer Science & Software Engineering, Art  
Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Landon Thompson-Tschimperle, Mitchell, SD  
Mathematics, History  
Cum Laude

Britney Thong Sing Yi, Surabaya, Indonesia  
Chemistry (ACS), Business Administration  
Cum Laude

Isabelle Christine Thorson, Watertown, SD  
Communication/Business, International Studies  
In Absentia

Matthew Toso, Canton, SD  
Business Administration

Hang Tran, Hanoi, Vietnam  
Finance, Accounting  
Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Madeline Cecelia Trosvig, Fergus Falls, MN  
Religion (Distinction), Classics  
Cum Laude

Mary Adrianna Lynn Tuggle, Cordova, AL  
Art

Jacob Paul Tvinnereim, Jackson, MN  
Accounting, Finance

Whitney Morgan Twitero, Brookings, SD  
Biochemistry (ACS), Spanish  
Magna Cum Laude

Henry Fred Van Bemmell Jr., Sioux Falls, SD  
Mathematics, Government & International Affairs  
(Distinction)  
Summa Cum Laude

Caitlin Danielle Van Engen, Hull, IA  
Biology, Spanish  
Cum Laude

Camryn Alexis Van Lingen, Sioux Falls, SD  
Art, All-Grades Education  
Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

John R. VanRavenswaay, Cold Spring, MN  
Accounting, Business Administration, Finance  
Cum Laude

Christopher Allen Smith Verhey, Sioux Falls, SD  
Psychology

Olivia Jo Vermeulen, Letcher, SD  
Biology, Philosophy

Dylan A. Versluys, Sioux Falls, SD  
Biology  
Summa Cum Laude

Nathan Vetch, Onaka, SD  
History, Secondary Education  
Magna Cum Laude  
In Absentia

Parker Douglas Viessman, Canby, MN  
Business Administration, Finance  
Cum Laude  
In Absentia

Carter Voorde, Rockwell City, IA  
Theatre  
Magna Cum Laude

Tyler James Wagener, Waconia, MN  
Business Administration, Marketing

John Robert Walker, Sioux Falls, SD  
Government & International Affairs, Philosophy,  
Classics

Haden William Wallace, Kansas City, MO  
Mathematics

Ian Thomas Ward, Sioux Falls, SD  
English, Philosophy  
Civitas Honors

Cayden Michael Webster, Sioux Falls, SD  
Economics, Accounting  
Cum Laude

Eleanor Carol Weckwerth, Dassel, MN  
Physics (Distinction), Mathematics,  
Chemistry (ACS)  
Magna Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Derek Riley Werner, Lamberton, MN  
Physics

Tessa Marie Whiting, Rapid City, SD  
Psychology, Sociology  
Magna Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Autumn Rae Wilkinson, De Smet, SD  
Exercise Science (Distinction)  
Magna Cum Laude

Danielle Celina Wolf, Jordan, MN  
Finance, Business Administration  
Cum Laude

Andrea Fennell Yarrow, Brookings, SD  
Government & International Affairs

Allison Leigh Young, Sioux Falls, SD  
Biology, Spanish  
Magna Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Calissa Mia Zanderson, Hartford, SD  
Biology, Spanish  
Cum Laude

Jacob T. Zeplin, Omaha, NE  
Physical Education, All-Grades Education,  
Health Education  
Cum Laude

Sophia Elizabeth Zuhlke, Omaha, NE  
Biology, Environmental Studies  
Magna Cum Laude



## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Marin Lillie Bartman, Gretna, NE  
Nursing  
Cum Laude

Robert J. Beach, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing

Ashenafi Tadesse Bekena, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing

Theodore August Bennett, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing (Accelerated)  
In Absentia

Dayle Alise Bleeker, Sergeant Bluff, IA  
Nursing

Rachel Ann Brendefur, Boise, ID  
Nursing

Brynn Anna Brons, Jackson, MN  
Nursing (Accelerated)  
In Absentia

Emily Ann Buse, Lennox, SD  
Nursing  
Summa Cum Laude

Ngawang Chime, Elmhurst, NY  
Nursing (Accelerated)  
In Absentia

Courtney Marie Cohrs, Spirit Lake, IA  
Nursing  
Magna Cum Laude

Kerigan Marie Davis, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing

Hanna Claire DeJager, Brandon, SD  
Nursing  
Magna Cum Laude

Abigail DeVries, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing  
Cum Laude

Dawa Dolma, Woodside, NY  
Nursing (Accelerated)  
In Absentia

Aislinn Therese Duffy, Rapid City, SD  
Nursing

Savannah Elizabeth Ellender, Rapid City, SD  
Nursing (Accelerated)  
In Absentia

Kendra Nicole Fischer, Wabasso, MN  
Nursing  
Summa Cum Laude

Whitney Collette Fryer, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing (Accelerated)  
In Absentia

