



CLASS OF 2026

COMMENCEMENT

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026



Commencement Exercises

Benjamin E. Rusiloski, Ph.D., President, Presiding

Please stand for the National Anthem.

PROCESSION	“Pomp and Circumstance” — Edward Elgar Delaware Valley University Symphonic Band
NATIONAL ANTHEM	“The Star-Spangled Banner” — Francis Scott Key and John Stafford Smith Delaware Valley University Symphonic Band
WELCOME	Andrew G. Dougherty '00 Chairperson, Board of Trustees, Delaware Valley University
OPENING REMARKS	Benjamin E. Rusiloski, Ph.D. President, Delaware Valley University
RECOGNITIONS AND EMERITUS RESOLUTION	Gloria Oikelome, Ph.D., Ed.D Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKERS	Gloria Oikelome, Ph.D., Ed.D
COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS	Tracey L. O'Neill, Class of 2026 Counseling Psychology, M.S. Dacare Malik Smith, Class of 2026 Media and Communication, B.S. Caleb Noah Messenger, Class of 2026 Animal Science, B.S. Katia Elizabeth Holmes, Class of 2026 Business Administration, B.S.
CONFERRAL OF DOCTORAL, MASTER, BACCALAUREATE AND ASSOCIATE DEGREES	Please defer applause until all degrees are conferred.
PRESENTATION	Benjamin E. Rusiloski, Ph.D. Gloria Oikelome, Ph.D., Ed.D. Joseph H. Paris, Ed.D. Dean, School of Graduate and Professional Studies Dennis L. Riker, Ed.D. Director of Graduate Programs in Education Tanya K.H. Casas, Ph.D. Dean, School of Business, Arts and Sciences Broc A. Sandelin, Ph.D. Dean, School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences
ALMA MATER	Class of 2026: Laurel Brown, Isabella Buchell, Hannah Citron, Amanda Crump, Sarah Franzblau, Katherine Gessner, Charlotte Grayson, Madison Jipson, Rebecca Kihm, Jessica Lentz, Andrew Szalus, Elaina Ward, Rebecca Worthington
RECESSIONAL	“Academic Festival Overture” — Johannes Brahms Delaware Valley University Symphonic Band

Class of 2026

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

GRADUATES AND THEIR DISSERTATIONS



Mace Bearer

PETER KUPERSMITH

Assistant Professor/Library

The mace symbolizes the University's authority to confer degrees and its academic independence. At each commencement ceremony, the mace is carried by the senior most faculty at the University.

Faculty Emeritus

JACKIE RICOTTA, PH.D.

Professor of Plant Science

Emeritus status is an honorary lifelong title granted to distinguished professors or academic administrators upon retirement to recognize their meritorious service and excellence in teaching, research, and service.

Jennifer Marie Albert

Using the Maslach Burnout Inventory to Gain Understanding of Emotional Exhaustion, Depersonalization, and Personal Accomplishment in K-12 Educators

Jonathan A. Ayre

ESPORTS and the Connection to PA High School Students' Attainment of Career Readiness Skills

Brian David Baddick

A Qualitative Study of Pennsylvania Public School Superintendents' Perception on the Ethic of the Profession in Special Education Program Decision Making during a National Pandemic School Closure Due to COVID-19

Nicole M. Carro

Access to and Enrollment in High School Physics Courses in New Jersey: A Mixed Methods Study

Nichole Melissa Corsi

Exploring the Relationship Between School Leadership and Teacher Well-Being

Kelly C. Duque

Finding Our Village: Case Study on the Role of a Family-Led Support Group in Fostering Resilience among Families of Children with Significant Disabilities

Kendra Lynnette Durrah

Cultural Immersion Experience: Changing White Teacher Perception and Practice with Black Males in Grades 8 and 9

Desiree M. Galashaw

Teachers' Perceptions of Leader Actions: Fostering Extra-Role Behaviors and Organizational Citizenship

Ann Marie Kochuba-Mantione

Administrative Stakeholders' Utilization of Practices to Support Career Pathways for Students' Postsecondary Success

Kelly Kozik-Yarnell

Exploring the Exodus: An Examination of Factors Affecting Job Satisfaction Among Recently Retired and Resigned Secondary Teachers in Public Schools

