

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

# CLASS OF 2020 YEARBOOK

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# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

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On behalf of the English department—our faculty and staff—it is my honor to celebrate you as the Class of 2020! While I wish I could be delivering these words to you in person at our graduation celebration, in front of your families, friends, and loved ones, it is my hope that this yearbook will convey the gratitude we feel for having shared this time with you as English majors, the pride we feel for what you have accomplished, and the belief we have that you can create a more just world. Congratulations on your graduation!

In this time of isolation, distancing, and hard reckoning with legacies of racial violence, settler colonialism, and systemic inequity, it sometimes feels like we collectively exist more in a shared time and history than in a shared place. But my hope is that as English majors you have come to understand that place is a way of being and a set of relations we hold. It is this sense of place that is evoked for me in the University of Washington's land acknowledgement, when we say that *the University of Washington acknowledges the Coast Salish people of this land, the land which touches the shared waters of all tribes and bands within the Suquamish, Tulalip, and Muckleshoot nations*. This acknowledgment invites us to be more than just aware of where we are—the place we inhabit as guests; it invites us also to counter settler colonial epistemologies and to reimagine what it means to be and know in this place, in relation to others, past, present, and future.

To all of you—our BA, MFA, MA-TESOL, and PhD graduates—first and foremost, I want to acknowledge and thank you for your patience and good will over these last few months as we completed Winter quarter and launched into remote teaching and learning in Spring. You have all had to make adjustments and do the best you can under extremely difficult, stressful, exhausting circumstances compounded by racial and social inequities, health concerns, economic stresses, social distancing, child and family care, and care-taking in your communities. You have shown tremendous resiliency, courage, and generosity in adapting to these conditions. We would not have been able to teach in these conditions if you had not worked so hard to join and learn with us in them. I am confident we will emerge from this a stronger community, with an even deeper understanding for why our work matters and why we matter to one another.

You face a future that is challenging but also ready to be changed by those like you who are able to imagine and bring into existence a better one. Na'ilah Suad Nasir and Megan Bang, President and Vice President of the Spencer Foundation, recently wrote:

What if we recognized this moment as also a possibility to reconfigure life towards the world we want? What kinds of new questions would we ask, what kinds of reimagining might we do together?

As English graduates, you are prepared to ask new questions that help us reimagine how we can be together. This is because you have learned how to critically examine the frameworks that organize our ways of imagining. You have studied what these ways of imagining make possible and exclude, but also how they can be changed to imagine new possibilities—how the grammar of language shapes the grammar of our thinking and knowing, and also how literary, artistic, and critical uses of language can change the grammars of our thinking, relationships, and ways of being with each other.

These skills of higher order thinking, communication, creative problem solving, and adapting to and changing situations have long term, accruing economic value, as research has shown. But more than that, the future needs your ability to imagine in more than preconditioned, reductive ways others' experiences, to understand others' predicaments, and to engage multiple perspectives. It needs your ability to hold space for other people's stories and learn from them. And it needs your tolerance for ambiguity, a tolerance that resists certainties and easy answers in order to understand and address complex issues more fully.

As we face the complex challenges ahead, no one discipline, no one group, no one nation is going to be able to address them alone. We need more than ever the ability to communicate and negotiate across meanings, languages, identities, and differences. It is common to end graduation remarks by quoting from an inspirational text or poem. But I want to conclude by encouraging you all to engage with others and the world like *they* are a poem: work hard to grapple with difficulty and be patient and generous as you do so; grant design to what might at first seem illegible; look for difference in what seems similar and similarity in what seems different (this is what metaphor and other forms of analogies train us to do); and work hard to examine your and others' assumptions and biases. The skills you learn in English have prepared you for this. Hold on to them. Make good use of them. We need them more than ever!

Congratulations!

Anis Bawarshi  
Professor and Chair of English  
University of Washington



# UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING

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With the College of Arts and Sciences moving to a new humanities advising center, the English department will have to close our advising office at the end of this academic year. This marks an end of an era for the department. We are saying goodbye to three exceptional advisors who have been integral to your academic journeys.