Samantha Yvette Galvan, Fairfield Township, OH  
Nursing (Accelerated)  
In Absentia

Destyni Marie Riewe Geisthardt, Mapleton, MN  
Nursing

Katlin Rochelle Gile, Marshall, MN  
Nursing

Elizabeth Marian Graff, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing  
In Absentia

Kaitlin K. Gross, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing  
Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Jarret Robert Haglund, Zumbro Falls, MN  
Nursing

Jordan Ray Kealoha Hassing, Jackson, MN  
Nursing

Hannah Korin Hatch, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing

Atianna Inez Hernke, Hopkins, MN  
Nursing

Madison Joye Hop, Rapid City, SD  
Nursing  
Cum Laude

Laurel Shea Hutchinson, Maple Grove, MN  
Nursing

Benjamin Carl Ihrke, Chatfield, MN  
Nursing

Darien Elizabeth Jacobson, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing (Accelerated)  
In Absentia

Grace Mae Kelly, Andover, MN  
Nursing  
Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Addyson Grace Kimball, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing

Rachel Marie Kimsal, Chanhassen, MN  
Nursing  
Summa Cum Laude

Taylor Kotschegarow, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing

Jessica A. Kratz, Sioux City, IA  
Nursing  
Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Emma Jane Lamoreux, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing  
Summa Cum Laude

Abigail Jean Lannen, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing

Alyssa Jo Longley, Bloomington, MN  
Nursing

Emma Marie Lounsbery, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing

Grady Ethan Maaland, Clear Lake, SD  
Nursing  
Summa Cum Laude, Civitas Honors

Michelle Shin Martinson, Maplewood, MN  
Nursing

Kaylin Jana McRae, Parker, CO  
Nursing  
Magna Cum Laude

Megan Renaye Means, Norfolk, NE  
Nursing

Kelsey Caroline Meyer, Council Bluffs, IA  
Nursing

Erica Lee Mitzel, Aberdeen, SD  
Nursing

Hannah D. Morgan, Mitchell, SD  
Nursing

Hannah Rae Munce, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing (Accelerated)  
In Absentia

Heidi Anne Nelson, Billings, MT  
Nursing

Madison Paige Niemeyer, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing

Bailey Marie O'Hara, Montrose, SD  
Nursing  
Cum Laude

Morgan Brooke O'Neal, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing  
Magna Cum Laude

Mallory Jean Olson, Ham Lake, MN  
Nursing

Katherine Grace Pelton, Papillion, NE  
Nursing

Heidi Rose Petersen, De Smet, SD  
Nursing

Maya Peterson, Galt, CA  
Nursing (Accelerated)  
In Absentia

Dylan Rasmussen, Mankato, MN  
Nursing (Accelerated)  
In Absentia

Kathryn Mabel Reimann, Cottage Grove, MN  
Nursing

Madison Nicole Rief, Brookings, SD  
Nursing (Accelerated)  
In Absentia

Brianna Marie Rysavy, Brandon, SD  
Nursing

Kiley Samantha Sergeant, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing  
Cum Laude

Riley Sue Severtson, Luverne, MN  
Nursing

Ashley Ann Sovell, Ivanhoe, MN  
Nursing  
Cum Laude

Lukas Jordan Spencer, Colorado Springs, CO  
Nursing

Madeline Luella Stallings, Murdock, MN  
Nursing  
Magna Cum Laude

Yue Suo, Suzhou, China  
Nursing (Accelerated)  
In Absentia

Kalie Lynne Toben, Smithland, IA  
Nursing (Accelerated)  
Tara Nicole Tuin, Fulda, MN  
Nursing

Logan Dale Uttecht, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing, Business Administration  
Magna Cum Laude

Tanner William Waddell, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing (Accelerated)  
In Absentia

Cody Jeffrey Zimmer, Granite Falls, MN  
Nursing

Hanna Elizabeth Zwach, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing  
Magna Cum Laude

## PROGRAM COMPLETION

### AUGIE ACCESS CERTIFICATE

Jayden Cole Johnson, Fairmont, MN  
Augie Access

Justin N. Rokusek, Sioux Falls, SD  
Augie Access

Samuel F. Wessels, Rock Rapids, IA  
Augie Access

Leah Olson, Sherman, SD  
Augie Access

Landon Wagner, Lennox, SD  
Augie Access

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## AUGUSTANA ALMA MATER

Composed by Richard Svanoe '38, arr. James R. Johnson

Augustana, we sing out thy praises,  
Our hearts overflowing with love.  
As thy banners we bear,  
We willingly share  
The gift that was given from above.

We cherish thy aims and traditions.  
To thee we will ever be true.  
As we march on through life,  
We'll let love o'ercome strife,  
Thanking God, Augustana, for you.

## AUGIE ACCESS PROGRAM

Augie Access is an innovative comprehensive post-secondary transition program for students with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. The program provides students with person-centered planning, specific training in transition skills, and social and academic supports that occur within the college experience to provide positive outcomes in terms of successful employment and independent living.