Shannon Kroemmelbein

Special Education Teachers of Students' with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders (E/BD): Perceptions of Preparedness and Support

Kristen M. Long

Navigating Least Restrictive Environment: Implementation Strategies of Elementary School Leaders

Michelle Renee Machuzick

The Montessori Learning Triangle as a Leadership Framework for Organizational Practice

Jason D. Magditch

Creating a Comprehensive Career Pathways Program: A Single Case Study of One Pennsylvania High School

Class of 2026

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

GRADUATES AND THEIR DISSERTATIONS

Bianca Leigh McGrath	Hiring Practices and Social Capital: A Mixed Methods Study of Employing People with Disabilities
Nancy A. Meckstroth	Rights-Based Education for Students with Autism: A Historical-Comparative Analysis of Five Nations
Yolanda Phyllis Morris	Elementary School Teachers' Experiences with the Use of AI-Driven Assessments
Erik O'Day	Teachers' Perceptions of Cell Phone Policies in a Large Urban High School in Northeast Pennsylvania
JoAnn Fumanti Pepsin	Kindergarten Readiness in Early Literacy, Numeracy, and Social-Emotional Skills Among Transitional and Traditional Kindergarten Students
Keith Casimir Pretlow	From Student to Chef: How Certification Shapes Career Success in Urban High School Culinary Programs
Charles Raeford	Faculty Perceptions of a Co-Teaching Initiative: A Sequential Mixed Methods Case Study of Academic and Social-Emotional Outcomes at a Public Charter School
Karima Angelique Ravnell	Understanding Family Engagement from the Lens of Caregivers of Black Students in Suburban Elementary Schools
Karen Elizabeth Rhoads	Leading With Presence: A Quantitative Study of Mindfulness and Compassion in K-12 School-Based Leaders
Andrea M. Richards	A Study of the Relationship Between I-Ready Diagnostic Performance and Mathematics Achievement on the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment across Multi-Tiered Support Systems
Annie-Laurie Robbins	Perceptions of School District Professional Development Adherence to The 2022 Professional Learning Standards
Julie Strain	Leadership Longevity Among Special Education Directors in Pennsylvania
Jennifer L. Zingales	The Experiences of Families and Special Education Professionals When Children With Disabilities Are Suspended or Expelled from Their Early Childhood Education Settings

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

MASTER DEGREES

AGRIBUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Rachael Caferra
 Sheryl Sue Cowan
 Madeline Fairfield
 Brynley Jane Mulveny
 Shannon R. Sente
 Joseph Louis Zabczynski

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Maree Ruth Albano
 Richard Michael Alvarez Jr.
 Christopher Bryan Blackstone
 Derek Austin Cannon
 Jesse R. Chrzanowski
 Michael Coyne
 Brittany Elizabeth Crookham
 Victor James Cruz
 Bryce David Cunningham
 Kimberly DeFazio
 Marc Diehl
 Alexandra Rae Durham
 Ellen Gray
 Jacob Simon Jardel
 Jesse D. Kelly
 Lauren Marie Lepiane
 Trinity Jade Maples
 Melinda Nathan
 Shane Edward Newell
 Lauren Nicole Otto
 Evan Mitchell Pepper
 Evan Michael Royer
 John B. Sauser
 Gabrielle Elaine Schuster
 Pavla Sevcikova-Lapin
 Olivia Hope Snyder
 Megan Eleanor Thompson

COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY

Ashley Barrett
 Jocelyn Brenda Beltran Tapia
 Mary Rose Coll
 Sara Dawson
 Amanda Detwiler
 Apryl L. Eckert
 Dawn Cherie Greenly
 Rylee Hollowell
 Allison Nicole Harvey
 Cheyenne Catherine Krut
 Tracey L. O'Neill
 Daniel H. Packel
 Jamie Papadakis
 Patrick Neil Reynolds
 Amanda Ropars
 Angel L. Santos, Jr.
 Robert Joseph Weber III

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

George Fearghas Evanick
 Carter D. Goodson
 Jillian Margaret Orban
 Tynisha Reid
 Jessica L. Schmoock
 Matthew Roy Studsrud

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Destiny Vanlee Beck
 Nicole Branka
 Clint D. Davis
 Sarah Heidecker
 Katherine Jaber
 Warren L. Kulp, III
 Kristin Madeira
 Ellen Murphy
 Gavin Snyder
 Megan Elizabeth Stauffer
 Lauren Tarwater
 Eric Anthony Velazquez

