

University of Colorado

Boulder

Department of Political Science

College of Arts and Sciences

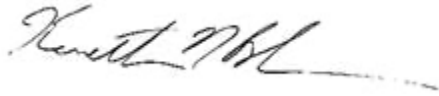


May 2021

Dear Graduates,

The faculty and staff of the Department of Political Science at CU Boulder congratulate you on completing your degree. This is a wonderful accomplishment. We have enjoyed being a part of your journey at CU, and what an unusual and sometimes stressful journey it has been these past couple years. The discipline of political science is designed for students who have curiosity about how we govern ourselves locally, nationally, and internationally. Political science students gain essential analytic thinking skills and an understanding that many of the challenges we face today are ultimately political in nature. We hope that, through your studies, you have gained an in-depth knowledge of politics and the tools necessary for effective political participation and leadership. On behalf of our faculty and staff, we are extremely proud of all you have done while here at CU Boulder. At the conclusion of this most unusual of years, we celebrate your accomplishments!

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Bickers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ken Bickers

Professor and Chair, Department of Political Science



## Doctor of Philosophy

Pavel Bacovsky

New Game Plus: The Effects of Videogaming on Sociopolitical Attitudes and Behavior  
Chair – Jennifer Fitzgerald

Christina Boyes

Extractability: Human capital, technical capacity, and the strategic use of natural resources in  
intrastate conflict  
Chair – Jaroslav Tir

Dalton Dorr

Buying In: Labor Informality and Political Participation in Latin America  
Chair – Andy Baker

Erkan Gunes

Policy Agendas and Financial Markets: An Aggregate Level Analysis of Stock Market Reactions to  
Issue Attention Dynamics  
Chair – Sarah Wilson Sokhey

Jordan Noelle Hale

Why do Politicians use Ethnocentric Rhetoric: A Comparative Text Analysis of English and Spanish  
Speaking Democracies  
Chair – Joseph Jupille

Christopher Jorde

Outsiders on the Rise: New Parties and Party Competition in Multilevel Systems  
Chair – Jennifer Fitzgerald

Samantha Louise Moya

Education, Socialization, and Trade Policy: How the Economic Beliefs of Congress Members  
Influences Trade Openness in the United States  
Chair – David Bearce

Ian Shapiro

The Public's Relationship With Political Misinformation  
Chair – Anand Sokhey

## Master of Arts

Michelle Elizabeth Benedum ~ Sarah Elizabeth Brown

Alberto Miguel Burgos-Rivera ~ Kyle Lee Engels

Tyler Patrick Garrett ~ Ganesh Gorti ~ Komal Preet Kaur

Madeline Mary Mader ~ Andrew T. McLeer ~ Rachel Janie O'Neal

Mohammad Rezwanul Haque Masud ~ Damon C. Roberts

Kathryn Rose Schauer



## Bachelor of Arts

Jack Reily Adams  
Sarah Elizabeth Altshuler\*  
Joseph Alexander  
Alvarado  
William Coley Armstrong  
Andrew Baker  
Brianna N. Barney  
Claire Marie Bauer  
Fiona Baum  
Brett Baxter  
Jess Anthony Becerra  
Scott Michael Belford  
Jacob J. Bennett\*  
Hailey Monet Bennett  
Ryan Michael Berger  
Joshua David Gregory Bly  
Benjamin Emmett  
Bresalier  
Jenna Elise Brethauer  
Katherine Rose Brochin  
Benjamin Stephen Brown  
Jacob Bryer  
Kaitlin Sara Burns  
Noah Jahmai Cadigan-  
Deutsch  
Blaine Campbell\*  
Ellis Grant Carroll  
Lindsey Nicole Carter  
Maximilian  
Christopher  
Chambers\*^  
*summa cum  
laude*  
Isaiah DeMarcus  
Chavous  
Woo Sung Choi\*  
Trevor Mark  
Christofferson  
Ann Lucile Cioffi

Jasmyne Rea Colin-  
Dunham  
Juan J. Contreras\*  
Hallie Suzanne  
Cooper  
Ismail S. Dashti  
Margaret Benton Davis  
Chase Alexander Davis  
Maria Carolina de la  
Torre  
Isabelle Ava Dean  
Oliver Burke  
Dickhausen  
Emily Marie  
DiGregorio  
Kali Ciera Dykstra  
Cory William Ernest  
Austin Michael Fields  
Anton Freeman\*  
*summa cum laude*  
Audrea Kiana Fryar  
Kelly Raye Gallagher  
Joshua Nathaniel  
Garcia  
Louis-Guillaume Garcia  
Katie Jasmine Garcia  
Martinez\*  
Adam Harrison Garfinkel  
*summa cum laude*  
Maryam Jamal Ghuloum  
Claire Isabelle Gilbert  
Aryana Goodarzi  
*cum laude*  
Hank David Graham\*  
*summa cum laude*  
Kelsey Grant\*  
*summa cum laude*  
Molly Kathryn Grebenc  
Aayush Raj Gurung  
Gabriel James Haley