## CIVITAS HONORS PROGRAM

The goal of the Augustana Civitas Honors program is to enroll academically gifted, creative and intellectually curious scholars who wish to fully explore a liberal arts education and the responsibilities of citizenship in local and global communities. Civitas students complete distinct and interdisciplinary courses based on themes of deputyship, pertinence, justice, freedom and vocation derived from Dietrich Bonhoeffer's essay "The Structure of Responsible Life." Students graduating from the Civitas Honors program wear a gold stole around their neck.

## GRADUATION HONORS

Special honors are awarded at the time of graduation in recognition of superior scholarship. In order to be eligible for graduation honors, the student must have taken a minimum of 65 credit hours at Augustana with a minimum of 51 credit hours having been graded A-F. Students graduating with honors are conferred degrees as follows:

<i>Cum Laude</i>	3.50-3.69
<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	3.70-3.89
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	3.90-4.00

A gold cord is worn by the students who are graduating summa cum laude.

## COVENANT AWARD

The Covenant Award acknowledges students who exemplify the ideals put forth in Augustana University's five shared core values: Christian, Liberal Arts, Community, Excellence and Service. Five Covenant Awards are presented every academic year — one award for each of our core values. The bronze medallion worn over their robes identifies graduates who have been recipients of a Covenant Award. These medallions are symbolic of the values that identify and guide the university.

## STUDENT SPEAKER

### Courtney Chrystal '23

A government & international affairs major (with distinction) from Dakota Dunes, South Dakota, Chrystal is graduating *summa cum laude* with Civitas Honors. During her time at Augustana, she provided leadership on Viking Flex and Viking Days Committees, the Union Board of Governors (UBG), HAPPY, and Augustana Student Association (ASA) — both as a senator and president. Chrystal has written stories for *The Augustana Mirror* and was also a member of the Augustana Spirit Squad. Chrystal has accepted a position in Washington, D.C., at EMILYs List, and will be applying to law school in the fall.

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## HONOR SOCIETIES

**Alpha Kappa Delta** (AKD) is the international sociology honor society founded in 1920 with the purpose of promoting human welfare through the development of scientific knowledge to address social problems. Delta of South Dakota is the AKD chapter established at Augustana in 2012. Teal honor cords depict membership in Alpha Kappa Delta.

**Alpha Psi Omega** was organized as a theatre honor society for the purpose of providing acknowledgment to those demonstrating a high standard of accomplishment in theatre and a wider fellowship for those interested in theatre. Colleges and universities of recognized standing, having an established theatre program or theatre club for the purpose of producing plays, are eligible for membership. Qualifications for election to membership in this society are active participation in theatre productions and a minimum GPA of 3.0. Honor cord colors are amber and blue.

**American Sign Language Honor Society** recognizes students who have completed at least three years of American Sign Language (ASL) study. They must possess a 3.7 GPA and complete a minimum of 10 hours of community service per year that benefits the Deaf community. The Laurent Clerc Medal is the highest honor in ASL studies, and our graduates have earned this distinction.

**Beta Beta Beta** is the national biological honor society. Regular members are undergraduate majors in biological science who have completed a rigorous course of study within the biological sciences disciplines. Beta Beta Beta members who maintain a 3.0 GPA in the biological sciences and complete required service to the Gamma Zeta Chapter wear a green and red cord.

**Delta Phi Alpha**, the national German honor society, was established in 1927 and recognizes excellence in the study of German. Membership requires a minimum of two years of college German or their equivalent, sophomore standing, completion of an upper-division course in German, minimum averages of B+ in German and B- overall, and indication of continued interest in the study of German language and literature. Students in Augustana's Eta Delta chapter wear black, red and gold cords.

**Eta Sigma Phi** is the national classics honor society. Its purpose is to promote interest in the study of classics, including the history, art and literature of ancient Greece and Rome. Requirements include completing at least one semester of Greek or Latin and earning at least a B. Members of Eta Sigma Phi wear purple and gold cords.

**Lambda Alpha** was established in 1968. The purpose of the national anthropology honor society is to both acknowledge and reward academic excellence. The name Lambda Alpha is composed of the initial letters of the Greek words, Logos Anthropos (Λογος Ανθρωπος), meaning the study of humankind. Recipients must earn a 3.0 GPA in anthropology courses. Members wear a white stole.

**Lambda Pi Eta** is the national communication honor society. Students wear a red and white cord. To qualify, members must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0, with a 3.25 in their communication studies major.

**Omicron Delta Epsilon**, the international honor society in economics, was founded in 1963 and is one of the world's largest academic honor societies. Membership requires a 3.3 GPA in the economics major and an overall GPA of 3.5. The honor cords are blue and gold.