Class of 2026

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

MASTER DEGREES

HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION

Maira Ahmad
 Jessica René Callahan
 Kelly Ann Kostick
 Thomas Tatem Levins
 Alyssa Marie Rudd
 Brittany J. Silverman
 Arianna Eline Snowden

MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Timothy Michael Donohoe
 Patricia Fox
 William James Gates
 Rachel C. Hennis
 Brenda Lager
 Terri T. Mack
 Owen Daniel Penczak
 Britney Alysa Smith
 Kristen Williams

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

Paige Brennan
 Louis Aleksander Brescia
 Rachael Etta Broder
 Sarah Coelho-Dalrymple
 Olivia Dahlgren
 Laura Marie Hanlon
 Alexandra Higgins
 Kailey Horton
 Main Sen Koo
 Evagelia Kouros
 Joyce Lee
 Kayla Mitchell
 Monica Peña
 Jassika Eihab Riad
 Iqra Shahid
 Candy A. Shirey
 Alana Hall Sobota
 Samantha Vemuri

PUBLIC POLICY

Lindsay Troyer Shannon

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Christa Joyanne Greagori
 Antony Daniel Monella

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Madeline Bennett
 Paige Driscoll
 Hayden Guile
 Kimberly Harding
 Rachel Irvin
 Molly K. Keenan
 Gia LaRocca
 Kayce Lynne Lathrop Tindell
 Wendy Leon
 Bethlehem Mengesha
 Brianna Pietsch Guggisberg
 Karla Ivonne Rosas Antunez
 Tabitha Seymour
 Kennedy Skidmore
 Kayla Smalley
 Ava Leigh Stetter
 Allison Sutter
 Isabella Thomas
 Camille Tomlinson
 Kearney Turant
 Nicole Emily Uchman
 Ashley Warrick-Johnson
 Jenna Windham

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Julia Catherine Daly
 Lori Everitt
 Karli Haines
 Alexandra Piazza
 Victoria Piperato
 Alexa Marie Tomanelli

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, ARTS AND SCIENCES

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

BIOLOGY

Richard Thomas Bagala **
 Aidan Patrick Bitto
 Alexander Donald Blackwell
 Jason M. Browning * ^
 Allyson Byrne
 Adham Ezzeldin El-Maghalawi
 Katherine Elizabeth Gessner *** +
 Maximus Gordon *** ^ +
 Abigayle Olivia Hartzel
 Maura Grace Hundley
 Lauren Janowiak
 Riley E. B. Johnson
 Jenna Korchma **
 Jessica Claire Krafczyk
 Jake Peter Lauten *
 Jordan Lutz
 Naomi Martinez-Ruiz
 Lily Ann Neveris
 Garret Edward Owens
 Natalie Danica Paluch *** +
 Stephanie L. Pang
 Aurek Jackson Pinckney
 Yuly Portillo
 Kimberly Antoinette Sauers ** +
 Peter Farrington Wentz

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Ryan M. Adler
 Milton Delray Baltimore, Jr.
 Brady Beres ** ♦
 Madison Taylor Brake
 Reuben Shaw Temple Costin
 Gianni Cucina
 Austin Tate Curran
 Hannah Grace Dahl **
 Victoria Elizabeth DiAndrea

James Odiri Efeyini
 Colin Andrew Foley *
 Kam Thomas Geiger **
 Brandon Haniff ***
 Katia Elizabeth Holmes ** +
 Devin Horton
 Conrad Bruce Jackson, III
 Hakim Nasir Jones
 Zachary Taylor Kennedy
 Savannah Elizabeth Martin
 Nolan Charles Massaro
 Michael Maxwell
 Robert Joseph McConnell
 Joseph McCullough +
 Gavin Anthony Migliori
 Daniel Murphy
 Madison Lynn Nichols **
 Aaron Robert Osborne
 Michael Charles Passacantando **
 Marquez Piatt
 Antonio Redding, Jr.
 Christine Sakos ***
 Gabrielle Elaine Schuster *
 Rebecca E. Siry
 Matthew Skikus *
 Amy Tyczkowski
 Andrew Joseph Vernieri **
 Rourke Sweeney Watson
 Tatyana Wills **
 Juan Manuel Zurita