Abbigail Hanson\*  
Sara Judith Sokleap Hauf  
*summa cum laude*  
Haley Heinzelman  
*magna cum laude*  
Ryan Patrick Henkel  
Kylee Brielle Hensrud  
Bethel Hiyabu  
Cole Thomas Hollands  
Hyuk Su Hong  
Lillian Grace Hotz  
Isabel Xenia Hucker  
Caitlin Ann Hyers  
*magna cum laude*  
Alexandra Taylor  
Jacobsen  
Anya V. Jillson Neuwirth  
Mariah Katheryn Jimenez  
*cum laude*  
Brian Thomas Thorp  
Johnson  
William Tucker  
Kaminsky  
Dennis Nathan Kanevskiy  
Jemil A. Kassahun\*  
Camryn Paige Kelley\*  
Katherine Laura Kelly\*^  
Spencer James Kingston  
Madeleine Marie  
Kriech\*  
Kip Leibowitz  
Max Kelly LeMieux  
Elizabeth Anne  
Lemkau  
Emma Marie Levy  
Rye Fraser Livermore  
Katia Lee Lockwood-  
Shabat  
Isaac Moises Lopez  
Pena

Alyssa Jade Lufman  
Jackson Samuel Lutzker  
Tory Brooks Lysik  
Noah Xavier Martin  
Pierce Reed Mayne  
Riley Hope Mayne\*  
Matthew Charles  
    McCarthy  
Jack Thomas McGrail  
John David Metzgar  
Chloe Mike  
Benjamin Ley Miller  
Ellie Marie Mills  
Tabitha Minsky\*  
Aileen Isela Morales  
Jack Evans Mori  
Siyon Gabrielle Morrow  
Brendan J. Mulcahy  
Leonard Tri Nguyen\*  
Connor Jerome O'Keefe  
Ryan Nicole Oberst  
Kevin Ordonez  
Mason Jacob Owens  
Arya Parasnis  
Andrew Elias Payne  
David Pijor  
Jennifer Marie Porter  
Duran Jake Ramirez  
Francesca Ramunda  
Jackson Levi Randall  
Leila Genevieve Roberts\*  
Daniel Allen Rohrbacker  
William Patrick  
    Romano  
Jacinda Rheem  
    Romo  
Rachel Frances  
    Ross  
Nathan Scott Roura  
Isabella Grace Rozario  
Aaron David Rubin

Joseph Quinton Sagrillo  
Chandler David  
    Sanchez\*  
Rachel Sarah Schnapper  
Adam Morgen  
    Schweisberg  
Grant Thomas Simm  
Hanna Xia Skuladottir  
Grace Snow  
Jenna Rae Solomon\*  
    *summa cum laude*  
Isabel Barrett Sperber  
Sabrina Nicole Stern  
    *magna cum laude*  
Cayden Stice\*  
Thomas Cooper  
    Sullivan  
Elizabeth Kay Symes  
Samuel John Talner  
Janeth Terrazas  
Cooper Thayer  
    *summa cum laude*  
Eric William Thomas  
Kyle Alexei Towstik\*  
Amanda Alexandra  
    Traxler  
Taylor A. Turbyne  
    Lambert  
Nicholas Turco  
    *summa cum*  
    *laude*  
Cindy R. Turgeman  
Aidan Michael Van  
    Alstyne  
  
Katherine Elizabeth  
    Vesper  
Isabel Veronica Vigil  
Alexandra Nicole  
    Walker

Joseph Waxtein  
Brad Weber  
Abigail Rose Weeks\*  
    *summa cum laude*  
Katherine L. Weimer  
Maxwell Alexander  
    Wernher  
Harrison Gannon White  
Lauren Paige Wilbor  
Shane Wisneski\*  
Julie Kathryn Wolin  
    *cum laude*  
Mary Caroline  
    Woodhouse  
Madeleine Mary  
    Woolgar  
  
    *\*With Distinction*  
  
    <sup>^</sup>*Members of Phi*  
    *Beta Kappa-Alpha*



## Congratulations to Our 2021 Honors Recipients

**Max Chambers** | Faculty Advisor- Svet Derderyan, *summa cum laude*

“Foreign Aid Spending, Institutional Development, and Economic Growth”

**Anton Freeman** | Faculty Advisor- Kenneth Bickers, *summa cum laude*

“The Relationship between Democratic Values and The Decision to Vote: An Examination of the Strategic Manipulation of Democratic Values in the Short Run”

**Adam Garfinkel** | Faculty Advisor- Dr. Nancy Billica, *summa cum laude*

“Will Punctuated Equilibrium Theory Help Us Explain the Developments Surrounding COVID-19 and Environmental Policy?”

