

*Spring
Commencement
Exercises*

College of Humanities Convocation

Brigham Young University
April 22, 2016
8:00 a.m.
Marriott Center

Program

Administrative Representative	Alan R. Harker Associate Academic Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies
Organ Prelude and Processional	Jeffrey S. Turley Associate Professor of Spanish and Portuguese
Conducting	J. Scott Miller Dean, College of Humanities
Invocation	Matthew S Kershaw BA Comparative Literature
Musical Number "If You Could Hie to Kolob" Arranged by J. Ashley Hall	Catherine Mary Daun, piano BA Classical Studies Catherine Willey, cello BA Classical Studies
Remarks	Dean Miller
Talk by Student Representative	Tamara Pace Thomson BA English
Musical Number "Julie-O" by Mark Summer	Catherine Willey, cello BA Classical Studies
Graduation Speaker	Corry Cropper Department Chair, French and Italian
Presentation of Master's Degrees	
Presentation of Baccalaureate Degrees	
Benediction	Cai Elisabeth Olsen Bezerra BA Portuguese
Recessional	Jeffrey S. Turley

Scholastic Recognition

Candidates for Summa Cum Laude

Summa cum laude is awarded to the top 1.0 percent of students receiving bachelor's degrees who have earned at least 45 hours of credit at Brigham Young University.

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Kaylee Brooks Heath
Trent David Jackson
Nathan Joseph Richardson
Shane Albrecht Silver

Candidates for Magna Cum Laude

Magna cum laude is awarded to the top 1.1 to 5.0 percent of students receiving bachelor's degrees who have earned at least 45 hours of credit at Brigham Young University.

Devynne Marisa Barret
Cai Elisabeth Olsen Bezerra
Holly Young Boud
Kayla Deann Bowman
Rachel Brianne Cannon
LaNaya J Comsa
Gina Rose Darata
Catherine Mary Daun
David Carter Delbar
Courtney Ann Dick
Melissa Beth Garrison
Alexander Barnes Grasley
Abigail Margaret Harlow
Catherine Ann Hollingsworth
Paul Anthony Jepsen
Brandon Gregory King
John Philip Koerper
Parker Judd Marsden
Camryn Scott
Christian David Staples
Tamara Pace Thomson
Amanda Jo Tibbitts
Kirsten Jean Weber
Leah Elizabeth Welker
Jared Willden
Erin Taylor Young

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Alison Maeser Brimley
Katharine Lois Cutler
Elizabeth Ricks Reeves
Madison Lee Swapp

Candidates for Cum Laude

Cum laude is awarded to the top 5.1 to 10.0 percent of students receiving bachelor's degrees who have earned at least 45 hours of credit at Brigham Young University.

Kara Elizabeth Anderson
Jacob William Cline
Tanner Edward Combs
Jazmine Halaevalu Teuila
Emerson
Rachel Caroline Epps
Travis Mitchell Glock
Jason Niels Grover
Lindsey Brewer Keller
Jon Andrew Krainock
Caroline Elizabeth Macfarlane
Sarah Ilene Mansfield
Paul William Mielke
Taylor-Grey Edward Miller
Kyle Frederick Norton
Anna Cosette Savage
Michael Anthony Stevens
Sean Thomas Stringham
Camille Jackson Trejo
Alyssa Elaine Tucker
Jordan Elise Monson Wright

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Chelsea Francis Asp
Bethany Ann Bartholomew
Starla Ann Butler
Andrew Backman Fellows
Cassandra Pelton Green
Melanie Hogan
Danielle Chelom Leavitt
Isaac D. Lyman

Graduating Members of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

Kara Elizabeth Anderson
Jacob William Cline
Tanner Edward Combs
Courtney Ann Dick
Rachel Caroline Epps
Travis Mitchell Glock
Abigail Margaret Harlow
Catherine Ann Hollingsworth
Natalie S Hollist
Jennifer Elizabeth Jenson
Lindsey Brewer Keller
John Philip Koerper
Paul William Mielke
Kyle Frederick Norton
Brandon Mark Petterson
Tamara Pace Thomson
Jared Willden

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Cassandra Pelton Green
Nathan Joseph Richardson
Lindsay Williams

Graduates with University Honors

In addition to their major studies, all honors graduates have completed a comprehensive program in General Education. University Honors is a distinction reserved for those few who have excelled in the university's most rigorous course of general and major education. Typically, those students have completed at least six honors General Education courses, maintained a 3.50 GPA or higher in both honors and all other courses, demonstrated proficiency in mathematics and a foreign language, completed a reading list, and written an honors thesis in their major field.