CHEMISTRY

Natalia S. Dello Buono **+
 Kelly Ann Conley ^
 Tarun Metla
 Jacob Wysocki ***

* cum laude
 ** magna cum laude
 *** summa cum laude

♦ W.W. Smith Scholarship Recipient
 + Student currently completing the Honors Program
 ^ Student completed all requirements for a dual degree

Class of 2026

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, ARTS AND SCIENCES

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY

Raghad Alfeen ♦
 Katelyn Emma Barber *
 Brianna Lynn Bashore * +
 Markella Ann Bishop **
 Maria Lynn Bottone *** +
 Anthony Michael Falkenstein ♦
 Ciana Marie Feliciano *
 Kylie Hope Flanagan ***
 Taylor Rae Haines **
 Alexandra Tate Hendricks
 Shawna Brooke Hinkle **
 Shannon Rose Mertz ***
 Mikyla Oliver ***
 Declan Patrick Smith
 Alexis Morgan Toth
 Maegan Kaylee VanNorman
 Kiona Starr Williams ***

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Gabriela Andreina Agron
 Micah Bootman
 Hannah Brennan *
 Angelina Hope Bresnen **
 Lauren Elisa Caruvana *
 David A. Casas
 Jaden Kevin Devlin ***
 Manuel Flores-Peralta
 Meztly Garcia ♦
 Ryan Marvin Gilpin
 Morgan Hangey ***
 Moses Madison
 Liam Thomas Martin *
 Luke Terry Moore
 Kaitlin Simon
 Anthony Smith *
 Dylan James Thomas **
 Brianna Suzanne Thompson *

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

Caleb Johnson **
 Brynne M. Miller
 Lauren Kathryn Williams

HISTORY, POLICY AND SOCIETY

Jennifer C. Giberson *** +

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Hannah Lee Rose Grant ***
 Christian John Ley

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

Olivia Lynn Banta
 Jacob Anthony DiBlasio **
 Aubrey Ennis ♦
 Cavan Ashley Kinne
 Dacare Malik Smith
 Andrew Snowden
 Bryan Matthew Winstead

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Jason M. Browning * ^
 Madison Marie Donnelly
 Maximus Gordon *** ^ +
 Jena Nicole Kreiser
 John Mahana
 James Thomas Mahana
 Liam Pote * ♦
 Erin Ann Shuey ** +
 Layla Elizabeth Lynn Whittaker

WRITING AND LITERARY STUDIES

Lex Feuchter **
 Mouse Jane Moseley
 Charlie Roller ***
 Rebecca Lynn Worthington

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Ernort George, II

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

AGRIBUSINESS

Mountain Lee Anderson
 Laurel June Brown
 Thomas Foster Garrett ***
 John Francis Heery
 Sarah Lyn Hershey **
 Ash Hussain
 Katherine Elizabeth Maurer
 Raymond Gerald McAleer *
 Bruck Victoria Ohler
 Teresa Siri *
 Benjamin Cole Smeland **

ANIMAL SCIENCE

Sophia Anne Battaglia
 Malena Liane Bielski **+
 Kenzie Lin Boyd **
 Elizabeth Bywaters ***
 Ariela Cambrono Fernandez +
 Abigayle Elizabeth Carey ***+
 Ashley Lynn Cordes ***
 Courtney Lee Fox *
 Brianna Lee Grim
 Joseph Lemay Gumina **+
 Nora Rose Hansen **
 Faith Elizabeth Hewes **+
 Hannah Brooke Hoffman ***
 Madison Faith Jipson
 Emma Catherine Kershner **
 Kyle Douglas Lindley *
 Sydney Ann Loesch
 Allison Marie Mailhot **
 Caitlin Isabella Martinez
 Emily Elizabeth McCreary
 Mairead Patricia McDermott +
 Morgan Leslie Mecham
 Caleb Noah Messenger **+
 Maisie L. Neuber **
 Nicole Alicia Ocejo

