
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

CONVO 

MAY
17

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

CATION 2026

ACTIVITIES & RECREATION CENTER

201 E. PEABODY DR, CHAMPAIGN IL

TO OUR GRADUATES

Today you are graduates of the University of Illinois

This is a remarkable achievement, and we hope that you celebrate the occasion with loved ones. Commencement is a joyous and deeply symbolic event for all, including the faculty members, staff, family, friends, and others who have supported you on your journey. As a member of the Class of 2026, you have overcome many challenges to earn your degree.

Congratulations, and we look forward to learning of your future success.

ORDER OF EXERCISE

May 17, 2026

PROCESSIONAL OF FACULTY AND STUDENTS

*Pomp & Circumstance March No. 1, Op. 39 by
Edward Elgar*

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND INTRODUCTION OF THE FACULTY

*Yuguo Chen, Professor and Chair, Department
of Statistics*

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES COMMENDATION OF GRADUATES

*Robert Morrissey, Associate Dean for
Technology & Online Learning in the College of
Liberal Arts and Sciences and Professor of
History*

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

*Georgios Fellouris, Associate Professor and
Associate Chair, Department of Statistics*

CONVOCAION ADDRESS

*David Madigan, Professor, Northeastern
University Khoury College of Computer
Sciences*

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN STATISTICS

*Ruoqing Zhu, Associate Professor and Director
of Doctoral Program*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN STATISTICS

*Darren Glosemeyer, Instructor and Director of
Master of Science Programs*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN STATISTICS

Kit Clement, Teaching Assistant Professor

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN STATISTICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Karle Flanagan, Teaching Associate Professor

CLOSING REMARKS

*Yuguo Chen Professor and Chair, Department
of Statistics*

CEREMONY MARSHALS

Jennifer Anderson-Bliss, Senior Academic Advisor
Alexandra Chronopoulou, Clinical Associate Professor, Academic Advisor
Sarah Kwilecki, Academic Advisor
Aaron Smith, Senior Academic Advisor

ATTENDING FACULTY

Lelys Bravo De Guenni, Clinical Associate Professor
Kelly Findley, Teaching Associate Professor
V.N. Vimal Rao, Teaching Assistant Professor
Douglas Simpson, Professor, Director of External and Corporate Relations

ACADEMIC DRESS

Academic dress, consisting of cap, gown, and hood, originated about the twelfth century and was worn primarily for warmth. Subsequently, the material of the gown and lining, and the shape of the hood, represented the economic and social, as well as academic status of the wearer.

In the United States, the great majority of the academic costumes now worn are in accordance with the general provisions of the Intercollegiate Code of 1895, which was revised in 1932 and again in 1960. Under this code, the bachelor's gown has pointed sleeves, the master's gown has oblong sleeves with an arc at the bottom, and the doctor's gown has bell-shaped sleeves. All gowns are black, although the adoption of colored gowns by individual institutions in the United States is becoming more prevalent.

The bachelor's and master's gowns are untrimmed. The doctor's gown is faced down the front with velvet and has three bars of velvet across the sleeves. The facing and bars may be black or may be the color of the subject to which the degree pertains. The bachelor's gown is worn closed; the master's and doctor's gowns may be worn open or closed. Women may wear white collars with the bachelor's gown when no hood is worn.

Hoods are also black. The bachelor's hood is 3 feet in length, the master's is 3 ½ feet, and the doctor's is 4 feet. Hoods are lined with the official color or colors of the college or university conferring the degree. At the University of Illinois, the lining is orange and blue. The colored velvet border of the hood, which is 2 inches, 3 inches, and 5 inches wide for the bachelor's, master's, and doctor's degree respectively, identifies the faculty or field of study to which the degree pertains.

The black mortarboard cap is standard in the United States. Usually, all tassels are black, but where the graduating seniors do not wear hoods, as at the University of Illinois, the color of the cap tassel indicates the department of study. At the University of Illinois, candidates for degrees wear tassels on the right front quadrant of their caps before degrees are conferred, and move them to the left front quadrant after degrees are conferred. Caps are considered a part of the costume and are customarily removed only during an invocation or benediction, and then by men only.

For all academic purposes, including trimmings of doctor's gowns, edging of hoods, tassels of caps, and linings of banners, there are different colors associated with the different disciplines. The color for Liberal Arts & Sciences is white.