**Phi Alpha Theta** is a professional society whose mission is to promote the study of history through the encouragement of research, good teaching, publication and the exchange of learning and ideas among historians. It brings students, teachers and writers of history together for intellectual and social exchanges, which promote and assist historical research and publication. The Augustana chapter is called Zeta Chi. Students wear a red and blue cord.

**Phi Sigma Tau** is the international philosophy honor society. Blue and white cords are worn. To qualify, students must have completed three semesters of college and two philosophy courses, maintain a GPA of 3.0 or better in philosophy and rank in the top 35% of their class.

**Pi Delta Phi**, the national French honor society, was established in 1906 and recognizes outstanding achievement in the study of the French language and in the literatures and cultures of the French-speaking world. Membership requires sophomore standing, completion of at least one upper-division French course, GPAs of 3.0 overall and 3.2 in French and ranking in the top 35% of a candidate's class. Students in Augustana's Mu Alpha chapter wear blue, white and red cords.

**Pi Mu Epsilon** is the national mathematics honor society. The society is dedicated to the promotion of mathematics and recognition of students who successfully pursue mathematical understanding. To qualify for membership, students must complete at least two semesters of calculus and two additional courses in mathematics, at or above the calculus level, while maintaining a GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4-point scale, both for all courses in the major, and for all courses that lead to fulfillment of requirements for an undergraduate degree. Students wear a purple, gold and lavender honor cord.

**Pi Sigma Alpha**, the national political science honor society, is the only honor society for college students of political science and government in the United States. Members have completed at least 10 semester credits of work in political science, including at least one upper-division course, with an average grade of B or higher in those courses. They have also achieved an overall GPA that places them in the top one-third of their class. Students wear a red, white and black cord.

**Psi Chi**, the international honor society in psychology, was founded in 1929 to recognize student excellence, reflected in scholarly and professional growth within psychology, and ability to impact society positively. Members have completed at least nine semester credits in psychology with a GPA of 3.0. They have also achieved an overall GPA that places them in the top 35% of their class. Psi Chi members wear a platinum and dark blue cord.

**Sigma Alpha Eta** is the national honor society which recognizes excellence and professionalism in speech-language pathology and audiology. Members are undergraduate students who have a cumulative GPA of 3.5, with a 3.7 in their communication disorders major. Members must maintain good standing in Augustana's National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA) chapter. Honor cords are orange and white.

**Sigma Delta Pi**, the national collegiate Hispanic honor society, was established in 1919 and recognizes superior achievement in the study of the Spanish language and literatures and cultures of Spanish-speaking people. Membership requires completion of at least three years of college Spanish, including one upper-division course in Hispanic literature or civilization, a minimum GPA of 3.0 in Spanish and ranking in the top 35% of a candidate's class. Students in Augustana's Upsilon Omicron chapter wear red and gold cords.

**Sigma Pi Sigma** is the national honor society of physics. Members must be in the upper one-third of their graduating class in general scholarship, have a 3.0 physics GPA and have completed at least three courses in physics that can be credited toward a physics major. The cords are green and ivory.

**Sigma Tau Delta** is an international English honor society. Graduates who are members of this society wear a red and black cord. To qualify for Sigma Tau Delta, members must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0, with a 3.5 in their English major.

**Sigma Theta Tau** is an international honor society of nursing. The mission of Sigma Theta Tau International is to support the creation of a global community of nurses who lead in using knowledge, scholarship, service and learning to improve the health of the world's people. To qualify for membership, students must have a 3.0 GPA, rank in the top 35% of their nursing class and meet the expectation of academic integrity. The cords are orchid and white.

**Theta Alpha Kappa** was established for the purpose of recognizing the academic achievements of religion and theology students. Induction requires nomination by a local chapter and, to be eligible, students must have a 3.5 GPA in religious studies and/or theology and a 3.0 overall. Residency, class ranking and unit requirements must also be met. Students wear a red cord.

## DEPARTMENTAL DISTINCTION

### THE HARROLD SPITZNAGEL MEDAL FOR ACHIEVEMENT IN ART

Internationally recognized architect Harrold Spitznagel worked closely with the founders of the Augustana Department of Art from 1931 to the time of his death in 1976. Spitznagel and Palmer Eide and Ogden Dalrymple, Augustana professors emeriti of art, became very close friends and, in the mid-1950s, conceived of an award for Augustana art students who achieved an uncommon kind of excellence during their time at Augustana. The design of the medal came from Dalrymple who was invited to show the work in New York City (1959), Paris (1968) and Florence (1976). The design was finally struck in bronze in the late '70s and is awarded on occasion to exceptional high-achieving students during their Senior Show.

### AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY DISTINCTION IN CHEMISTRY/BIOCHEMISTRY

An American Chemical Society (ACS) distinction requires an increased number of classes in mathematics, physics and advanced core classes in chemistry and/or biochemistry than a traditional major. Each student is nominated by their department and then evaluated by the National Committee on Professional Training of the ACS in order to receive the ACS approval. ACS graduates wear gold and navy cords.