Conor Bruce Hilton

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Starla Ann Butler
Brittany Ricks
Heidi Michelle Voss

Graduate Programs

MASTER OF FINE ARTS DEGREE

Creative Writing

Benjamin James Mitchell
Blackhurst
Jacob Edward Clayson
Estée Crenshaw
Lauren Vael Matthews
Sarah Ann Syphus

MASTER OF ARTS DEGREES

Comparative Arts and Letters

ART HISTORY AND CURATORIAL STUDIES

Melissa Ann Bush
Sarah James Dyer
Deirdre Mason Crane Scharffs

COMPARATIVE STUDIES

Shaina Gwynn Robbins

English

Trenton Robert Leinenbach
Maren Rosemarie Slover
Mazzeo
Marie-Reine Laura May Pugh
Brittany May Rebarchik

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES
Kjerstin Evans Ballard
Sharman Tullis Gill
Shannon Bryn Soper
Megan Marie Toone

French and Italian

FRENCH STUDIES

Nathan Kent Jellen
Jared Scott Miller

Linguistics and English Language

LINGUISTICS

Jacob Garlin Barrows
Kyra McKinzie Nelson
Mary Elisabeth Wright Layton

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES
Stephanie Kay Billings
Patrick B. Pearson
Kyle Hugh Vanderniet

TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

Paul Narii Cave
Karina May Jackson
Sarah Elizabeth Lutz

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES
Kirsten Marie Brown
Rachel Tui Smith
Melissa Young

Second Language Teaching

Jeff Peterson

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATE
Jeremy S Evans

Spanish and Portuguese

SPANISH

Ruben Leopoldo Salazar-
Torres

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES
Carina Silvia Coria
Berenice Ventura Fernandez
Ryan Russel Hill
Paula Antonieta González-
Thomas
Kiersty Lemon-Rogers

Baccalaureate Degrees

American Studies

Kristin L. Matthews, Director

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Craig N Beirdneau
Vance Marcus Bryce
Tanner Edward Combs
Matthew Rees DeLange
Melissa Beth Garrison
Jane Elizabeth Goaslind
Jason Niels Grover
Shawnee Alyce Hawkes
Bradley Christensen Johnson
Sarah Ilene Mansfield
Jared Glen Olsen
Celia Macarena Rivera
Alisa Bennion Smith
Kirsten Elizabeth Vach
Alexis C Zendejas

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Bryce Johan Nobles
Elizabeth Ricks Reeves
Lindsay Williams

Asian and Near Eastern Languages

Dana Bourgerie, Chair

CHINESE

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Timothy Adam Baldry
Jasmine Catherine Buenning
Ian Taylor Christensen
Melinda So Colby
Thomas LeRoy Heaton
Jonathon Douglas Hedger
Mark David Hill
Eben Scott Hinton
Christian David Staples

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Julianne Belnap
Petrina Michelle Bryce
Kolby Daniel Dastrup
Melissa Lori Hales
Trent David Jackson

JAPANESE

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Keely Michelle Bailey
Spencer Wood Burhoe
Brian J. Emery
Taylor Clinton Hollister
Travis Paul Huntsman
Stephen John McCuen
T. Skeets O'Reilly
Aldin Lloyd Seiya Pope

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Jonathan Taft Anderson
Yusuke Asai
Nathan Samuel Sanborn

Comparative Arts and Letters

Carl Sederholm, Chair

ART HISTORY

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Melissa Clark
Nancy Jo Eyre
Diana Marie Flores
Travis Mitchell Glock
Brontë Alexandra Hebdon
Aimee Kathleen King
Caroline Elizabeth Macfarlane
Meagan Mizelle McIntire
Melanie Marie Meyers
Shelby Anne Nelson
Nicole Alexis Noyes
Rory Polo
Sarah McKenzie Powell
Ruth Helen Reneer
Katherine Dorothy Seastrand
Madeline Claire Washburn
Jeffrey David Wilson

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Kelsie Marie Bowler
Allison Jean Heroux Mielke
Jenessa Audryn Smith
Madison Lee Swapp

CLASSICAL STUDIES

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Catherine Mary Daun
Kirsten Jean Weber
Catherine Willey

