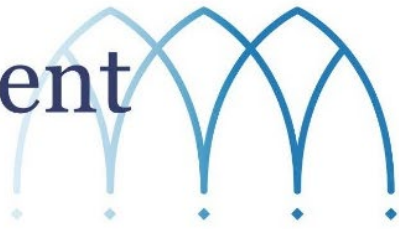


# Marking the Moment

DUKE 2020



In celebration of  
**AMES MAJORS, AMES MINORS and CAH MA's!**

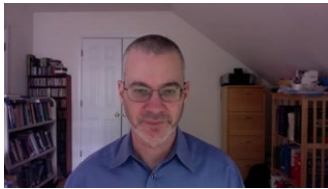
## Opening Remarks from AMES Chair, Professor Hae-Young Kim



Greetings to our graduates and their families on behalf of the AMES department faculty and staff from Durham!

The class of 2020 deserves special commendations for their accomplishments. We greatly admire your tenaciousness, determination and strength in making it to the finishing line in the midst of an unprecedented global crisis. We empathize with you for feeling the brunt of this pandemic during what should be the pinnacle of your time at Duke. You should have faith that you will all emerge as wiser, more mature and more creative for having endured these extra-ordinary circumstances. I believe that the perspectives and critical awareness you have been endowed with as a result will put you at a vantage point that will guide you in your journey of life. [Read more.](#)

## AMES DUS, Professor Shai Ginsburg “Words of Encouragement”, (video)



AMES students, parents, friends.

My name is Shai Ginsburg, I teach Israeli and, more specifically, Hebrew cultures, and for the past 8 years, have also served as the AMES Director of Undergraduate Studies.

This is not the way I imagined this moment. I am sure you heard these words repeatedly over the past few days and that they also echo your own feeling.

We have spent so many hours *in-person* together: in classrooms, offices, hallways, and dining halls; talking and conversing: about matters of great importance, but also about matters of little consequence; learning together—yes, we also learn when we teach you—learning together, then; thinking about the world around us, trying to understand cultures near and far—those we were familiar with and those that were newly introduced to us—and how they relate to each other. Sharing a physical space was elemental to what we were doing, to our very understanding of what it means to approach humans around the globe, with their own language, culture, perspective of life. Indeed, it *is* crucial to the core of our mission as instructors: to share with you, our students, the sense of bafflement, confusion and wonder that drives us in our own pursuit of knowledge. [Read more.](#)

## Recognition of Majors Graduating with Distinction (GwD)



MAJORS  
**Graduating  
with Distinction**  
(GwD)

### [Allison Rose Geary](#)

AMES 1<sup>st</sup> Major (Arabic)

Graduating with Highest Distinction

### [Jessica Marlow](#) ✓

AMES 1<sup>st</sup> Major (Chinese)

Graduating with Highest Distinction

**Outstanding AMES Honors Thesis Award** ✓

### [Giacomo \(Jake\) Beresford McCarthy](#)

AMES 1<sup>st</sup> Major (Middle East)

[Graduating with High Distinction](#)

### [Natasha Mia Rothenbucher](#)

AMES 2nd Major (Arabic)

Graduating with High Distinction

### [Bryan Hoyler Rusch](#)

AMES 2nd Major (Arabic)

Graduating with Distinction

## Recognition of AMES 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Majors

### Arabic

[Madison Cullinan](#)

[Morgha Ruth-Marie Cyr](#)

[Allison Rose Geary](#) (1<sup>st</sup>)\*\*\*

[Alycia Nicole Parker](#)

[Natasha Mia Rothenbucher](#)\*\*

[Bryan Hoyler Rusch](#)\*

### Chinese

[Juyoung Ban](#)

[Charles Shepard Berman](#)

[Nicolas Andres Cort](#) (1<sup>st</sup>)

[Kathryn Hadley Devine](#)

[Sonia Fillipow](#)

[Dahyeon Kim](#)

[Jessica Marlow](#) (1<sup>st</sup>)\*\*\*?