### DEPARTMENTAL DISTINCTION IN COMMUNICATION STUDIES

The honors program in communication is designed for students who want to engage academic challenges beyond those required for their major. In addition to completing the major, communication honors students are required to complete an independent research project and successfully write, defend and publicly present a research thesis of publishable length and quality.

### DEPARTMENTAL DISTINCTION IN ENGLISH

To receive honors in English, a student must complete 39 credit hours in the major, have a 3.0 GPA overall and a 3.5 GPA in the major, and successfully write and defend a research thesis that is of publishable length and quality.

### DEPARTMENTAL DISTINCTION IN EXERCISE & SPORT SCIENCE

Departmental honors are awarded to outstanding students in exercise & sport sciences (ESS) who have gone above and beyond the academic challenges required for the major. Students who earn this distinction have maintained a GPA of 3.5 in the major. In addition, the student must design and conduct an independent research project, presenting their findings at a local or regional conference. Honors students in ESS wear blue and green cords.

### DEPARTMENTAL DISTINCTION IN GOVERNMENT

To receive government honors, students must complete 39 credit hours in the major, have a 3.5 GPA overall and in the major, receive a B or better in a 300-level course in each of the five areas of the discipline (American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, Political Theory, Law) and successfully write and publically defend a 45-60 page research thesis.

### DEPARTMENTAL DISTINCTION IN HISTORY

The honors program in history is designed for students who want to engage academic challenges beyond those required for the major. In addition to completing the major, history honors students are required to complete an independent research project and successfully write and defend a research thesis of publishable length and quality.

### DEPARTMENTAL DISTINCTION IN MATHEMATICS

Mathematics majors earn departmental honors by maintaining a minimum GPA of 3.25 in the major, completing a research project and either completing two 300-level elective courses beyond the major requirements or preparing for and taking a competitive examination, such as the Putnam.

### DEPARTMENTAL DISTINCTION IN LANGUAGES, LITERATURES & CULTURES

The honors program in Languages, Literatures & Cultures (LALC) recognizes superior student achievement in foreign languages and literatures. Candidates must be pursuing a major in French, German, Spanish or Languages, Literatures & Cultures, have achieved minimum GPAs of 3.4 overall and 3.7 in their LALC major and have completed a senior thesis in the target language with a grade of A- or better.

### DEPARTMENTAL DISTINCTION IN MUSIC

This program is designed for students who wish to accept academic and performance challenges that go beyond those required for graduation. It is an opportunity for students to hone their musical academic and performance abilities. Since the challenges are significant, it is appropriate for those who undertake them to be honored. Honors students are recognized by the wearing of pink honor cords around their neck.

### DEPARTMENTAL DISTINCTION IN PHYSICS

A student may graduate with distinction in physics by completing 24 credit hours in physics above the 300-level, maintaining a department GPA of 3.0, completing the graduate record exam in the subject area and producing a senior thesis that forms all or part of a peer-reviewed publication.

### DEPARTMENTAL DISTINCTION IN PSYCHOLOGY

To receive honors in psychology, a student must have a 3.0 GPA overall and a 3.5 GPA in the major, and successfully design and conduct an independent senior research study, presenting their findings in a conference talk and/or as a full APA-style report.

### DEPARTMENTAL DISTINCTION IN SOCIOLOGY

The honors program in sociology is designed for students who want to engage in academic challenges beyond those required for their major. In addition to completing the major, sociology honors students are required to complete an independent research project and successfully write, defend and publicly present a research thesis of publishable length and quality.



## FACULTY AWARDS

### ASA FACULTY RECOGNITION AWARD

*Awarded to Dr. Beth Boyens, Assistant Professor, English;  
Dr. Sally Mallowa, Assistant Professor, Biology;  
Tanya Miller, Assistant Professor, Sign Language Interpreting (2023)*

Selected by the Augustana Student Association (ASA), the annual ASA Faculty Recognition Award recognizes outstanding teaching and contributions to the Augustana community by a faculty member. Students nominate professors they feel display one or more of the five core values of the university (Christian, Liberal Arts, Excellence, Community, Service) as well as how those faculty members have positively impacted students' experiences at Augustana. In 2023, ASA recognized three faculty members.

### CAROLE BLAND

#### CULTIVATING FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD

*Awarded to Dr. Sherry Barkley, Professor, and Dr. Shane Scholten,  
Associate Professor, Exercise & Sport Sciences (2022-23)*

Named to honor the life and work of Dr. Carole Bland '68, longtime member of the Board of Trustees, and assistant dean for faculty development at the University of Minnesota Medical School, the award provides funding for research to help create and sustain a culture of inquiry about teaching and learning at Augustana. The award focuses on an aspect of cultivating excellence in teaching, and the intersection between research or creative work and classroom teaching; and faculty mentoring at Augustana, with outstanding new and mid-career faculty being paired with senior faculty members.