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

BACHELOR OF ARTS

David Carter Delbar
Matthew S Kershaw

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Victoria Lorena Fox
Clint Schiefer Lasson

HUMANITIES

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Jennifer Buckley
Emily Cromar Woidka

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATE

M. Elizabeth Tingey

INTERDISCIPLINARY HUMANITIES

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Stephen James Allred
Tessa Ruth Barlow
Levi Leslie Barraclough
Hannah Karin Barrett
Sarah Faith Bonney
Rachel Caroline Epps
Alexis Caprice Henson
Cassandra May Hibbert
Jennifer Elizabeth Jenson
Brianna Camille Job
Heather Baird Martin
Lydia Anne Nielsen
Jenna Stacy Ostler
Micah Mark Russell
Madeleine Rae McCann Smith
Mackenzie Lynn Witter

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Elizabeth Helen Donakey
Julia Sarah Ford
Samantha Stapley Hatch
Rigdon Jons Holmquist
Amy Nicole Morgan
Miranda Rose Murphey
Kaitlin Marie O'Connor
Kellie Ann Wilkinson

English

Phillip A. Snyder, Chair

ENGLISH

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Adam Rees Anderson
Danica Paige Baird
Greta Katherine Ballif
Sarah Ethna Barlow
Lyssa Marie Barton
Cara Helena Behan
Joshua Matthew Bingham
Holly Young Boud
Emma Lee Bradshaw
Shelby Denise Bunker
Kiersten Carr
Dawn Jillaine Staves Chaston
Jannen Johnson Christensen
David Bailey Cox
Ryan H Crimm
Chad Carter de Lisle
Jazmyn Dolbin
Taylor Benjamin Dolbin
Joel Duane Einfeldt
Jazmine Halaevalu Teuila
Emerson
Catherine Felt
Jonathan Carter Ferguson
Tara Cherine Forbush

Leah May Gemo Fretwell
Bridget Ann Taylor Gibbs
Elise Marchant Godfrey
Eliza Kaye Handley
Carli Hanson
Abigail Margaret Harlow
Catherine Grace Harrison
Sarah Elizabeth Hays
Sara Hilary Herald
Conor Bruce Hilton
Chelsea Marie Holdaway
Catherine Ann Hollingsworth
Katie Lynn Hosler
McKay Des Neiges Jacobsen
Alexis Teniell Jensen
Paul Anthony Jepsen
John Philip Koerper
Leo Justin Koopmans
Rosemary Anne Ellen Larkin
Shaina Joyce Machado
Megan Kathleen McManama
Stacy Lynn Mero
Jeanette Kirstine Merstrand
Tiana Deseret Moe
Amber Dawn Monson
Ashley Lorrene Nef
Katherine Lillian Neish
Bethany Allannah Osborn
Denya Irene Palmer
Jamie Dean Panganiban
Cambry Parish
Jessica Shae Porter
Chalene Cherie Riser
Camryn Scott
Marian Elizabeth Spencer
Michael Anthony Stevens
Emily Alana Sullivan
Ashley Sutherland
Keenan Barrett Taggart
Erin Elizabeth Steenblik
Tanner
Ashley Dawn Taylor
Timothy Albert Terry
Jackson Thrash Tetmeyer
Madeline Jean Thatcher
Tamara Pace Thomson
Brett Carter Thorpe
Alyssa Elaine Tucker
Samuel Gregory Turner
Eric Charles Tweedie
Baylee Savana Vasquez
Tyler William Vogelsberg
Andrew Grayson Wadsworth
Amelia Claire Wallace
Hannah McLain Waller
Christine Marie Wilkins
Jared Willden
Adamson James Wood
Jordan Elise Monson Wright
DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES
Kaitlyn Adams
Denise Hitchcock Alexander
Andrew Douglas Alston
Matthew Reagan Asquith