Victoria Kelly Offenburger *
 Ellen Faith Olbrich
 Angel Lauren Ortiz
 Allison Marie Pierce *
 Zariah Gabriella Prescott **
 Elizabeth A. Ramos *
 Sarah Rasmussen *
 Katie E. Schwarz
 Abigail Marie Sear **
 Rachel Marie Sokolowski *
 Zumylmarie Solivan-Herrera
 Olivia Spofford
 Carley Mae Sweigart **
 Sydney Marie Utt *
 Taylor Weaver *
 Abigail Elizabeth Winemiller *
 Alexis Marie Wright

CONSERVATION AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Makena Riley Albright **
 Abigail Grace Barlam ***
 Autumn Lise Beesley *
 Rachel Elizabeth Burnett
 Shannon Grace Davis **
 Nicoletta Maria Del Re **
 David Joesph Exner *
 Sarah Ivy Franzblau ***+
 Russell Joshua Frey
 Trinity Lees Gomez ♦
 Briana González **
 Rebecca Kihm
 Isabella Kroboth
 Alex Joseph Laudenslager
 Jessica Rose Lentz
 Sarah Light

* cum laude
 ** magna cum laude
 *** summa cum laude

♦ W.W. Smith Scholarship Recipient
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 ^ Student completed all requirements for a dual degree

Class of 2026

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

continued

CONSERVATION AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

LexyLee Lyons ***
 Joshua Dylan McConnell
 Kathleen Anna McGeoy * +
 Allison Suzanne Michener
 Sean James Miller
 Maddison Helene Moran
 Jacqueline Eileen Nachmias
 Jaiden Grace Newman *
 Gloria Imani Owens
 Elsa Patino-McCombs ***
 Gavin Christopher Perillo
 Samantha Salazar
 Cassandra Faith Sheridan +
 Kevin Alexander Smith
 Andrew Kieran Szalus ***
 Josephine Tabar
 Shayla Nicole Toro-Duke
 Brianna Caitlin Towns
 Jordan Tuley *
 William Griffin Wagner **
 Alex Veru Wargo
 Owen Scott Wescott *
 Nicholas Palmer Whitesel
 Caden David Yonish **

CROP SCIENCE

Luke Roland Reichard

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Morgan Elizabeth Brown
 Nicholas Carango
 Natalie Hope Cotte
 Christian Fetzer **
 James Thomas Goss *
 Karson Delancey Hair **
 Cora Nicole Hickling
 Brynn Elizabeth Koval ***
 Raymond Lamer **
 Tyler Joseph Landis
 Adrianna Lena Lewis ◆
 Brianna Susan Mascali *** +
 Taylor Larissa Obermann ***
 Grace Catharine Quinn
 Aaron Sheckler
 Michael Lowry Stollsteimer **
 Arianna Vantrease **

EQUINE MANAGEMENT

Serina Ann Bennett **
 Lena Carol Cooney *
 Abigail Rose Hinkle
 Kyla Jones
 Svetlana Jane Leonberg *
 Jordan Elizabeth McCrae
 Autum Prisco **
 Taylor Ann Pruitt
 Anna Iryna Elisabeth Riches
 Jillian Adelina Santangeli *
 Mackenzie Jean Snyder *

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

EQUINE SCIENCE

Victoria Rose Davies **
 Rian Eisert
 Joseph A. Fanelli
 Jillian Margaret Haid *
 Kaylee Michele Hartung *** +
 Vivian Jane Young

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Tori Bockrath
 Catarina Mary Fortunato
 Julia Maria Fredericks * ◆

HORTICULTURE

Ameer Mohanad Awawda *
 Justine Paige Bielecki
 Katherine Rebecca Brown *
 Jenna Claire Franco *
 Payton Fulton **
 Matthew Joseph Izuka *
 Audrey Joyce Moltumyr *
 Ryan Parish
 Sarah Caterina Renna
 Charley Maria Silfee *** +
 Justin Alan Vining *

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Sailor Anderson *
 Jake Cammarota *
 Mallory Jane Cibort
 Akiba Gregg ◆
 Elijah Peter Harvey
 Roman Michael Lewyckyj *
 Sean O'Toole
 Mia Jayne Zadlo

LANDSCAPE DESIGN/BUILD

Samuel John Everett
 Patrick Thomas Flynn
 Nicholas A. Nardini
 Timothy Alan Torrey, Jr.