**Aryana Goodarzi** | Faculty Advisor- Lorraine Bayard de Volo, *cum laude*

“The Intersectional Conceptualization Required to Understanding the Collective’s Diminished Political Power as Systemic in the Context of Sexual Assault Against Black Women”

**Hank Graham** | Faculty Advisor- Vanessa Baird, *summa cum laude*

“A Better Way: Policing Tactics and Public Support for Police”

**Kelsey Grant** | Faculty Advisor- Nancy Billica, *summa cum laude*

“Political Agenda-Setting and Climate Policy in the United States”

**Sara Hauf** | Faculty Advisor- Svet Derderyan, *summa cum laude*

“The Genocide-Corruption Nexus: A Critical Analysis of Violence and Corruption in Contemporary Asian Regimes”

**Haley Heinzelman** | Faculty Advisor- Nancy Billica, *magna cum laude*

“U.S. States and Policymaking: How the COVID-19 Pandemic Drove Policy Making Decisions and Increased the Role of Governors in a Time of Lacking National Leadership”

**Caitlin Hyers** | Faculty Advisor- Jennifer Fitzgerald, *magna cum laude*

“Pronatalism and Women’s Employment: A Critical Analysis of Policy and Rhetoric in Interwar Europe”

**Mariah Jimenez** | Faculty Advisor- Steve Vanderheiden, *cum laude*

“Colorado Populace and the Colorado River: An Examination of How Coloradan’s Attitudes and Knowledge Affect Colorado Public Policy”

**Jenna Solomon** | Faculty Advisor- Nancy Billica, *summa cum laude*

“A Study of Food Insecurity Policy, City Communication Efforts, and Factors Limiting Policy Enactment in the United States”

**Sabrina Stern** | Faculty Advisor- Jennifer Fitzgerald, *magna cum laude*

“Economic or Identity? Explaining Support for Catalan Independence”

**Cooper Thayer** | Faculty Advisor- Nancy Billica, *summa cum laude*

“Accountable Systems to Prevent Greenwashing: Understanding the Impact that Public Demands for More Sustainability has on Businesses”

**Nicholas Turco** | Faculty Advisor- Nancy Billica, *summa cum laude*

“The Sports Culture and Climate for LGBT+ Athletes and Members in the University of Colorado Boulder’s NCAA Athletic Program”

**Abigail Weeks** | Faculty Advisor- Steve Vanderheiden, *summa cum laude*

“Evaluating the Social Equity Impacts of California’s Carbon Offset Programs”

**Julie Wolin** | Faculty Advisor- Jennifer Wolak, *cum laude*

“Political Engagement on Social Media”



~ Special Messages to our Spring 2021 Undergraduate Seniors ~

“re.sil.lience – the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness  
Congratulations on showing resilience unlike any other class in living memory! You are ready to  
rock **whatever** life throws your way. Keep in touch!” – Joe Jupille

“You are AMAZING! Congratulations on graduating, on all of your accomplishments, and your  
future plans. You just graduated from college in the midst of a pandemic. You attended classes  
remotely, navigated a weird hybrid system, and survived a very challenging year. You can do  
anything. We look forward to seeing all the great things you are off to do...even if you don’t yet  
know what those things are!” – Sarah Wilson Sokhey

“Congratulations on an amazing achievement during a very difficult time! Take time to  
celebrate! We wish you the best of luck on all of your future endeavors!” – Alex Siegel

“Congratulations on this great achievement. I have had the honor to teach and interact with many  
of you and I must admit that I have always been impressed with your work ethic, dedication, and  
positive attitude. In your years here you have learned many things about the world and about  
yourselves. But the one thing that I trust you will take with you always and everywhere is the  
notion that nothing is black and white, that there are many nuances, colors, pros, and cons to  
each story, to each political ideology, to each policy preference, to each cultural norm. You have  
mastered the tools to understand and appreciate complexity and I think it is exactly THIS which  
will lead you to build the world of tolerance, inclusivity, and empowerment that all members of  
our species deserve to live in. No pressure and good luck! Per aspera ad astra!” – Svet Derderyan