Nancy Sisko, Tim Bradford, and Amy Feldman-Bawarshi have welcomed and guided thousands of students into and through the department. As graduating seniors, you know first-hand the difference they have made in helping you forge a successful, rewarding path through the major. If you completed a double major or applied for scholarship support or completed the honors program or studied abroad or worked through doubts and difficulties or applied for internships or been nominated for awards or found needed resources or explored career opportunities, chances are Nancy, Tim, and Amy played an important role. They have been your champions and exemplify the best of who we are as a department.

As director of English Advising, Dr. Nancy Sisko has also advised the department on curriculum revisions and initiatives while helping us connect our work to other departments and local communities. During the pandemic, Nancy has supported the department and our students through everything we have faced. It could not be more deserving that she was named Adviser of the Year by the UW Association of Professional Advisers and Counselors.

The Department of English would like thank Nancy, Tim, and Amy for their dedication, care, and support.



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I have been so honored to work with you. Though it is my job to make sure that you all are well and have made your way through your degrees with efficiency and precision, it is I who have been given the gift of your questions, concerns, queries and communications.

Especially during this challenging COVID closure, I have learned from you. You have managed this very difficult time with grace, courage, compassion and understanding. Even in your own moments of fear or uncertainty, I have seen all of you reach out, give gratitude and offer help.

You have had the courage to declare a major that the outside world questions as valuable. Your studies in the humanities will carry this generation through to a complex understanding of culture and equity that will bring us to a more fair world. I believe in you.

–Nancy Sisko





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Dear Graduating Seniors,

It was an absolute pleasure working with you over the past several years in the English advising office alongside Nancy and Amy. I am very proud of your accomplishments and in the spirit of celebrating your achievements and your next steps forward I would like to share a few quotes. I picked these because they seem to resonate in this moment, voice some of the many sentiments that I would like to convey to you, and are way less verbose than if I tried to say it with my own words.

**"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have." -Maya Angelou**

**"Cherish these nights, cherish these people. Life is a movie, but there'll never be a sequel." – Nicki Minaj, All Things Go**

**"Never become so involved with something that it blinds you. Never forget where you from; someone will remind you." – DMX, It's On**

**"I wanted a perfect ending. Now I've learned, the hard way, that some poems don't rhyme, and some stories don't have a clear beginning, middle, and end. Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment and making the best of it, without knowing what's going to happen next. Delicious Ambiguity. " — Gilda Radner**

Please stay in touch and all my best, Tim Bradford

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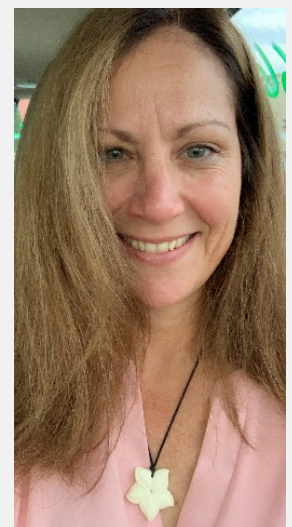
Dear Graduating Seniors,

It is with greatest pleasure that I congratulate you on your successes and achievements which have culminated in your baccalaureate degree from the University of Washington. Well deserved! Congratulations!

Serving alongside my wonderful advising colleagues, Nancy and Tim, I unequivocally say that working for you—for English language & literature and creative writing majors—was a daily privilege and an honor.

You are creative problem-solvers, astute critical thinkers, mindful analysts, and conscious learners. As you venture onward toward your next chapters I hope that over the years and along the way you are able to draw upon the many pragmatic critical and analytical skills you acquired as English majors. I also hope you keep in touch. Mostly, I wish you well.

Best Wishes, Amy Feldman-Bawarshi



# OUR GRADUATES

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

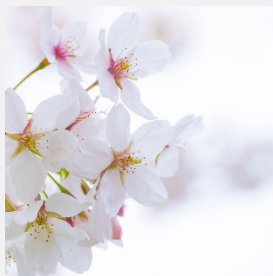


### Lubna Alzaroo

**Dissertation:** Settler Colonial Infrastructure: Necropolitics and Ecology in the U.S. and Palestine

**Chair:** Eva Cherniavsky

Thank you to my wonderful family and friends who have supported me.



### Judy-Gail Baker

**Dissertation:** Intellectuals stan intellectuals: 아미\* translanguaging as motile learning

**Chair:** Anis Bawarshi

Without you I would not have been ready for the Brave, New World we live in now!