Caps and gowns were worn for the first time at the University of Illinois Commencement ceremony of 1897. In the early 1900s the Commencement procession marched up Burrill Avenue to the old Armory. After diplomas were received, the procession marched back to the lawn south of Green Street. The seniors sang the State song and "Auld Lang Syne" before they said good-bye to each other and the campus.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

David Madigan is a professor at the Khoury College of Computer Sciences at Northeastern University and Special Advisor to the President. He served as Northeastern University's provost and senior vice president for academic affairs from 2020-2025, during which time he was the university's chief academic officer and led its 10 schools and colleges, research enterprises, and libraries. He also collaborated with the senior vice president for finance in order to set the university's budget and financial priorities.



A native of Ireland, Madigan received both his bachelor's degree in mathematical sciences and his PhD in statistics from Trinity College Dublin. In his career, he has written over 200 publications in areas such as Bayesian statistics, text mining, Monte Carlo methods, pharmacovigilance, and probabilistic graphical models. He has also advised 18 PhD students. In 2012, Madigan was elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; he has been a leading researcher in the fields of healthcare and Big Data. For three years, he was a member of the FDA's Drug Safety and Risk Management Advisory Committee.

Madigan came to Northeastern from Columbia University, where he oversaw five schools, 27 departments, and more than 50 research centers and institutes. He led initiatives to expand lifelong learning programs at the university and to make its faculty and study body more diverse. Notably, he launched a program to ensure that Columbia's first-generation students would have the support they needed to achieve success. Previously, he also held various leadership roles and positions at Rutgers University and the University of Washington. At the latter, he was a part of the world-renowned Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. Additionally, Madigan has served as vice president of data mining at Soliloquy, Inc., principal technical staff member at AT&T Labs-Research, information technology consultant at KPMG, technology manager at Peregrine Expert Systems Ltd., expert system consultant at SkillSoft, and actuarial associate at Hibernian Life Assurance, Ireland.

Madigan has led large-scale global collaborations involving researchers from academic institutions, pharmaceutical companies, and government regulators in the United States and Europe. He's currently one of the leaders of the Observational Health Data Sciences and Informatics program, which is composed of researchers around the world who harness the power of Big Data to study the safety and efficacy of healthcare practices. He has also previously served as editor-in-chief of *Statistical Science*, a review journal focused on contemporary statistical thought.

HONORS AND AWARDS

UNIVERSITY HONORS

BRONZE TABLET

Alexander Broihier
Tianshuo Chen
Xinyue Dai
Adrian Keyi Du
Calvin Theodore Franke
Yiming Gao
Yuan Gao
Jiangshan Gong
Wenbo Huang
Danfeng LI
Ting-Yu Lin
Tianyi Ma
Subbu Muthiah
Penghao Ouyang
Matthew Aidan Raitano
Yutao Rao
Nuoxing Shang
Xing Sun
Dylan P. Wu
Linda Yan
Mingde Yang
Letian Zhang
Mingxuan Zhao

COLLEGE HONORS

SENIOR JAMES SCHOLARS

Alexander Broihier
Sean Camp
Sydney Casey
Tianshuo Chen
Zihan Gu
Patrice Kao
Abhinav Mahesh
Subbu Muthiah
Aditya Ramesh
Aryan Sapre
Letian Zhang
Kevin Zhou

HONOR SOCIETY

PHI BETA KAPPA

Maanas Belambe
Juncheng He
Calvin Frank
Ayana Patidar
Matthew Raitano
Jiayi Song
Luke Thorell
Wang Yuran
Letian Zhang

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

Outstanding Student in the Statistics Major

Daksheshkaran Thinakaran

Outstanding Student in the Statistics & Computer Science Major

Ayana Patidar

Undergraduate Student Departmental Service Award

Charlotte Sampson

GRADUATE AWARD

Horace W. Norton Prize for Outstanding Thesis Research in Statistics

Yuan Bo

DEGREE INFORMATION

This program contains an unofficial list of candidates for graduation in May 2026 and a list of graduates who received degrees in August 2025 and December 2025. The list of May candidates is as accurate as possible; however, because of production deadlines, names of some degree recipients may not appear, while names of degree candidates who have not completed degree requirements may be included.

The University's official registry for conferral of degrees is the Office of the Registrar, 901 W. Illinois St., Urbana, IL 61801.

GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES

The following lists are organized by degree. Because of deadlines, lists may be incomplete.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Bo Yuan

Statistical and Computational Methods for Biological Data Analysis

Siddhanth Sabharwal

Multi-Location Networks and Ecosystem Detection: Methods and Applications

MASTERS OF STATISTICS

STATISTICS

Saniya Abushakimova

Nidhi Baheti

Yu Bao

Jyot Buch

Nathaniel Butler

Mitchell Caballero

Hanghe Cao

Eduardo Cardenas-Torres

Siwen Chen

Jiachen Cong

Irfan Demetoglu

Tymon Duchnicki

Yiru Fang

Shruti Umakant Gharate

Zibo Gong

Karina Grewal

Aster Guan

Weijia He

Tyler Hecht

Shiding Huang

Xiaoshan Huang

Jake Hunnius

Haotian Ju

Jaehyung Kim

Mehmet Korkmaz

Vallabh Kudva

Yi-Hsuan Kuo

Shuyang Lei

Yifan Li

Zirui Li

Zizhou Li

Steve Liang

Hao Liang

Xinyuan Liu

Jaideep Mahajan

Aysu Maharramli

Junan Mao

Mohini Nath

Ngoc Nguyen

Ziyue Pan

Viraj Udayraj Parmaj

Renee Petrucelli

Anshika Pradhan

Bhavana Sanghi

Zelei Shao

Ayush Sharma

Jingyao Shen

Samantha Shi-Jun

Tanmay Ameya Shikhare

Amitabh Swain

Aniket Ankush Tathe

Abhi Thanvi

Alarsh Tiwari

Kexin Wang

Qiyang Wang

Yanlin Wang

Bo-Yang Wang

Hubert T Witkos

Rong Xie

James Luo Xu

Kaihong Zhang

Wentao Zheng

Yanting Zhou

Jinhong Zhu

STATISTICS: ANALYTICS CONCENTRATION

Logan Maddox Blancett
Han Chen
Vladislav V Fedorov
Sai Surya Rishita Mylavarapu

Luke Nian Peng
Ha Hai Pham
Tianwen Qin
Aadya Ranjan

Kehuan Wang
Saurav Kumar Gupta

STATISTICS: APPLIED CONCENTRATION

Huiying Cai
Yan Yi Lance Du
Jianfeng Guo
Mingyue Huo
Trung Tran Quoc Le

Juan Ricardo Lopez
Ruchuan Ma
Tara Marie Prezioso
Xin Chen
Seungmi Kim

Gustavo Enrique Nino
Chaparro
Maria Janina Dela Cruz Sarol

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

STATISTICS

Aditya Agarwal
Faayez Akhtar
Joules Kelvin Apura
Rohan Arya
Allison Nadine Asbock
Kaitlin Maeve Baggot
Arpit Bansal
Beilin Bao
Sophia Beauban
Ansh Bera
Tanvika Boyineni
Anqiao Cai
Sean Michael Camp
Anika Canamedi
Weiyuan Cao
Sydney Reese Casey
Ahana Chakraborty
Pranavi Rao Challagonda

Junwei Chang
Divya Savithri Chappa
Tianshuo Chen
Tianze Chen
Yitian Chen
Dylan Reichiang Chhay
Allen Chiu
Yu Suk Chung
Claire Chung
Olivia Grace Colvig
Xinyue Dai
Shiyao Dai
Zhenmin Dai
Charles Day
Hersh Doshi
Austin Charles Douglas
Matthew R Drafz
Henri Louw Du Plessis

Samantha Lynn Duby
Yihe Fan
Kaile Fang
Zhuofan Feng
Calvin Theodore Franke
Krish Jay Gandhi
Sathvik Shanmukha Ganti
Yuan Gao
Zhangyuqiao Gao
Yiming Gao
Luisa Fernanda Garcia
Alexander James Gates
Robert Brian Gerloff
Samuel Edward Gerstein
Shakir Ghoghawala
Mingliang Gong
Sanjana Gongati
Shubh Goyal