### GRANSKOU AWARD

#### FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

*Awarded to Kevin Klawonn, Deputy IT Director,  
Informational Technology (2022-23)*

Augustana alumni from the era of President Clemens Granskou (1932-43) established an endowed fund to support the annual Granskou Award for professional development. This award alternates annually between members of the full-time faculty and full-time administrators of the university. The type of project is limited only by interest and imagination.

### FREDERICK C. KOHLMAYER

#### DISTINGUISHED TEACHING PROFESSORSHIP

*Awarded at Commencement*

Dr. Frederick C. Kohlmeyer, through a gift to Augustana upon his death in 1990, established this distinguished professorship to recognize and reward outstanding teaching. The recipient receives a summer stipend for each of the two years of the award. All full-time faculty of Augustana University who are tenured and have served the university for a minimum of eight years are eligible for this award.

### ORIN M. LOFTHUS DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORSHIP

*Awarded to Dr. Kristen Carlson, Associate Professor,  
Art and Anthropology (2021-24)*

The Orin M. Lofthus Distinguished Professorship is a 3-year appointment with a stipend to support summer scholarly activities. Recipients of this award are faculty who are regarded as outstanding teachers, people who have made important contributions to the campus and who have demonstrated the capacity to use this award to further their scholarly activities. Lofthus, a biology professor, served Augustana from 1935-45.

### NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES CHAIR OF REGIONAL HERITAGE

*Awarded to Dr. Michael Mullin, Professor, History (2021-24)*

This endowment was established as a result of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and matching money raised by Augustana to support scholarly work related to the life, culture, history, environment and study of the development of the Northern Great

Plains. This faculty member must be an excellent teacher and scholar who has a personal and scholarly interest in questions surrounding the prairie west.

### VERNON AND MILDRED NIEBUHR

#### FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD

*Awarded at Commencement*

The Vernon and Mildred Niebuhr Faculty Excellence Award was established to provide an annual award to recognize excellence in teaching. The selection process is based on votes from alumni celebrating their fifth anniversary and full-time faculty. The winner is chosen for brilliance in classroom teaching. The award, provided by an endowment created by Dick Niebuhr '66, is named in honor of his parents, Vernon and Mildred Niebuhr, "...because they loved Augustana dearly and because they were my first and best teachers."

### THE STANLEY L. OLSEN CHAIR OF MORAL VALUES

*Awarded to Dr. Margaret Preston, Professor, History (2020-23)*

Augustana established The Stanley L. Olsen Chair of Moral Values as a result of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and matching money raised by the university. The Chair of Moral Values was named in memory of Stanley L. Olsen, longtime professor of philosophy at Augustana from 1937-79. The chair is to provide leadership to the campus in the areas of ethics and moral values by challenging faculty and students alike to confront value questions in our society, in our campus community and in our individual private lives. This may be done through all appropriate means both inside and outside of the curriculum. This 3-year appointment goes to a tenured associate or full professor who enjoys a reputation of being an excellent teacher and scholar and who has a personal and scholarly interest in questions of meaning and value.

### THE CLARA LEA OLSON ENDOWED CHAIR IN CHRISTIAN VALUES

*Awarded to Dr. Karla Abbott, Associate Professor, Nursing (2020-23)*

This professorship was established by Clara Lea Olson in recognition of her long-term support of Augustana and her concern for the spiritual well-being of the students at the university. She also wanted to acknowledge the value of the educational opportunities presented in the Christian environment at Augustana. The recipient must show a concern for spiritual well-being and exemplify Christian values in their conduct, teaching and research.

### THE RUDY AND MARILYN NEF FAMILY CHAIR OF POLITICAL ECONOMY

*Awarded to Dr. Emily Wanless, Associate Professor, Government &  
International Affairs (2021-24)*

This appointment will advance the study of market economies and representative democracies, both within the campus community and region. The NEF family chair will draw breadth of research and extensive teaching experience to contribute recognized scholarship and enthusiastic, effective instruction to the university's offerings in economics, political science, public policy and business.

### THE SANFORD PETER SCHOTTEN ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP

*Awarded to Dr. Joel Johnson, Professor, Government & International  
Affairs (2018-28)*

This 10-year appointment supports the creation of new opportunities for future leaders entering the field of government and international affairs.

## OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH CHAIR IN RELIGION

*Awarded to Dr. Rocki Wentzel, Associate Professor, Religion/Philosophy/Classics (2021-24)*

This 3-year chair appointment is made by the president and dean of the university based upon the recommendations of the chairs of the Humanities Division and Department of Religion, Philosophy & Classics. The individual to be chosen must be a member of the religion, philosophy & classics department holding the rank of at least associate professor. An annual stipend is also awarded.