### Claire Evelyn Barwise

**Dissertation:** It Girls and Old Maids: Satiric Wit and the Single Woman in the Anglo-American Novel (1918-1958)

**Chair:** Jessica Burstein



### Sumayyah Daud

**Dissertation:** The Demarcation Zone: The Victorian Search for a Global Past

**Chair:** Jesse Oak Taylor



### Laura M De Vos

**Dissertation:** Spirals of Transformation: Turtle Island Indigenous Social Movements and Literatures

**Chairs:** Habiba Ibrahim and Dian Million

Special thanks to Justine James, Lanada Brown, and the Quinault Nation Elder Program, as well as to the Duwamish, first caretakers of the lands the University of Washington occupies.

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE



### Navid Ebrahimzadeh

**Dissertation:** The Lonely Remains: Waste in Postwar American Fiction

**Chair:** Jessica Burstein

"Shall I project a world?"



### Sarah Faulkner

**Dissertation:** Jane Porter in the Margins: Paratext in the Romantic National Novel

**Chair:** Juliet Shields

2018 UW Excellence in Teaching Award, 2019 NYPL Fellow,

2019 Chester Fritz International Research Fellow, 2019 Husky 100



### Nancy Ann Fox

**Dissertation:** American Athena: A Feminist Sophistic Analysis of the Discourses of Women Servicemembers

**Chair:** Gail Stygall

"You have to act as if it were possible to radically transform the world. And you have to do it all the time." (Angela Davis)



### Matthew Hitchman

**Dissertation:** Maritime Sensibility: Sentimentalism, Racial Capitalism, and a Critique of the American Maritime Genre

**Chair:** Eva Cherniavsky



### Caleb Knapp

**Dissertation:** They Chose Instead Revolt: Slave Narratives, Sexual Violence, and the Black Radical Tradition

**Chair:** Alys Eve Weinbaum

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE



**David Kumler**

**Dissertation:** Into the Seething Vortex: Occult Horror and the Subversion of the Realistic

**Chair:** Eva Cherniavsky

Live well, laugh often, love much. All cats are beautiful. The void awaits.



**Caitlin Palo**

**Dissertation:** An Audience of One and of Many: Epistolary Experiments with the Public Sphere in England and the United States—1735, 1796, 1998

**Chair:** Gary Handwerk

Post-Ph.D. Position: Program & Events Manager, Simpson Center for the Humanities

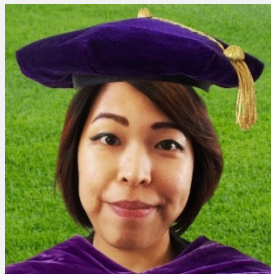


**Terry Schenold**

**Dissertation:** The Poetics of Reflection in Digital Games

**Chair:** Brian Reed

Move slow and understand things.

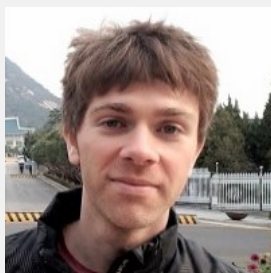


**Sumyat Thu**

**Dissertation:** Navigating and Responding to Raciolinguistic Ideologies: Refugee and Immigrant Students' Literacy Practices Across Contexts

**Chair:** Anis Bawarshi

Life has been wild, but as they say, every experience makes you stronger. I'm glad to finish what I started for this long journey. Love to my family and community.



**Alan Williams**

**Dissertation:** Queering the Transpacific: Race and Sexuality across the US and Japanese Empires

**Chair:** Shawn Wong



## MASTER OF ARTS FOR TEACHERS (OF ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES)



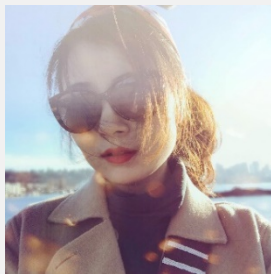
**Bryndis Margret Crider**

Thanks Mom and Dad for inspiring me and taking care of me through my years in university.



**Yining Huang**

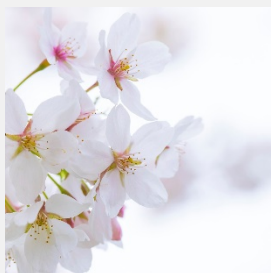
Thank you MATESOL, thank you English Department, thank you UW.