Anoushka Grover
Tongtong Gu
Zihan Gu
Leslie Guachichullca
Zhiyuan Guan
Richard John Guhl
Haoyang Gui
Xiangchen Guo
Siddhant Shobhit Gupta
Reed Allen Haas
Gebran Martin Hammoud
Ellen Harris
Eric Hartman
Zichao He
Chelsea Jiesi He-Chen
Nicholas James Heiser
Christopher N Henk
Gavin Hewawasam
Tatsuya Higashiomori
Daniel Patrick Hogan
Bo Hu
Ruilin Hu
Yixiao Hu
Guanqiao Huang
Lucas Gray Hull
Madeline Yeaton Hunt
Chengyue Ji
Linhao Jiang
Yunjing Jiang
Beixuan Jin
Yunting Jing
Jian Jo
Elliot Raymond Johnson
Bhuvan Sudheer Kala
Patrice Janet Kao
Haley Anish Kharvari
Gayeon Kim
Ian Dae Kyung Kim
Dongha Kim
Madelyn Sumi Kim
Sangwon Kim
Kenshi King
Matthew Michael Klima

Eunsoo Kwon
Dev Langaliya
Tiffany P Le
Brian Junwoo Lee
Chaeyeon Lee
Michelle Lee
Xinyang Li
Bingqing Li
Danfeng Li
Haoyu Li
Jingnan Li
Molei Li
Yuxi Li
Zhongze Li
Zonghan Li
Zihao Lian
Irene Liang
Junhang Liang
Zhanqing Liang
Zhuoying Liang
Zhe Hong Lim
Hee Jae Lim
Yihan Lin
Ting-Yu Lin
Qiancheng Lin
Yael Lindenberg
Ruiqi Liu
Raelyn Liu
Jiayu Liu
Timothy Tianshu Long
Denys Lytviak
Han Lyu
Yike Ma
Fengdan Ma
Rauf Makharov
Yingxue Mao
Matthew David McDonald
Lorraine McNaughton
Jieyi Mei
Haoyu Meng
Xinyue Meng
Sarah Jessica Michalec
Maksim Mihajlovic

Zekun Mu
Erwen Mundo
Zohair Abdul Muqem
Daniel Nkongolo Mutombo
Samuel James Naatz
Rohan Sudeep Nadkarni
Kethan Deva Naidu
Wahid Nasir
Sophia Margarite Nietubicz
Yisen Niu
Lillian Yuping Novosel
Kensuke Maximilian Ogata
Jaehoon Oh
Alexander Grant Orsic
Arul Gandhi Palaniappan
Tanav Palisetti
Chi-An Pan
Qi Pang
Yoochan Park
Xingrui Pei
Tianyang Peng
Thomas Richard Perzentka
Jonathan Daniel Petro
Tristan Gabriel Price
Shuyu Qin
Yihao Qin
Serene Qiu
Matthew Aidan Raitano
Yutao Rao
Raj Ravi
Pratin Ravi
Shane Francis Riefke
Robert Graham Rohner
Noah William Rominger
Shreya Sud Sachdev
Divyam Vikash Saharia
Charlotte Anne Sampson
Maximilian Blaise Schuchart
Abhilash Selvam Babu
Nirvaan Rupak Sen
Isaac Lee Sentman
Seonghan Seo
Ayush Chakrakodi Shastri

Jinghe Shen
Zijian Shen
Henry Yin Shen
Rebecca Yan Shi
Yuwen Shi
Sarah Jacqueline Shoaff
Sean Thomas Slattery
Denver Kris Soekawan
Chae Yeon Song
Jiayi Song
Joshua Song
Adlai Ewing Stevenson
Yuze Sui
Kejun Sun
Qixian Sun
Xing Sun
Christian Emanuel Tate
Jinghe Teng
Daksheshkaran Thinakaran
Kaylin Ann Thomas
Minh-An Thomas
Luke Eriksson Thorell
Wyatt Reese Thurston
Aadit Tibrewala
Skylar Tinsley
Arseniy Titov

Leyna Tran
Kerr Tu
Tarun Velamoor
Jianing Wang
Honglin Wang
Jiajun Wang
Suixin Wang
Xingtai Wang
Yiqing Wang
Yuran Wang
Zheyu Wang
Michael Weintraub
Shiyu Weng
Ethan Witek
Nicholas Gerald Wooden
Xinwei Wu
Ting-Kan Wu
Changrong Wu
Jack Alan Wuthnow
Junhao Xiong
Yijun Xu
Duorui Xu
Jiayi Xu
Yiqian Xu
Litong Xue
Ke Yan

Mingde Yang
Molin Yang
Zidong Yang
Jinna Yoon
Brandon Yu
Tyler Yu
Weihao Yuan
Dennis Zakabluk
Maia Genevieve Zatarski
Jiacheng Zeng
Binchi Zhang
Getong Zhang
Rongsheng Zhang
Tianqi Zhang
Joshua Yucheng Zhang
Yuxuan Zhang
Zexin Zhang
Lifan Zhao
Mingxuan Zhao
Wenjing Zheng
Yixu Zheng
Qi Zhou
Yichen Zhou
Huazhang Zhou

STATISTICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Ruchir Adenwala
Rami Alkadri
Alyssa Rose Anastasi
Surya Teja Rikhita Baddula
Mridhan Balaji
Maanas Belambe
Arnav Amol Bhagwat
Ishaan Bhandari
Ria Bhargava
Jeremy Pryan Bizon
Alexander David Broihier
Yuncong Cao
Daniel Jay Carpenter
Pranjal Chaitanya

Ethan Yuting Chang
Dhruv Chaudhari
Ying Chen
Xiaoyang Chen
Dilan Naimesh Choksi
Shriya Dave
Yingcheng Deng
Aarul Dhawan
Nhi Uyen Dinh
Adrian Keyi Du
Rohan Gavankar
Srikar Poojithram Girijala
Jiangshan Gong
Dhanush Gurralla

Numair Hajyani
Mideum Han
Ananth Aravind Hariharan
Sahana Hariharan
Juncheng He
Sidharth Rao Hejamadi
Yuanyi Hou
Zhicheng Hu
Kexin Hu
Wenbo Huang
Sai Shreyas Isukapalli
Kshitij Jalan
Suraj Jayasimha
Senuvi Vidara Jayasinghe

Emil Joseph Jermann
Kavin Jindel
Warren Jodjana
Megan Kerni
Arnav Kethana
Hannah Kong
Sankalp Kumar
Byung Seok Lee
Shrikar Lekkala
Tony Yiheng Leng
Jianing Li
Karena Shinran Liang
Yan-chen Lin
Juntian Liu
Tailei Liu
Yutong Liu
Zhiyun Liu
Yanze Lu
Tianyi Ma
Anjali Reddy Maddulapalli
Abhinav Mahesh
Anvitha Manepalli
Manasi Nitin Mangalvedhe
Andrew Mao
Sofia Mark
Ayushi Luna Maskey
Anshi Mathur
Aashna Aniket Mauskar
David Mocianko

Subbu Muthiah
Ribhav Nagayach
Quang The Nguyen
Jiaqi Niu
Penghao Ouyang
Shrut Ravi Patel
Ayana Patidar
Tian Qiu
Anas I Qneibi
Zhican Quan
Aditya Ramesh
Aman Ravishankar
Oliver Rogalski
Shen Rong
Rishab Laxmidas Sakalkale
Aryan Neelkanth Sapre
Francis Louis Schmidt
Karan Prashant Shah
Matthew Gan Yang Shang
Nuoxing Shang
Areet Suhas Sheth
Lydia Ziyang Shin
Kinjal Singh
Mohit Singh
Utkarsh Singh
Adam Murtaza Sitabkhan
Sneha Sundar
Tarun Suresh
Jason Chun Sze

Jonathan Chen Tang
Ansh Tomar
Tyler Haozhe Too
Akshay Ravi Vellore
Vedant Vyas
Zicheng Wang
David Wang
Mingqian Wang
Yi Wang
Dili Wu
Dylan P Wu
Jeremy Wu
Orlando Xie
Yixuan Xie
Linda Yan
Zhijian Yang
Wanjing Yao
Jianqiu Ye
Hojoon Yoo
Brandon Yuan
John Christopher Zammit
Yunxi Zeng
Jiaxun Zhang
Jie Zhang
Letian Zhang
Zitao Zhang
Xinze Zheng
Baoyuan Zhou
Qianhua Zhou

Thank you to the families and friends who have supported our graduates throughout their studies. You are an integral part of our graduates' success, making this graduation day even more special.

A special thank you to Melissa Banks, Laura Hall, Fatouma Hewitt, Asraa Ibrahim, Ronnie Turner-Winston, and Kathy Webb for your support and efforts in your area of expertise, which has contributed to the success of our graduates.

Our gratitude extends to Jennifer Anderson-Bliss, Alexandra Chronopoulou, Sarah Kwilecki, Hyoeun Lee, Aaron Smith, and all our faculty, mentors, and additional support staff. Your guidance, encouragement, and belief in our graduates have guided their academic journey and lead them to this significant milestone.

Finally, thank you to Aaron Thompson for coordinating this ceremony.