

THE CLASS OF 2025

Samuel Davidson Chachkes ’25,<sup>5</sup>  
*Politics, Philosophy, and  
Economics, A.B.* <sup>^</sup>

Kenneth Daici ’25  
*Photojournalism, A.B.*

Cole Emerson Dorsey ’25  
*Philosophy, Politics, and  
Economics, A.B.* ‡

Jeremy J. Fleming ’25  
*Computational Neuroscience, Sc.B.* ‡

Jay R. Gopal ’25  
*Computational Neuroscience, Sc.B.* ‡

Akaela Michels-Gualtieri ’25,<sup>5</sup> (RUE)  
*Novel Historiographies, A.B.*

Camryn J. Kimura ’25  
*Digital Health, Sc.B.* ‡

Fiona Liu ’25  
*Human-Computer Interaction  
and Design, Sc.B.*

Christina Malree Miles ’25  
*Storytelling in the Museum, A.B.*

Tanya Qu ’25  
*Systems of Power, A.B.* ‡

Myles Ringel ’25  
*Empathy in Practice, A.B.* ‡

Peter M. Robin ’25  
*Applied Digital Media, A.B.*

Gabriel Paul Sender ’25  
*Urban Environmentality, A.B.* ‡

Caleb Stutman-Shaw ’25  
*Science Communication, A.B.* ‡

Clara Elizabeth Tandar ’25  
*Bioengineering, Sc.B.* ‡

Torsten Raimund Ullrich ’25  
*Computational Neuroscience, Sc.B.* ‡

Cagn Walker ’24,<sup>5</sup>  
*Astrobiology, A.B.*

THE COLLEGE AND COLLEGE CURRICULUM  
COUNCIL IC SUBCOMMITTEE

Cristina Abbona-Sneider  
*Senior Lecturer in Italian Studies,  
Director of Undergraduate Studies,  
Director of Italian Language Program,  
College Curriculum Council*

Peggy Chang ’93, ’13 A.M.  
*Associate Dean of the College  
for Curricular Engagement,  
Director, Curricular Resource Center,  
Director of Undergraduate Studies,  
Independent Concentrations,  
College Curriculum Council*

Sydney Chon ’26  
*IC Co-Coordinator*

Zoe Florida ’26  
*IC Co-Coordinator (Spring)*

Faith Freeman  
*Program Manager,  
Curricular Resource Center*

Janet Isserlis ’91 A.M.  
*Assistant Director,  
Curricular Resource Center*

M. Dawn King  
*Deputy Dean for Curriculum  
and Co-Curriculum,  
Senior Lecturer in  
Environment and Society,  
College Curriculum Council*

Jacqueline Lee ’27  
*College Curriculum Council (Spring)*

Nicholas M. Lee ’26  
*College Curriculum Council (Fall)*

Jay Philbrick ’25  
*College Curriculum Council (Spring)*

Tanya Qu ’25  
*IC Co-Coordinator (Fall)*

Myles Ringel ’25  
*IC Co-Coordinator*

Patricia Markham Risica  
*Associate Professor of  
Behavioral and Social Sciences,  
Associate Professor of Epidemiology,  
Director of Undergraduate Studies,  
School of Public Health  
College Curriculum Council*

Willow Stewart ’26  
*College Curriculum Council (Fall)*

Hannah Stoch ’26  
*Digital Archives and  
Communications Coordinator,  
Curricular Resource Center*

Anita Zahiri ’26  
*IC DUG Leader*

Brown University  
Commencement 2025



The College and  
Curricular Resource Center



MAY 25, 2025  
ANDREWS HOUSE, COGUT INSTITUTE  
FOR THE HUMANITIES  
13 BROWN STREET



This is event will be livestreamed at [bit.ly/IC-DC-25](https://bit.ly/IC-DC-25)

All or portions of Brown University events and their participants may be captured by photography or video and used for news or Brown promotional purposes.

‡ Honors in Concentration  
^ Honors candidate

PROGRAM

WELCOME

Peggy Chang ’93, ’13 A.M.  
Amelia Grant-Alfieri ’15

WE DID IT!

Members of the Class of 2025

AWARDING OF DEGREES

Peggy Chang ’93, ’13 A.M.  
Pamela Ress Reeves ’87, Vice Chancellor

Reception immediately  
following the ceremony.

ABOUT INDEPENDENT CONCENTRATIONS

The Independent Concentration (IC) program is at least as old as Brown’s Open Curriculum, which celebrated its 50th Anniversary during the 2019-2020 academic year.