**Wei Qiang**

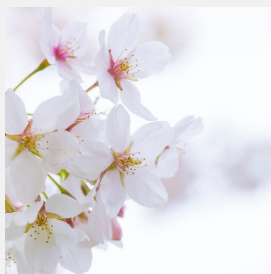
One TESOL Master, three CSE courses, three Stats classes and a cute baby. Thank you mom, dad, my husband, my son and my friend Amy. I love you.

## MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN CREATIVE WRITING



**Kym Lo-ammi Wilson Littlefield**

Thank you Kemi Adeyemi. Thank you Habiba Ibrahim. Thanks to Rae Paris. Thanks Alys Weinbaum. Thanks CW Dept.! I did it for Braithwaite, Gumbs, Gladman, Roberson & who comes after.



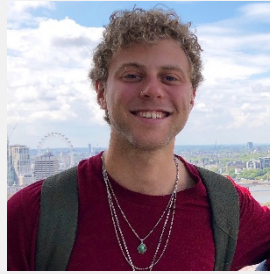
**Tim McAdams**

## BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CREATIVE WRITING



**Sophie R. Aanerud**

"Create dangerously for people who read dangerously" -Edwidge Danticat



**Gabriel Eliot Adler**

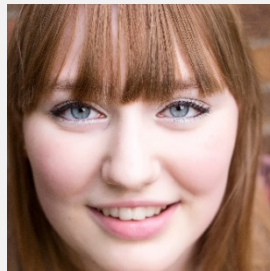
"So long as you write what you wish to write, that is all that matters; and whether it matters for ages or only for hours, nobody can say."  
—Virginia Woolf



**Sumaya Abdinasir Ali**

"Miracles happen all the time. We're here, aren't we?"  
-Marilyn Nelson

Hooyo & Abo, this is for you!!!



**Kristina Mae Bolton**

History double major; Honors in English; Dean's List; Editor for: *Bricolage*, AU; District Market student employee. Never give up on your dreams. Keep fighting.



**Owen Crandall**

Stop telling me I should write books about things.



**Lauren E. Davis**

Cum Laude, with Honors in English



**Ragini Gupta**

I am grateful for Amy Feldman-Bawarshi, Rebecca Hoogs, and Linda Bierds for giving me the space to express myself, and for encouraging me to navigate my writerly self.

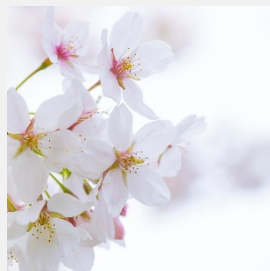


**Laurel Jessop**



**Eun Hye Kim**

"Laugh, and the world laughs with you. Weep, and you weep alone." (Originally by Ella Wheeler Wilcox circa 1883 and repeated in *Oldboy*, 2003).



**Jennifer Kumesan**

## BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CREATIVE WRITING



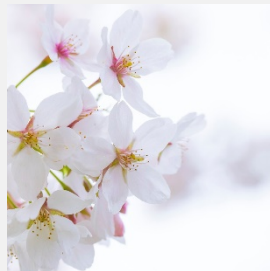
**Jeanette Sylvia Lin**



**Khadija Lokhandwala**



**Marcus A. Lux**  
UCLA MFA Screenwriting  
Student (Fall 2020)



**Sarah McKay**  
Phi Beta Kappa  
Beginning an MA in Hispanic  
Studies in autumn

Thank you to my wonderful  
family for your love and  
support on this journey!



**Daniel O'Connell**  
Phi Beta Kappa  
Arthur Oberg Award



**Christian Orr**



**Zenia Rios**  
Dean's List



**Kaitlyn M. Rufer**  
"Happiness can be found,  
even in the darkest of times,  
if only one remembers to  
turn on the light."  
- J.K. Rowling



**Autumn Spriggle**



**Sierra Stella**  
Phi Beta Kappa; Dean's List;  
Dean's Medal Nominee  
  
Thanks to my mom and  
brother, my wonderful  
professors, and the London  
study abroad program.



## BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CREATIVE WRITING



**Frankie T. Stoner**

Dean's List

Favorite book: *Harold and the Purple Crayon*

Thanks Mom and Dad



**Avery James Raab Strand**

Finally.