NUTRITION SCIENCE

Elizabeth Marie Detweiler

SMALL ANIMAL SCIENCE

Grace Allen
 Julianna Arena
 William Ivan David Averill
 Isabella Skye Buchell
 Alanna Maria Casciato ** +
 Amanda Nicole Colecio ***
 Kelly Ann Conley ^
 Mackenzie Connery
 Amanda Nicole Crump
 Tyler D. Cuello
 Brenda Mary Evans
 Stephanie Ferrara ** +
 Sara Elizabeth Fleischer **

* cum laude
 ** magna cum laude
 *** summa cum laude

◆ W.W. Smith Scholarship Recipient
 + Student currently completing the Honors Program
 ^ Student completed all requirements for a dual degree

Class of 2026

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

continued

SMALL ANIMAL SCIENCE

Alexandria Josephine Galati *** +
 Heather Goldman **
 Riley Heaven Grass ◆
 Charlotte Lee Grayson
 Samantha Rose Greco
 Jenna Lynn Green
 Hanna Elizabeth Grove
 Kaitlyn Mary Jackson ***
 Monthy Johnson
 Anna Louise Kraus **
 Allison Paige Lewis
 Brianna Ashley Mason **
 Callie Elizabeth Nadler
 Mia Nye
 Nicole Theresa O’Keefe ***
 Olivia Rexrode
 Shawn Scherzer
 Riley Ann Solt
 Madeliene Nicole Sommer
 Karsyn Stetser *
 Danni Allyssa Tice
 Ashley Michelle Turner
 Emily Taehee Pollicino ***
 Shelby Ann Zink

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS

Peter Robert Brantner
 Jared Anthony Briley
 Asher Dutta ***
 Christian R. Kahle
 Phineas Edward Keenan
 Kieran Matthew Schneider

TURF MANAGEMENT

Ashton Nicholas Benkwitt
 Brayden Daniel Castellani
 Connor Mitchell Esbenshade
 Alexander Samuel Garcia
 Gauge Hartney *
 Patrick Morrison
 Jillian Ann Ulozas
 Nathaniel E. Wooters
 Frank John Zawacki *

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

ASSOCIATE DEGREES

ZOO SCIENCE

Brooke Taylor Bertrand **+
 Hannah Grace Citron *
 Allyson Nicole Currier
 Cayden Paige Devine
 Stephenie Elizabeth Giberson *** +
 Charlotte Lin Hunter
 Robert Jones
 Sarah Elizabeth Anne Ludemann *
 Margaret Rose Prosperie
 Dante Ronan Schwartzman
 Caroline Elizabeth Smith
 Amy Isabella Smith ** +
 Taylor Nicole Tansey *
 Elaina McKenna Ward
 Timothy Ward

EQUINE MANAGEMENT

Dayne Jillian Chicosky
 Emily Elizabeth McCreary
 Jessica Rachel Rubin
 Sofia Grace Walsh

Because the interim between the submission of semester grades and the printing of this program is short, this list of graduates may not be accurate. Some students may not be listed because they completed their degree requirements later than anticipated and missed the printing deadline. Although their names do not appear in this program, they will be announced with their classmates. The degrees and the declaration of related honors will be confirmed and validated via official transcript, which will include all grades for courses. In all cases, the actual awarding of a degree by the University is subject to verification by the Registrar. Therefore, these exercises and this program booklet are to be considered as ceremonial only.

- * cum laude
- ** magna cum laude
- *** summa cum laude
- ◆ W.W. Smith Scholarship Recipient
- + Student currently completing the Honors Program
- ▲ Student completed all requirements for a dual degree

Academic Regalia

The origin of the academic gown or “regalia” dates back to the Middle Ages, when people dressed according to their social class. The clergy were the literate class, so academic dress followed that of the church. The long gown and full hood were originally necessary to fend off the chill of unheated halls. Today, however, the scholar’s gown is a symbol of academic distinction.

The standard for ceremonial academic dress in the United States was first set in 1865. Revised several times, the 1959 code is now nationally accepted. This code provides a method to determine, from the design of the gown, the size of the hood and the colors on the hood, exactly what degree was last earned, from which institution and in which field of study.

Gowns vary as follows:

- The bachelor’s gown is green, has full and draping pointed sleeves.
- The master’s gown is black, and is identified by sleeves which drape freely to the wrist. They are crescent shaped in the back and extend below the knee.
- The doctoral gown is distinguished by full, bell-shaped sleeves and velvet facing down the front. These panels and three velvet sleeve bars may be either black or in the color that represents the field of study in which the degree was earned.