Many standard concentrations and certificate programs emerged from student and faculty interest in Independent Concentrations: Brain Sciences/Neuroscience, Behavioral Decision Sciences, Computational Neuroscience, Contemplative Studies, European Critical Thought, Literary Arts, Middle East Studies, Migration Studies, STS (Science, Technology, and Society), and Statistics.

Students approved for their independent concentration, in their IC proposal, demonstrated a coherent field of inquiry not formally offered as a standard concentration. An independent concentrator garners the support of faculty to advise them and serve as their capstone or thesis advisors.

In the senior year, independent concentrators design a capstone project or elect to pursue a thesis over two semesters for Honors candidacy. The student’s thesis committee and the IC Dean award Honors based on the high quality of the submission and the student’s overall performance in their concentration.

The IC program would not be possible without the support of the IC faculty advisors, the IC selection committee, and the tireless and dedicated efforts of the Curricular Resource Center’s IC student coordinators. The coordinators answer hundreds of emails, meet with scores of students, review proposal drafts, and sit as voting members on the Independent Concentrations Subcommittee of the College Curriculum Council. Thank you, Myles, Sydney, Tanya, and Zoe!

GRADUATES’ CAPSTONE AND THESIS TITLES

Samuel Davidson Chachkes ’25.5

Thesis: “Meritocracy: a PPE Perspective”

Kenneth Daici ’25

Capstone: “From Crop to Community,  
a Collection of Photos and Interviews  
of the People that Go to the Farmers  
Markets Run by Farm Fresh RI”

Cole Emerson Dorsey ’25

Thesis: “Property Rights, Economic  
Growth, and the Political Economy  
of China’s Development”

Jeremy J. Fleming ’25

Thesis: “The impact of connectivity  
estimation methods on brain  
connectivity in young and older adults”

Jay R. Gopal ’25

Thesis: “ClickMe: Large-Scale Human-in-  
the-Loop Feature Importance Mapping to  
Train Brain-Aligned Deep Neural Networks”

Akaela Michels-Gualtieri ’25.5 (RUE)

Capstone: “Abraham Lincoln,  
John Wilkes Booth and the ‘Curse  
of Cain’: Free Will or Predestination?”

Camryn J. Kimura ’25

Thesis: “Designing Digital Health  
Interventions for Opioid Use Disorder:  
Attitudes toward iENDURE”

Fiona Liu ’25

Capstone: “You’ve Got Mail: Confronting  
the Cognitive Load of the Inbox”

Christina Malree Miles ’25

Capstone: “From Site to Screen: Digitizing  
the Gilmore Cabin and Farm Exhibit  
at James Madison’s Montpelier”

Tanya Qu ’25

Thesis: “BIDness as Usual: Yellowjackets  
and the Providence Downtown  
Improvement District”

Peter M. Robin ’25

Capstone: “Analytics and  
Promotion of the Art Thief”

Myles Ringel ’25

Thesis: “Quitting Empathy:  
Professionalism, Deservingness, and  
Time in the Attorney–Client Relationship”

Gabriel Paul Sender ’25

Thesis: “Living in the Warming City:  
An Ethnography of Climate Change  
Advocates in Providence”

Caleb Stutman-Shaw ’25

Thesis: “Time and Tide: Changes on  
the Shores of Moussachuck Beach”

Clara Elizabeth Tandar ’25

Thesis: “Microgels with Cell-Like  
Tunability for Drug Delivery Systems”

Torsten Raimund Ullrich ’25

Thesis: “Neural representation  
of timing in essential tremor”

Cagn Walker ’24.5

Capstone: “Baselining the limits  
of *Deinococcus radiodurans* survival  
in various stressor conditions”

IC FACULTY SPONSORS, THESIS COMMITTEE

MEMBERS AND CAPSTONE ADVISORS

Wael Asaad  
Renée Ater  
Eric M. Darling  
Ian Dell’Antonio  
Bathsheba Demuth  
Michael Donohue  
David Estlund  
Andrea Flores  
Irene Glasser  
Barrett Hazeltine  
Jeff Huang  
Stephanie Jones  
Nell Lake  
Kirsten Langdon  
Drew Linsley  
Shane Lee  
Bertram Malle  
James Moses  
Matthew Nassar  
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Kenneth Sacks  
Kate Schapira  
Thomas Serre  
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Lauren Yapp  
Samuel Zipp