Lindsey Elise Baldrige
Jeanine Marie Bee
Jill Elaine Bickham
Sharlin Nikele Openshaw
Bird
Alison Maeser Brimley
Amanda Breanne Jewkes
Chapman
Audra Rose Coleman
Amy Marie Davis
Kelsey Louise Allan Down
Amber Rose Feigleson
Andrew Backman Fellows
Lauren Elizabeth Fowler
Travis Wade Frey
Samuel McKay Garbett
Rachel Lora Lee Hale
Madison Glade Hales
Joshua Randall Hall
Rachel Marie Hansen
Camden Lynn Harrison
Nicholas Grant Hardy
Kaylee Brooks Heath
Sul Jee Jenny Hyoung
Emma Karen Barton Jarvis
Jeffrey Fernando Johnston
Rynell Andersen Lewis
Solana Lund
Isaac D. Lyman
Natalie Eliza Oakes
Annalisa Olivieri
Jennifer Suzanne Parmley
Danielle Amanda Queen
Jessica M. Ransom
Lacey Michelle Reid
Corinn Irene Richards
Kendis Rachel Roney
Ashley Marie Smith
Kristen Soelberg
Helena Elise Steinacker
Hannah Mae Stoutenburg
Stephan Robert Trone
Doridé Uvaldo-Nelson
Heidi Voss
Nikkita Anastasia Walker
Jefferson Robert Wiggins
Caroline Amy Woods
Eliza Cathryn Woolley
Anna Laura Young
Erika Leigh Youngberg

ENGLISH TEACHING

BACHELOR OF ARTS
Kari L. Allsup
Sarah Katherine Herzig
Ashcroft
Ashley Seipert Hauber
Justin Neil Madsen
Rachel Lorraine Pullan
Amanda Jo Tibbitts
Brandy Marie Westwood
Marsha Wonnacott
DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATE
Robbyn Joy Rhoades Reeve

French and Italian

Corry L. Cropper, Chair

FRENCH

BACHELOR OF ARTS
Kayla Deann Bowman
Victoria Branscomb
José Alejandro Mitchell
Whitney Elizabeth Palmer
Pratt

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES
Mitchell Walker Jensen
Jared Octaviano Ramirez
Robert Lee Stephenson II
Megan Merlene Mayfield Witt

FRENCH STUDIES

BACHELOR OF ARTS
Joshua T. Fryer
Stephanie "Stevie" Lynn
Thomas
Erin Taylor Young

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES
Casey James Garland
Melissa Lindsey Nitta
Olivia Rhondeau
Jacob Mark Whittaker

FRENCH TEACHING

BACHELOR OF ARTS
Shari Claudia Hyatt

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATE
Alexander J Olinger

ITALIAN

BACHELOR OF ARTS
Rachel Cope
Eden Dall
Alex Steven Luke
Samuel John Nelson

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATE
Richard Scott Acerson

German and Russian

Michelle S. James, Chair

GERMAN

BACHELOR OF ARTS
Scott Nolan Boyce
Tyson Lee Brown
Taylor John Hadfield
Brock David Handley
Justin Reed Park
Eve Suzan Smith

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES
Chelsea Francis Asp
Olivia McCaye Christianson
Dianne Clark Isom
Joseph Brian O'Barr
Adam Douglas Ott

GERMAN TEACHING

BACHELOR OF ARTS

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATE
Aryanna Wiborny

RUSSIAN

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Kara Elizabeth Anderson
Grant Edward Farnsworth
J. Mason Gill
Steven James Hakes
Daniel Vernon Harris
Andrew C. Jensen
Vasilisa L'Vovna Lisianskaya
Kyle Christian Litzenberger
Douglas Wayne Owens
Brandon Mark Petterson
Brian Timothy Preece
Bradyn Richard Ray
Bradley Keith Southard
Justin Maxfield Trapp
Dylan Robert Walker

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Sean David Barnard
Danielle Chelom Leavitt
Steven Smith Penfield
Cheysi Dynay Richey
Shane Albrecht Silver
Jacob Alonzo Stewart

Linguistics and English Language

Norman Evans, Chair

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Kaitlin Eileen Barwick
Allie Bowen
Hannah Elizabeth Chudleigh
Angela Michelle Clawson
Maryssa Joann Dennis
Olimpia A Escamilla
BrookeAnn Henriksen
Benjamin Mark Keeley
Hilary Nielsen
Madalyn Osmond
Courtney JoAnn Smith
Katrina Tibbitts
Nicolas Jaymes Totten
Leah Elizabeth Welker
Lauren Ashley Whitby

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Bethany Ann Bartholomew
Maren Mathewson Childs
Shanna Marie D'Avila
Abigail Lee Kirkwood

LINGUISTICS

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Harrison Dial Allen
Erik William Arnold
Jeneca Renate Baker