[Jennifer Susan Marsh](#)

[Francesca Phillips](#)

[Andrew Ming-An Tsai](#)

### East Asia

[Jack Sherwood Malsin](#)

[Anqi Pu](#)

### Interregional

[William Jackson Swofford](#) (1<sup>st</sup>)

### Japanese

[Shalini Arimilli](#)

[Michael Blake Chandler](#)

### Middle East

[William Harold Close](#)

[Giacomo Beresford McCarthy](#) (1<sup>st</sup>)\*\*

[Sajidur Rahman-Kader](#)

[Samuel David Taylor](#)

## Recognition of AMES Minors

### Arabic

[Maryam I. Asenuga](#)

[Maxwell McGillivray Bartlett](#)

[Usamah Nazir Chaudhary](#)

[Georgia Simone Lala](#)

[Natalie Rene Larson](#)

[Emma Kate Marek](#)

[Hannah Catherine Palczuk](#) (LNG)

[Ryan Richard Piersma](#) (LNG)

[Yousuf Aatur Rehman](#)

[Alexander Cole Rubin](#)

[Harry Iain Sanderson](#)

[Rachel Serebrenik](#) (LNG)

[Stefano Ralph Watchi](#)

### Chinese

[Lydia Barrios](#)

[Eric Paul Biehn](#)

[Samantha Julianna Garland](#)

[Shiyu Jing](#)

[Angela Chen](#) (LNG)

[Hazel Grey Horvath](#) (LNG)

[Dana Park](#) (LNG)

[Trilok Sadarangani](#)

### East Asia

[Yuuta Rikki Kendall](#) (LNG)

### Hindi

[Lauren Ashton Carr](#)

### Japanese

[Lingrong Jin](#) (LNG)

[Parker Samuel Levi](#) (LNG)

[Kehan Yang](#) (LNG)

### Turkish

[Claire Gibbs](#)

## AMES DGS, Professor Guo-Juin Hong



Dear 2020 CAH graduates,

Two years in the Critical Asian Humanities Program is a challenging journey, to learn languages, theories, cultures worthy of intellectual dedication and diligent pursuit. All of you have done so successfully, especially praiseworthy given the added difficulties in the last few months in your MA career. We share the most heartfelt admiration for your tenacity and perseverance. [Read more..](#)



Ruoyi Bian



Zhuyuan Han



Fatima Anisa Khalifa



Ziyang Li



Chuxu Lu



Andrew Chi Tran



Xinran Wang



Luming Zhang



Wenxian Zhang

## Recognition of AMES Graduate Students

### MA Program

[Ruoyi Bian](#)

[Zhuyuan Han](#)

[Fatima Anisa Khalifa](#)

[Ziyang Li](#)

[Chuxu Lu](#)

[Andrew Chi Tran](#)

[Xinran Wang](#)

[Luming Zhang](#)

[Wenxian Zhang](#)

Abstracts of Thesis Work for each student are available [here](#)



## Student Reflections of AMES

[In Words](#)

In Videos:

[Jack Swofford](#)

[Anisa Khalifa](#)

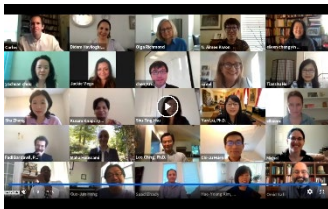
## Closing Remarks



[“On Living in Interesting Times”-Professor Carlos Rojas](#)



[“New Journey after Graduation”-Professor Mbaye Lo](#)



[Congratulations](#)

We would like to thank Faculty, Staff, and Students for all of their contributions to this special newsletter edition of MARKING THE MOMENT 2020.

Please consider making a gift of any amount to support students in the Asian & Middle Eastern Studies (AMES) Department. Use your credit card online at [www.gifts.duke.edu](http://www.gifts.duke.edu) or mail a check to the following address:

**Alumni and Development Records  
Duke University  
Box 90581  
Durham, NC 27708-0581**

in the “Additional/Other Designations” online or in the note section of check specify Asian & Middle Eastern Studies (AMES)