## RALPH AND SUSIE WAGONER STUDENT FACULTY RESEARCH AWARD

*Awarded to Laura Arce Vieyra, Student, and Dr. Raymond Leach, Assistant Professor, Business Administration (2022-23)*

This endowment was created to foster and underwrite a cooperative student-faculty research project that is fruitful, creative and academic. Students apply for funding for projects that may include primary research, artistic exploration, travel, summer work stipend or

publication. After the project is completed, the recipients present their findings to the Augustana campus through a presentation, publication or performance. It was created by Augustana's 21st president, Dr. Ralph Wagoner, and his wife, Susie.

## THE JANE AND CHARLES ZALOUEDEK FACULTY RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

*Awarded at Commencement*

The Zaloudek Faculty Research Fellowship was established by Jane (Hemmel) Zaloudek '72 and Dr. Charles Zaloudek to provide an annual fellowship to support research by a member of the Augustana faculty. The purpose of the fellowship is to support with a stipend, faculty scholarship that extends the scope of research beyond the normal confines of the classroom. The driving principle behind the development of the fellowship was the belief that, "faculty research, particularly when combined with undergraduate student research, expands thinking, emboldens the spirit of inquiry and has the potential to significantly improve the human condition."

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## THE AUGUSTANA SEAL

The Augustana seal was designed ca. 1950 by Ogden Dalrymple, professor emeritus of art from 1946-91. It is composed of a circle representing eternity, a triangle representing the Trinity and a book which is the Bible. The "cross" running through the book is the Chi Rho (the monogram and symbol formed from the first two letters "X" and "P" of the Greek word for Christ). The letters "VDMA" are symbolic of the college motto, "Verbum Dei Manet In Aeternum" or "The word of God endures forever." The letters on either side of the Bible are the Alpha and Omega of the Greek alphabet symbolizing the beginning and the end. The lamp is the Lamp of Knowledge. The three dates represent the founding dates of Augustana: 1860, in Chicago, Illinois; 1889, the founding of the Lutheran Normal School in Sioux Falls; 1918, the merger of the two schools to become Augustana College.

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## THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

The use of gowns, hoods and caps in academic dress goes back to medieval times, to the early history of the oldest universities in Europe. "Learned clerks" robed themselves in gowns, caps and hoods, thus marking the difference from the "town people and those who wore the gown." Its roots in design are found in both civilian and religious garb, often stemming from practical considerations of the day, such as the need for warmth in the unheated buildings of that time.

The hood, a triangular fold of cloth worn over the back of the gown, is faced with colors which denote the field of study represented by the wearer's degree; the colors of the lining are those of the college or university from which the degree was granted. The length of the hood is correspondingly longer with each degree earned.

The wide velvet borders extending down the front of the doctoral gown, velvet bar on the sleeves and borders of most hoods are colored according to the academic discipline of the wearer. The most usual of these are:

Drab — Accounting & Business	Pink — Music
White — Arts & Letters	Apricot — Nursing
Copper — Economics	Blue — Philosophy
Light Blue — Education	Sage Green — Physical Education
Orange — Engineering	Gold — Science
Brown — Fine Arts	Scarlet — Theology
Purple — Law	
Lemon — Library Science	

For centuries, the **mace** has been carried by the head of ceremonial processions as the symbol of order and authority. Augustana's mace, carried by the university marshal, was designed by Ogden Dalrymple and executed by Al Halverson from seasoned cherry wood. It supports a gold orb and cross, symbolic of the triumph of Christ over the world. It carries the seal of Augustana in sterling silver.

Heads of state, members of the nobility, civil leaders and heads of educational institutions have, since medieval times, worn chain collars or necklaces as a distinctive mark of honor or authority. Augustana's chain collar, created for use by the president, is composed of a heavy sterling chain, with a sterling pendant seal of the university. Each one of the links contains the name of each of Augustana's 23 preceding presidents.

The trustees comprise a board of 26 members, elected by the Augustana College Association, the corporation that owns and operates the university.

A tradition at Augustana's commencement recessional has the faculty forming two lines down the center aisle to permit the faculty and graduates to bid farewell to each other.



# THE HISTORY OF AUGUSTANA

Long before “the green” was green, ahead of “the quad’s” signature north-campus crisscross and decades before Ole, Viking Days, Viking Varieties, Vespers and even the Huddle’s early-morning coffee, Augustana University got its start in Hillsboro, Illinois — 650 miles east of Sioux Falls — as a place called Hillsboro Academy in 1835.

At the urging of Lutheran Scandinavian leaders, Hillsboro Academy was renamed The Literary and Theological Institute of The Lutheran Church of the Far West in 1846. A short time later, the school moved north to Springfield, Illinois, where it was renamed again — this time to Illinois State University (ISU). According to school records, a number of the nation’s early influencers attended ISU, including former Secretary of State John Hay and Robert Todd Lincoln, the son of Abraham Lincoln.