**Kyle Tolson**



**Aubrey Tomiko Unemori**

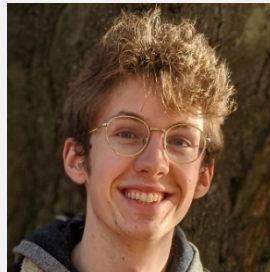


**Ali Michelle Wagner**

Phi Beta Kappa

Dean's List

Pursuing a career in publishing and hoping to have my book on shelves one day.



**Tanner B. Whitney**

Thank you to the entire Creative Writing program, namely Professor David Crouse, and to the London study abroad program.



## BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

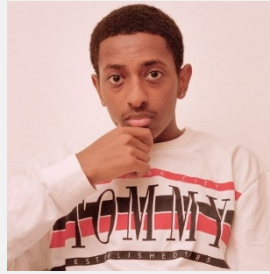


**Sophia Anderson**

Dean's List

Favorite Book: *The Communist Manifesto* by Karl Marx

Thank you to my lovely family!



**Daegen Tesfalem Asfaha**

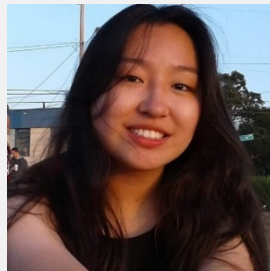


**Addie Augsburg**

Phi Beta Kappa

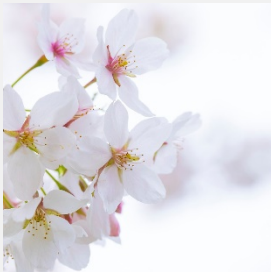
English Honors

Cum Laude



**Badmaarag Batjargal**

I'd like to thank my family and UW.



**Alice Brillhart**



**Chelsea Marie Brogan**

Double degree in English and Biology (EEC)

Thank you to my family & friends for always supporting me.



**Katie Chua**

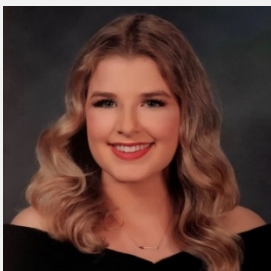
Thank you to the English department for all the readings completed on my favorite bench during Spring Quarter in Seattle.



**Ellen Cooper**

Dean's List

Favorite Book: *Mrs. Dalloway*

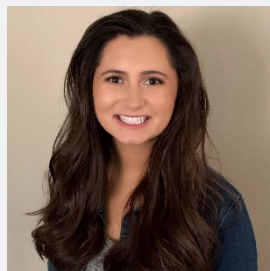


**Tara Elizabeth Darrow**

English Language Arts Endorsement

Annual Dean's List Recipient

Thank you Mom & Dad.



**Rachel Ann Dusin**

Dean's List; Teach for America 2020- 2022 Corps Member; Beginning an M.Ed. in the summer; Psalm 138:3 NASB; Thank you to all who have supported me!

## BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE



**Maxwell Jonas Eberle**

"The opposite of fear of death is...love of life!"

— DAVID HOCKNEY



**Alana Catherine Edmondson**

Beginning an English PhD program at Yale in the fall, working on Shakespeare and race. THANK YOU UW DEPTS OF ENGLISH & CLASSICS!



**Izaiha X. Ellis**

I want to thank all of the wonderful professors and counselors in the English department. You will all be missed dearly and your dedication to students has been invaluable.



**Cat Forwood-Knorr**

Thanks Momma!



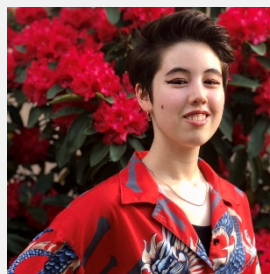
**Dabin Han**



**Hannah Elizabeth Harris**



**Laurel Hecker**



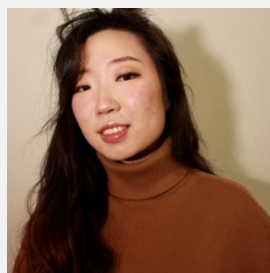
**Sora Hong**

"Beware of those who speak of the spiral of history; they are preparing a boomerang. Keep a steel helmet handy."  
—Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man*



**Amber Hsu**

Thank you so much to my family for their never-ending support these past two decades, and to fate for allowing things to turn out the way they did!



