



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Meyer and Renee Luskin

*Department of History*

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

JUNE 14, 2026


## ***LETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR***

Dear History Graduates,

On behalf of the UCLA Meyer & Renee Luskin Department of History, I congratulate you and your families, guardians, and friends on this special day. A degree from a highly regarded History department in the nation's best public university will serve you well in the future. History is so much more than a vocational major. You have learned how to think and read critically, to speak and write effectively, to evaluate sources of information for bias and credibility, to do original research, and to seek the truth. These are valuable skills in any profession and for global citizens in a democratic nation. These skills are more valuable than ever in a rapidly changing world of unlimited information, where we are challenged to discern reality from fiction, fact from fabrication, good journalism from fake news.

You have also learned that we cannot understand the present world without studying the past, and that History can teach us lessons about how to proceed in the future. And perhaps in the course of your studies you have learned something about your ancestors and yourselves. Let us reflect on our family history, think about those who came before us and made so many sacrifices to make our success possible. It's like Bob Marley said: "if you know your history, then you would know where you're coming from." Know your history.

We're very proud of you and wish you the best of luck now and in the future. Go Bruins!



Kevin Terraciano  
Professor and Robert Burr Chair of History  
UCLA BA 1985, MA 1989, Ph.D 1994

***COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULE***

***PROCESSION OF THE CLASS OF 2026***

***CHAIR'S WELCOME***

PROFESSOR KEVIN TERRACIANO

***COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER***

PAULA JUDGE,  
TALENT PARTNER, ACCEL

***RECOGNITION OF DEPARTMENT STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND HONORS***

*PHI ALPHA THETA ♦ HISTORY UNDERGRADUATE ADVISORY BOARD ♦ HONORS THESES*

PROFESSOR JAMIE KREINER, VICE CHAIR FOR UNDERGRADUATE AFFAIRS

***RECOGNITION OF DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS***

*CAREY McWILLIAMS AWARD*

*MARY RITTER BEARD AWARD*

PROFESSOR JAMIE KREINER, VICE CHAIR FOR UNDERGRADUATE AFFAIRS

***PRESENTATION OF THE BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE***

HISTORY FACULTY

***CLOSING REMARKS***

PROFESSOR KEVIN TERRACIANO

***COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER***



***Paula Judge***  
***Talent Partner, Accel***

Paula Judge sits at the intersection of technology and entrepreneurship as a Talent Partner at Accel, a global venture capital firm that was the first investor in some of today's most important companies, including Facebook, Slack, Dropbox, and more. Her role is to offer a global community of founders and entrepreneurs' strategic advice on talent attraction, retention, and development.

She has deep experience working with executive-level talent and advising entrepreneurs on talent strategies for every growth phase. Prior to Accel, she led recruiting at a high-growth tech company, and served as an executive recruiter at a global, retained search firm. Her early career in philanthropy and the performing arts proves that career pivots are possible.

Paula earned her BA in History cum laude from UCLA. She serves as Chair of the UCLA Chancellor's Society [2024-2026], as a member of the Social Sciences Dean's Advisory Board [2026 - current], and as a member of the History Board of Advisors. She lives in Northern California with her family.

***RECOGNITION OF DEPARTMENT STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS***

***GRADUATING MEMBERS OF PHI ALPHA THETA, THETA UPSILON CHAPTER***

Christopher Ball	Benjamin Krut
Jonathan Berookhim	Edward Lee
Joshua Berookhim	Yiran Liu
Alexandra Chala	Jennifer Rita Lopez
Michael Derouin Jr	Michelle Jasmine Medina
Leslie Elizabeth Diamant	Alfredo Moran
Nina Dinan	Pavan Radhakrishnan
Emme Frutos	Anthony Ruggeri
Alice Gao	Kayla Salazar
Michelle Gilman	Jonathan Lee Shugart Jr
Joanne Han	David Simon
Joshua Max Hollander	Eli Moshe Spotts
Sean Joo	Anton Stover

***GRADUATING MEMBERS OF HISTORY UNDERGRADUATE ADVISORY BOARD***

Sydney Baek	Jaidyn McKinnie
Gensen DeLeon	Anton Stover
Marco Escobar-Vallejo	Hyerim Yoon
Edgar Herrera	

***RECOGNITION OF DEPARTMENTAL HONORS***

***HONORS THESES – DEPARTMENTAL HONORS***

Bridget Cline

Stephen Donlon

Jake Ellison

Nadia Virginia Garabedian

Jacqueline Elaine Gómez

Zachary Gomez

Joshua Max Hollander

Landon Nolfi-Browne

***HONORS THESES – HIGHEST DEPARTMENTAL HONORS***

Dorian Corwin

Marco Escobar-Vallejo

Alice Gao

Alexander Li

Georgia McNeill

Nour Rayess

Akira Perez-Schwartz

JQ Shearin

Anton Stover

Pilar Marie Taylor

Sergio Trujillo Gonzalez

**RECOGNITION OF DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS**

**CAREY McWILLIAMS AWARD**

Zachary Gomez

*"California Love: Peacemaking Among Los Angeles Gangs in the 1990s"*

Advisor: Robin D. G. Kelley

**MARY RITTER BEARD AWARD**

Alice Gao

*"Exclusion & Erasure: Excavating Chinese Women's Lives in the Rural American West, 1875-1911"*

Advisor: Katherine Marino

## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2026

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ARIAN KHOSRAVY  
AIDAN JOSEPH KISLAN  
ELLA KITT  
ELLA CONSTANCE KONKEL  
TRUE KWON  
YOEL LAHIJANI  
NATHAN CHIHIN LAM  
MAX LANGMEAD  
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EDWARD LEE  
SYD LEHMAN  
ZOE LEIT  
DARRA MARIA AMATO LEWIS  
ALEXANDER LI  
ZIMO LI  
ASHLEY LIN  
HONGYANG LIN  
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ETHAN MOOSSAZADEH  
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