## THE AUGUSTANA SEMINARY

On June 5, 1860, Norwegian and Swedish church leaders met in Jefferson Prairie, Illinois, to form the Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod. The controversial move paved the way for Professor Lars Paul Esbjorn and a group of followers to establish a completely new institution — the Augustana Seminary. Christened in the basement of the Norwegian Lutheran Church on Franklin Street in Chicago, Illinois, the seminary’s name was drawn from the Augsburg Confession in 1530, during the time of the Reformation. The document’s Latin designation was the “Confessio Augustana.”

Augustana Seminary held its first class on Sept. 1, 1860 — a founding date shared with Augustana’s sister college, Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. Today, the two schools are among the oldest of the 40 colleges and universities affiliated with the Lutheran Church.

## THE DIVISION

By 1863, Rev. Tuve Hasslequist, president of the Augustana Synod, was lobbying for another move. Hasslequist believed that moving the seminary to a rural area populated primarily by Scandinavians would be in the best interest of the growing school. Plus, the Illinois Central Railroad promised land if the school relocated. After a vote, the seminary moved from Chicago, Illinois, 100 miles southwest to Paxton, Illinois, and Hasselquist became the school’s second president.

Craving their own identity, the seminary’s Norwegian leaders made the decision to separate from the Swedes. They purchased a building in Marshall, Wisconsin, and in 1869, they formed the Augsburg Seminary and Marshall Academy. Wisconsin farmer and Norwegian immigrant, Endre Endresen Eidsvaag, gave a bell to the school — now known as the Eidsvaag Bell. A year later, in 1870, the Norwegian Augustana Synod was founded. In 1875, Augustana Seminary moved from Paxton to Rock Island, Illinois, where it has remained since.

## MOVING WEST

By the late 1870s, the nation’s western frontier was bulging. In 1881, leaders of the Norwegian Augustana Synod made the decision to “follow the people” and settled in Beloit, Iowa. While in Beloit, the school reclaimed the name, Augustana Seminary and Academy. In 1884, with the institution needing more room, a group of Canton, Dakota Territory, citizens across the Big Sioux River pooled their money and bought the Naylor Hotel and offered the building to the Augustana Synod with the condition that the school move from Beloit to Canton and change its name to Augustana College. The academy remained in Beloit. By 1903, the college moved into a permanent home — its first in 43 years — on the east side of Canton along with the Eidsvaag Bell.

## HOME: SUMMIT AVENUE

Twenty-five miles to the north, in Sioux Falls, the Lutheran Normal School opened its doors in 1889 — the same year South Dakota was granted statehood. Housed in what is now known as Old Main, the Lutheran Normal School’s mission was to prepare teachers.

By 1918, city and business leaders were lobbying hard for Augustana to relocate to Sioux Falls. Church leaders made the decision to merge Augustana College in Canton with the Lutheran Normal School in Sioux Falls under the name Augustana College and Normal School (ACNS). The Eidsvaag Bell was installed in the school’s bell tower. In 1926, “and Normal School” was dropped from the name.

In the summer of 2010, the Eidsvaag Bell was removed from Old Main and central to the celebration of the Sesquicentennial during the 2010-11 academic year. On Sept. 1, 2015, 155 years to the date of the institution’s founding, the name was changed to Augustana University to reflect the broadening of Augustana’s academic mission.

# ABOUT AUGUSTANA

## PURPOSE

Augustana is a selective, residential university affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Its students enjoy a collegiate experience that combines a broad foundation in the liberal arts with preparation for professional careers and advanced study. Augustana’s mission is to provide an education of enduring worth that challenges the intellect, fosters integrity and integrates faith with learning and service in a diverse world. Central to its mission are five core values: Christian, Liberal Arts, Excellence, Community and Service.

## THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The heart of the Augustana experience is a rigorous academic program taught by a remarkable collection of professors. All are passionate about their disciplines and teaching. Publishing, conducting research and attaining national prominence have helped to create the rich liberal arts environment that exists on campus today. The university offers more than 100 majors, minors and pre-professional specializations within a 4-1-4 academic calendar, as well as a growing number of graduate degree programs. Extensive internship, study-abroad and undergraduate research programs supplement the curriculum.

The students whose names appear on this commencement program either have completed their degree requirements, or have indicated their intent to complete all degree requirements by the end of the 2024 January Interim.

**Flowers** are available for purchase in the concourse. Prices and arrangements vary. Flowers for sale and the stage decorations are provided by **The Flower Mill**, flower-mill.com, 866.723.9292.

**Ceremony Photos** is pleased to provide complimentary photography service to each graduate who crosses the stage during the commencement ceremony.

Please visit [ceremonyphotos.com/events-proofs](https://ceremonyphotos.com/events-proofs) to view the commencement photographs. All ceremony participants will receive an email and link to view their proofs taken during the commencement ceremony and events. There is no obligation to purchase. Any questions about commencement photography can be addressed to [service@ceremonyphotos.com](mailto:service@ceremonyphotos.com).



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