**Julia Hwang**



## BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE



**Marissa Kahler**

Double major in Economics and English; Minor in Diversity

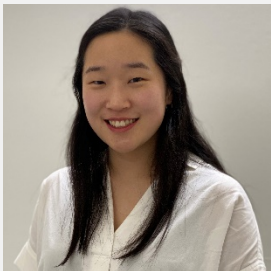
Dean's List

Favorite Book: *The Great Gatsby*



**Mary Kelleher**

"People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." –Maya Angelou



**Hyun Jin Kim**

Beginning MBA in the Fall

I am so grateful for being in CG my 4 years of undergrad!



**Kaitlin Amber Kim**

Thank you to God, my family, friends, and UW community for supporting me. So excited to be joining the Teach for America Houston Corps to teach high school English this fall!



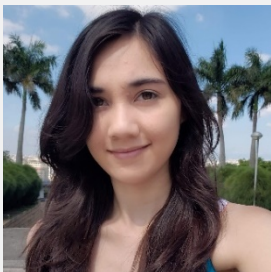
**Young Kwang Kim**

We made it! Congrats 2020 Graduates :)

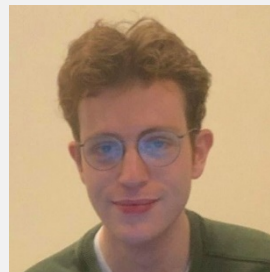


**Kristi Laris**

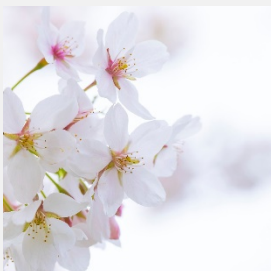
Step out your estimate. Step in your essence and know that you're excellent.



**Kristy May Lee**



**Esteban R.G McDonald**



**Alexander Steinmann Obermeyer**

Favorite Book: *The Communist Manifesto* by Karl Marx ;)

Thanks to the Parents



**Erica Christy Lohelani Owan**

Thank you to my family, friends, and community for reminding me that my voice and experience is important <3

## BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE



### **Shreya Pakalpati**

Thank you so much, Nancy! I'm beyond thankful to have you as an advisor, and I know my experiences as an English major wouldn't be as cherishable without your guidance!



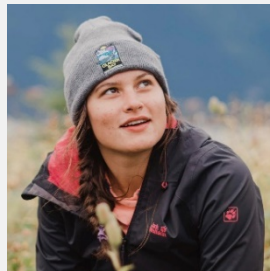
### **Chaewon Park**

KSA !



### **Jasmine Pollard**

Life is your birthright, they hid that in the fine print. Take the pen and rewrite it.



### **Mackenzie M. Price**

Phi Beta Kappa; Dean's List; English Honors Cohort

Captain of Husky Ski Team

Thanks mom and dad!



### **Michelle Radecki**

"It took three schools, Battling cancer twice, To earn one degree" -Me



### **Maximilian Rachmat Ramawy**

"There will always be an Asian who takes it to the next level" - Ryan Hayashi



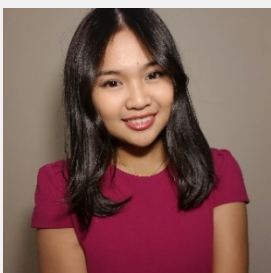
### **Erika May Aguilar Ramos**

Favorite book: *Lolita*



### **Malik Sherif**

To my family who've argued that I should pursue law my whole life, I finally am, you've won this one!



### **Tiffany Amber Muña Solomon**

~100 books later: I still don't like reading.



### **Peter Tracy**

Thank you to Tyler Babbie and Mark Patterson: for guiding my transformation into a full-fledged student of literature.



## BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE



**Colleen Tufts**

"Not the weight of the body but the fact of the body. Not the shape of the body but the needs of the body. How inconvenient to be made of desire."



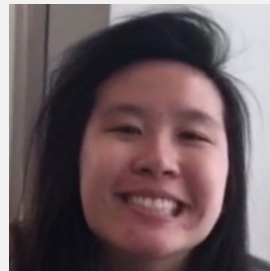
**Jessica Walls**

As long as I'm living I will be grateful for my family.



**Anya Zhen Watson**

Graduating with college honors and on the Annual Dean's List



**Kellee Xing**

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2020!