Hoods are made of the same fabric as the gown. The hoods are lined with the official color(s) of the college or university that conferred the degree.

FOR EXAMPLE:

Green and gold	Delaware Valley University
Maroon and orange	Virginia Polytechnic Institute/ Virginia Tech
Blue and gold	University of Delaware
Brown and white	Lehigh University
Blue and white	Penn State University
Red and blue	University of Pennsylvania
Scarlet	Rutgers University
Crimson	Harvard University

The hoods are edged in velvet in varying widths. The official color of this edging identifies the subject to which the degree pertains.

FOR EXAMPLE:

Maize	Agriculture
Light blue	Education
White	Arts, Letters and Humanities
Gold yellow	Science
Dark blue	Philosophy

Caps are the traditional mortarboard shape or the soft, square-topped style.

The mace originates from the 11th to the 16th century, and was a short wooden club called a masse used in hand-to-hand combat. Medieval monarchs were often protected by loyal officials who carried such clubs. The masse evolved into the mace, which became a royal ceremonial symbol. The mace, continuing today in its symbolic role, represents the sovereignty of the institution.

Undergraduate students graduating with the following GPA will be wearing the following cords:

Summa cum laude (3.9-4.0 GPA)	Maize and forest green cord
Magna cum laude (3.7-3.89 GPA)	Maize and white cord
Cum laude (3.5-3.69 GPA)	Forest green and white cord

In addition to the Latin Honors cords, graduates wearing approved regalia include:

Alpha Lambda Delta	Gold, burgundy, and white cord (intertwined)
Alpha Phi Sigma	Blue and gold cord
Chi Alpha Sigma	Black and gold cord
Delta Tau Alpha Honor Society	Green and gold cord (intertwined)
Honors Program	Purple and gold cord
Order of Omega Honor Society	Ivory and gold cord
Pi Alpha Xi	Cerulean blue and green cord
Sigma Beta Delta Honor Society	Green and gold cord
Tau Sigma Honor Society	Gold and burgundy cord (intertwined)

Board of Trustees

Chairperson: Andrew G. Dougherty ’00
Vice Chairperson: Hakim Richard Savoy ’90
Secretary: Jimmy G. Cheek, Ph.D.
Treasurer: Joy R. Levy
President: Benjamin E. Rusiloski, Ph.D.

Francie M. Babik ’10, MBA ’14
 Human Resources Executive

Christopher Becker
 Director of Agricultural Operations
 Staff Representative

Allison A. Buskirk-Cohen, Ph.D.
 Director, Honors Program
 Professor, Psychology
 Faculty Representative

Jimmy G. Cheek, Ph.D.
 Chancellor Emeritus and Distinguished Professor of
 Educational Leadership and Policy, University of
 Tennessee, Knoxville
 Professor Emeritus, University of Florida

Neil Clover ’89
 Chief Technology Officer, SDI

Thomas A. Debrowski ’72
 Executive Partner, Calera Capital

Marlene M. De la Cruz
 Partner, LM Peak Performance Consulting

Andrew G. Dougherty ’00
 Founder & Chief Investment Officer, Osprey Peak
 Capital, LLC

Richard H. Finkel ’83
 President and Founder, Applied Nutrition Corp., Retired

Louis L. Hegyes ’70
 Higher Education Admissions and
 Enrollment Professional, Retired

Cory H. Kieschnick, Ed.D.
 Associate Professor, Equine Science and Management
 Faculty Representative

Joy R. Levy
 Vice President, DDLP
 AT&T, Retired

Kenneth I. Lipton ’61
 President, K.I. Lipton, Inc., Retired
 Owner, Operator, Cimarron Ridge Ranch, Retired

As of May 1, 2026

Philip A. Luccarelli ’83
 Chief Operations Officer

Cam Maio
 Vice President Marketing, NJM Insurance

Jonathan I. Mandell
 Fine Artist, Jonathan Mandell Designs, Inc.