“Congratulations! This has been a year of historic difficulties and you graduated from college in  
spite of it all!” – Carew Boulding

“Congratulations to all of you! You have accomplished so much during your time at the  
University of Colorado. May you have a future full of happiness, success, and good fortune!” –  
Jennifer Wolak

“Congratulations graduates! Well done!” – Jaroslav Tir

“Graduation – a monumental step in the journey called life. May you take the many lessons  
learned while here at CU out into the world and do what you can to make it a better one! So  
happy we got to be part of your story. Just know that we will be here still cheering you on and  
following with pride! – Nancy Billica

“Congratulations on graduating! We know you'll go far!” – Andrew Q. Philips

Congrats! We can't wait to see what you do next! – Anand Edward Sokhey



“HOORAY!!!! CONGRATS CONGRATS CONGRATS! We are all so proud of you and impressed with your accomplishments. Wishing you all the best in the years to come. Happy graduation!” – Jennifer Fitzgerald

“Congratulations CU PSCI graduates! What a strange journey this has been for you and your cohort, but take time to reflect on and enjoy your accomplishments. You are stronger for completing your degree during the 20/21 pandemic, which will soon be history!” – Andy Baker

“Congrats. A difficult year, but you did it! Good on ya'.” – Sven Steinmo

“Congrats!” – Michaele Ferguson

“One of my daughters will also be graduating this month, so I know what you have been through during your last 2 years in college. Keep your head up because you have accomplished a lot in some very difficult circumstances. And the job market will soon take off, so attach your seat belts and get ready! Best wishes.” – David Bearce PSCI/IAFS

“Congratulations, graduates! As professors, seeing you complete your college education is such a joy. Please keep in touch and let us know about the amazing things you are doing.” – Megan Shannon



~ Special Messages to our Spring 2021 Doctrinal Graduates ~

“Congratulations!!! Your work would be impressive even without a pandemic that forced you to do everything differently, but is doubly incredible for having been done under these circumstances. That is no small feat. We are enormously proud of all of your accomplishments. We look forward to seeing the many great things you will do. You've done an AMAZING job!!!” – Sarah Wilson Sokhey

“Congratulations on this great achievement. I have had the honor to teach and interact with many of you and I must admit that I have always been impressed with your work ethic, dedication, and positive attitude. In your years here you have learned many things about the world and about yourselves. But the one thing that I trust you will take with you always and everywhere is the notion that nothing is black and white, that there are many nuances, colors, pros, and cons to each story, to each political ideology, to each policy preference, to each cultural norm. You have mastered the tools to understand and appreciate complexity and I think it is exactly THIS which will lead you to build the world of tolerance, inclusivity, and empowerment that all members of our species deserve to live in. No pressure and good luck! Per aspera ad astra!” – Svet Derderyan

“Congratulations on this huge milestone. We are all so proud of you.” – Carew Boulding

“Congratulations graduates! Well done!” – Jaroslav Tir

“Congratulations on graduating! We know you'll go far!” – Andrew Q. Philips

“I am so very proud of each and every one of you! Meeting the challenges and restrictions of this past year makes your achievement even more remarkable. I wish you the best of luck and a truly heartfelt congratulations!” – Jana L. Jones

“HOORAY!!!! CONGRATS CONGRATS CONGRATS! We are all so proud of you and impressed with your accomplishments. Wishing you all the best in the years to come. Happy graduation!” – Jennifer Fitzgerald

“Well done. Best of luck to all of you.” – Sven Steinmo

“Congrats!” – Michaele Ferguson

“I remember how difficult a graduate program in Political Science can be and I did not have to do mine during covid as you did. We are proud of what you have accomplished and appreciate you as part of our academic community. Thank you and good luck!” – David Bearce

“Congratulations, graduates! As professors, seeing you complete your college education is such a joy. Please keep in touch and let us know about the amazing things you are doing. May you keep nurturing the curiosity for the world around you that you have cultivated during your time in our program.” – Megan Shannon





## We Congratulate the Recipients of the Following Awards

Class of 2021 Outstanding Graduates  
Hank Graham ~ Jemil Kassahun

Graduate Mentor Award  
Jennifer Wolak ~ Alexandra Siegel

Undergraduate Mentor Award  
Nancy Billica

Outstanding Faculty Mentor of the Year  
Jennifer Fitzgerald

Teacher of the Year  
Sarah Sokhey



“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”

Eleanor Roosevelt



University of Colorado Boulder

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