

THE CLASS OF 2024

Jennora Blair '24
Storytelling/Narrative Studies, AB

Sierra Bornheim '24 ‡
Human Evolution, AB

Zoë Fuad '23.5 ‡
*Cyberculture and
Digital Communities, AB*

Lucas Elijah Gelfond '24.5
Art and Technology, AB

Sophia Ghauri '24
*Human-Centered Design
of Healthcare Systems, ScB*

Kaitlyn Hall '23.5
Indigenous Anarchism, AB

Pilar McDonald '24 ‡
*Caregiving and Care Infrastructure
in the US, AB*

Juliana Merullo '24
Food and Community, AB

Carter Moyer '24 ‡
Computational Neuroscience, ScB

Hyunjee (Erica) Nam '24 ‡
Food, Media, and Culture, AB

Margaret Nesi '24
*Environmental Humanities
and Policy, AB*

Eliza Noxon '23.5
Interdisciplinary Artistic Studies, AB

Chinazo Onyema '24
*Infectious Disease and
Economic Development, AB*

Daniel Eduardo Ramirez-Minaya '24
*Comparative Black Economics,
Politics, and Development, AB*

Cecile Schreidah '24
Infectious Epidemiology, ScB

Jeffrey Jin Tao '24
Human-Computer Interaction, ScB

Cagn Walker '24.5
Astrobiology, AB

Benjamin Alexander Wendelstadt '24
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics, AB

Max Xu '24
Power, Performance, and Success, AB

Catherine Z. Yang '24
*Industrial Food Systems:
Entrepreneurship, Equity,
and Economics, AB*

THE COLLEGE & COLLEGE CURRICULUM COUNCIL

INDEPENDENT CONCENTRATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Sierra P. Bornheim '24
IC Co-Coordinator

Peggy Chang '93, '13 AM
*Associate Dean of the College,
Director of Undergraduate Studies,
Independent Concentrations,
Director, Curricular Resource Center*

Kevin W. Ennis
*PhD Candidate, Portuguese
and Brazilian Studies,
College Curriculum Council*

Faith Freeman
*Program Manager,
Curricular Resource Center*

Emily Hipchen
*Senior Lecturer in English,
College Curriculum Council*

Janet Isserlis '91 AM
*Assistant Director,
Curricular Resource Center*

Margaret Nesi '24
IC DUG Leader

Ryan Peng '25
College Curriculum Council

Alex Poterack
*Steven Rattner Senior
Lecturer in Economics,
College Curriculum Council*

Myles Ringel '25
IC Co-Coordinator

Cecile Schreidah '24
IC DUG Leader

Sydney Skybetter
*Deputy Dean for Curriculum
and Co-Curriculum,
College Curriculum Council*

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

Jeffrey Tao '24
IC Co-Coordinator



This event will be livestreamed at bit.ly/IC-DC-24

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.

Brown University Commencement 2024



The College and The Curricular Resource Center

May 26, 2024

The Glenn and Darcy Weiner Center,
Brown-RISD Hillel, 80 Brown Street

Goldfarb Family Social Hall (Ceremony) • Terrace (Reception)

‡ Honors in Concentration

PROGRAM

WELCOME

Peggy Chang '93, '13 AM
*Associate Dean of the College;
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Independent Concentrations;
Director, Curricular Resource Center*

WHAT IS AN INDEPENDENT CONCENTRATION?

Class of 2024

AWARDING OF DEGREES

Peggy Chang '93, '13 AM
IC Faculty Advisors

Reception immediately following the ceremony

ABOUT THE INDEPENDENT CONCENTRATION PROGRAM

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 emerged from student and faculty interest in Independent Concentrations: Brain Sciences/Neuroscience, Behavioral Decision Sciences, Contemplative Studies, Middle East Studies, Literary Arts, STS (Science, Technology, and Society), Statistics, and others. Computational Neuroscience was recently approved as a standard concentration.

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 Co-Coordinators. The coordinators meet with scores of students, review proposal drafts, and sit on the Independent Concentrations subcommittee of the College Curriculum Council. Thank you, Jeffrey, Myles, and Sierra! Additionally, many thanks to Cecile and Meg for serving as this year's IC DUG Leaders.

IC GRADUATES' CAPSTONE AND THESIS TITLES

Jennora Blair '24

Capstone: "Dreaming the Art-Chive: Black & Indigenous Memory-Keeping through Storytelling"

Sierra Bornheim '24

Thesis: "Inferring environmental conditions at an important Lower Paleolithic site using avifauna"

Zoë Fuad '23.5

Thesis: "Organizing Against Loneliness"

Lucas Elijah Gelfond

Capstone: "IBM, Olivetti, and the Informational Turn"

Sophia Ghauri '24

Capstone: "Foundation Model for Diabetic Retinopathy Detection from Retinal Images"

Pilar McDonald '24

Thesis: "The Wages for Housework Movement: An Attempt to Bring the Theory into Practice"

Juliana Merullo '24

Capstone: "Deep Water"

Carter Moyer '24

Thesis: "Predicting Alzheimer's Disease Biomarker Levels via Machine Learning Modeling of Cognitive and Social Adversity Variables"

Hyunjee (Erica) Nam '24

Thesis: "From The Art of Oriental Cooking to Korean American: Understanding Korean Transnational Subjects' Cultural Identity Development through Cookbooks and Recipes"

Margaret Nesi '24

Capstone: "Climate Storytelling for Elementary Students"

Chinazo Onyema '24

Capstone: "Water, Wellness, and Wealth"

Daniel Eduardo Ramirez-Minaya '24

Capstone: "Perspectives on Black Immigration in Paris and New York City: A Pan-African Outlook"

Cecile Schreidah '24

Capstone: "Beyond Mosquitos: The Malaria Story"

Jeffrey Jin Tao '24

Capstone: "Overload to Order: Reimagining Tab Management for Digital Wellbeing"

Benjamin Alexander Wendelstadt '24

Capstone: "Shadows of the Mind: Artificial Intelligence, the Human Experience and the Future of Political Order"

Max Xu '24

Capstone: "Power, Performance, and Success"

Catherine Z. Yang '24

Capstone: "Waste Not: Hybrid Anaerobic Digestion Facilities"

INDEPENDENT CONCENTRATION FACULTY SPONSORS, THESIS COMMITTEE MEMBERS & CAPSTONE ADVISORS

Lindsay Caplan

Kenneth Chay

Ellie Choi

Ian Dell'Antonio

Michael Donohue

Aisling Dugan

Elena Festa

Steven Gatesy

Shanti Morell-Hart

Barrett Hazeltine

William Heindel

Leon Hilton

Jeff Huang

Dean Jang

Pearce Keane

Michael Kennedy

Dawn King

Magdalena Krzystolik

Nell Lake

Jinying Li

Enongo Lumumba-Kasongo

Amanda Lynch

Stelios Michalopoulos

Deb Mills-Scofield

Deak Nabers

Marion Orr

David Polatty

Jonathan Readey

Srinivas Reddy

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