Megan Layton Bessey
Rachel Brianne Cannon
Matthew Chhay
Tiana Ku'ulani Cole
Bradley DWayne Elders
Jessica Lynne Fleck
Alexander Barnes Grasley
Barrett Wilson Hamp
James Schofield Hayes
Tyler James Helvey
T'shara Marie Keil
Lindsey Brewer Keller
Daniel Robert Kenner
Joshua William Mitchell
Jonathan Marcus Ott
Sarah Jayne Patino
Anna Cosette Savage
Gregory Scott Shumway
Natalie Skouson
Corry Douglas Smith
Rex Kelly Tyler
Britton John Walker
Thomas Everett Williams
Jennifer Leah Wilson
Rachel Paxton Winkel
Daniel J Wood
Danica Paige Wyson
Elijah Jesse Young II
Alexandra Jean-Marie Zerbe

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Ashleigh Allan
Starla Ann Butler
Katharine Lois Cutler
Hillary Paige Garcia
Cassandra Pelton Green
Matthew Joseph Kirkham

Philosophy

Travis T. Anderson, Chair

PHILOSOPHY

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Matthew Neil Andersen
Josue J. Barraza Cuniberti
Devynne Marisa Barret
Lauren M. Bledsoe
Theron Milo Christensen
Ashley Claire Clinton
Gina Rose Darata
Robert Edgie Donakey
Blake Andrew Hallock
Brandon James Ham
Camille Laurie-Anne Johnson
Jon Andrew Krainock
Taylor-Grey Edward Miller
Benjamin Brent Savio
Jordan J. Smith
Thomas Que Steele
Christopher L Vosters
Gloria Christine Rincón Wade

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Brittany Adams
Emelia Gloria Barnett
Travis Michael Burdge
Samuel Wilde Elder

Courtney Marie Fajardo
J. Scott Jager
Brittany Ricks
Alex Carter Theobald

Spanish and Portuguese

David P. Laraway, Chair

PORTUGUESE

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Cai Elisabeth Olsen Bezerra
Rebecca Renee Horton
Asa Richard Laws
William Thompson Morris
Tyler James Ostlund
Parker Lee Sessions

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATE

Taylor Dee Evans

SPANISH

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Edgard David Coral
Alice Lark Corrigan
Hamilton Frank Day
Daniel Dennis Despain
Courtney Ann Dick
James Robert Driggs III
Samuel Raymond Eaton
Jeremy Leigh Ingersoll
Veronica Gabriela Kartchner
Brandon Gregory King
McKenna Elise Martin
Parker Judd Marsden
Florencia Modernel Molina
Malea McCall Moody
Chase Jeffrey Murphy
José Ramon Navarro
Wesley Melvin Neves
Trevor Thomas Nielsen
Kyle Frederick Norton
Garrett Mitchell Penney
D. Ryan Reese
Scot L Shirley
Evan Douglas Stallings
Chase Lamont Stock
Camille Jackson Trejo
Rex Richard Wilkins

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Kyle Carter Birchall
Karoline Elizabeth Sorensen
Fisher
Benjamin Flores Gonzalez
Melanie Hogan
Lindsey Marie Nielson
Cynthia Bugarin Ostergar
Nathan Joseph Richardson
Emily Belle Ruesch
Taylor Isenhour Simmons
Tanner Russell Sperry
Joshua Todd Sterling
Andrew Stevens
Travis Kekoa Stevenson
Charles Moulton Young

SPANISH TEACHING

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Rachel Hollingshead
Daniel J Hughes

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Laura Eve Carver
Julia Alizabeth Moorhead
Cecily Ackerman Shumway

SPANISH TRANSLATION

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Jacob William Cline
LaNaya J Comsa
Tucker Christian Denton
Kenneth Mark Dunn
Sharon Enid Gaona Gochicoa
Paul William Mielke
Almendra Adela Nuñez
Dylan Patrick Parkinson
Michael Todd Poyfair
Collin Michael Prusse
Lee Nathan Salazar
Sean Thomas Stringham
Joelma Sariah Yangali

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATE

Skyler Jeffrey Hansen

General Studies

BACHELOR OF**GENERAL STUDIES**

JoLynn Ann Duris
Nanette Rasband Hilton
Laurie Gallagher Johnson
Lisa Patria Oliver Pusey
Shalice Marie Rich
Rebecca T Shelley
Patricia Pitcher Timmins

DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Carolyn Jorgensen Heywood
Caitlin Morgan Hibbert
Nancy Dunn Watson

Convocation Participants

Cai Elisabeth Olsen Bezerra is graduating with a bachelor of arts in Portuguese and a minor in linguistics. She was raised in Fort Worth, Texas, and has one older brother. Cai started her studies at Brigham Young University in June 2013. Before BYU she taught herself Portuguese. In 2015 Cai completed an internship at the University of São Paulo, researching the Brazilian author João Guimarães Rosa. In fall 2015 she presented her findings at the Office of Research and Creative Activity's annual symposium. In 2015 and 2016 she received the Foreign Language and Area Studies Scholarship for Brazilian Portuguese. In 2015 she married Filipe Bezerra from Cuiabá, Brazil. Cai taught Portuguese 102 at BYU and teaches piano to young students. She will begin the Portuguese master's program with an emphasis in Luso-Brazilian literature starting this fall at BYU.

Catherine Mary Daun is graduating with a bachelor of arts in classical studies (classics emphasis) and a minor in history. Born in Louisiana and raised in the Cincinnati, Ohio, area, she is the second of four children. During her time at Brigham Young University, she has worked as a teaching and research assistant for the Department of History and the Department of Comparative Arts and Letters and participated in an international study program to Paris. In addition to working as Divine Comedy's stage manager, she has served as vice president of the Eta Sigma Phi Honorary Society for Classical Studies. In her spare time Catherine enjoys playing the piano, reading, and spending time with family. She will be attending BYU this fall as a graduate student in the comparative studies master's program.

Matthew S Kershaw is graduating with a bachelor of arts in comparative literature and a minor in philosophy. He specialized in sacred texts and mysticism and has presented research on various topics relating to aesthetics, philosophy, and psychology. He grew up in Twin Falls, Idaho, and served in the West Virginia Charleston Mission. After marrying his now wife, Kayla, in 2006, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 2007 and served for five years, including two deployments to Helmand, Afghanistan. He has worked as a teaching assistant for the Department of Comparative Arts and Letters for the past two years and plans to pursue graduate studies in sacred texts and mysticism.

Tamara Pace Thomson is graduating with a bachelor of arts in English and a minor in creative writing. She is married to Kim Thomson, and they have three children—Jordan, Rivkah, and Kimball—as well as a new son-in-law, Todd Stapley. Tamara is the ninth of 12 children of George and Diane Pace, and her father taught religion at BYU for more than 30 years. In the fall Tamara will begin an MFA program in creative writing at BYU. She hopes to eventually earn a PhD. Tamara is grateful for the opportunity she had to be a writing tutor with Writing Fellows and for her experience as an undergraduate fellow in the Humanities Center. She has been profoundly influenced by the students at BYU, who have not only tolerated her advanced age but have become dear friends. Tamara has also been astounded by the generous tutelage of her brilliant professors and administrators in both the College of Humanities and across the university.

Catherine Willey is graduating with a bachelor of arts in classical studies (Latin emphasis) and a minor in music. She has won numerous musical awards, including from the Yengich Latin Competition and the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. She has soloed on cello with the Utah Symphony and has worked as a faculty cellist in summer music camps in both Utah and Idaho. She has served as a music missionary in the Orchestra at Temple Square since eighth grade, taking a two-year break to teach English in Kiev, Ukraine, for a semester and to serve a full-time Portuguese-speaking mission in Cape Verde. Catherine hopes to continue teaching cello and performing after graduating from BYU.

Graduation Speaker

Corry Cropper, chair of the Department of French and Italian, specializes in 19th-century French literature and culture. His recent projects include an article on the supernatural in literature, a book chapter on cycling and human performance during the belle époque, and a presentation on archeology in 1830s France. Professor Cropper teaches all levels of French: introductory literature courses, graduate seminars, business French classes, French culture and history courses, and language classes. After serving a mission in Bordeaux, France, he earned a bachelor's degree in French with a minor in English from BYU and master's and doctorate degrees in French literature from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. While a student, he played trombone in the Army National Guard and did sales and translation work to avoid student debt. He enjoys cycling, classical music, Real Salt Lake, and, like his colleagues, pretending to have read the complete works of Marcel Proust. His favorite authors are Charles Baudelaire, Prosper Mérimée, and Marie de France. Professor Cropper and his wife, April, are from Nampa, Idaho, and now live in Provo with their four children.