Kyle W. McAuliffe ’24
 Social Media Manager, Lenape Valley Church
 Young Alumni Trustee

Kellie A. McGowan, Esq.
 Partner, Obermayer Maxwell Rebmann & Hippel LLP

Andrew F. Moyer, Ed.D. ’23
 Dean of Student Success and Engagement
 Staff Representative

Blair T. Rush ’91
 President, Southeast Region - C&N Bank

Benjamin E. Rusiloski, Ph.D.
 President, Delaware Valley University

Hakim Richard Savoy ’90
 Chief Supply Chain Officer, C.H. Guenther & Son

Amy Leenhouts Tait
 Founder, Broadstone Real Estate, Retired

Gary S. Ulrich ’82, D.O.
 Assistant Professor, Indiana University School of Medicine
 Orthopedic Surgeon, Retired

EMERITI TRUSTEES

Majid A. Alsayegh	Katherine H. Littlefield
William S. Bartles ’69*	Dr. Morton S. Mandell, HM
Dr. Baruch S. Blumberg*	Gerard A. Marini ’52*
Martin Brooks ’54*	Dr. Edward M. Mazze
Dr. James E. Diamond ’61	William H. Merz*
William E. Dunscombe ’68	Arthur Poley ’54*
Dr. Joshua Feldstein ’42, ’52*	Donald C. Richardson ’56*
Elizabeth H. Gemmill, Esq., HM	Peter G. Rolland ’52*
Harvey J. Gushner*	Rabbi Dr. Lance J. Sussman
Mark W. Hartman ’58*	Ron R. Thoma*
Joel Hillman, II*	Dr. James E. Trainer ’82
Patricia C. Hilton ’76	Dr. C. Delores Tucker*
Dr. Jere W. Hohmann*	Dr. Susan B. Ward ’80
Kevin L. Keim ’68, Ph.D.	David Washko ’67*
Jean Work Kenneally, HM*	Richard H. Woodring ’34*
Joseph (Chip) Krauskopf	
Joseph L. Krauskopf*	<i>* deceased</i>
	<i>HM - Honorary Member</i>

About Delaware Valley University

The National Farm School was founded in 1896 by Rabbi Dr. Joseph Krauskopf with a mission to provide struggling immigrants with the scientific and practical education needed to make a living in agriculture. This type of experiential education, which is common today in higher education internship programs, was over 125 years ago, and it is believed that Rabbi Krauskopf was one of the first to establish this practical approach to education.

Rabbi Krauskopf was an early leader in reform Judaism and passionate about social justice, writing and speaking extensively on these subjects during his lifetime. His commitment to fight for the rights of all people, regardless of color or religious belief, for the rights of women, and for the environment, are just as important to our institution today and live in our commitment to creating an inclusive culture.

Under the leadership of Dr. James Work, a 1913 graduate and president of the National Farm School, the school expanded programming and became a junior college. In 1948, the school became the National Agricultural College with programs added in biology, business administration, chemistry and food science. Dr. Work oversaw significant physical improvements to the facilities and in 1960 the institution became Delaware Valley College of Science and Agriculture. The name was abbreviated to Delaware Valley College in 1989 and became a university on April 8, 2015.

Today, Delaware Valley University occupies more than 1,100 acres across three locations, and is a four-year, multi-disciplinary university with more than 2,700 undergraduate, graduate and professional studies students. We offer rich programs in business, humanities, agriculture and the sciences, 27 undergraduate majors, 12 master's programs, a doctoral program, and a variety of complementary adult education courses. Our founding principle, science with practice, is fully realized today in DelVal's award-winning Experience360 program. Experiential learning is embedded in our curriculum from day one of our students' first year, and 100% of our students graduate with real-world experience. E360 is much more than an internship program. Students have the opportunity for leadership experiences, research, study abroad, community service, and internships. This is why DelVal was named the 2019 Outstanding Experiential Education Program by the National Society for Experiential Education.

Alma Mater

By the winding banks of Neshaminy,
Stands our Alma Mater dear.
We look o'er your fields we love,
Cherished year by year.
All hail your colors, Green and Gold,
As they proudly wave on high.
Treasured mem'ries fond and true
In our hearts will lie.

With your inspiration great,
Ever forward we will go,
Fearless of the tasks ahead,
Conquering each foe.
To you, our college, let us sing
Praises of your honored name.
Courage, strength and unity,
Build an endless fame.



1896

DELAWARE
VALLEY
UNIVERSITY

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