

Ryon M. Farhadi

Bachelor of Science in Physics: Applied Physics Summer 2021 Hometown: Los Gatos, CA

Ryon worked hard in his applied physics coursework and enjoyed classes like Electromagnetism & Electric Circuits Labs, as well as his research on Germanium Semiconductors. He also loved his internships which led him to pursue electrical engineering. Ryon will be attending USC this fall to work toward an M.S. in Electrical Engineering after which he aims to enter the high-tech & renewable energy industry to make an impact in his community.

While not studying physics, Ryon was the president & captain of the Men's Club Volleyball team where he competed in tournaments across the country representing UW with his teammates. Ryon would like to thank his family for trusting and believing in him throughout his journey at the University of Washington.



Bachelor of Science in Physics: Comprehensive Physics Bachelor of Science in Astronomy Winter 2021

At UW, Apurva enjoyed it all: class lectures, office hours, physics/astronomy seminars, colloquia and time spent with her peers. She often collaborated with SPS, LoA and the UW GEAR UP team to organize and host fun outreach events.

Apurva also engaged with diverse topics of research. Her work includes building a 2D ion trap simulation with the TIQC group, assisting the Nanodevices group with fabrication, studying the circumgalactic medium with WerkSQuAD, and researching an application of crystals as CEvNS detectors for a physics REU at VT. She's very thankful to her exceptional research advisors, graduate student mentors and class professors who continue to inspire and support her.

Apurva plans to pursue graduate-level studies in the future.



Amanda Jean Goldsmith

Bachelor of Science in Physics: Applied Physics Minor in Climate Sciences Spring 2021

Amanda's passion to understand the world around us and desire to care for our planet lead her to pursuing an Applied Physics degree with a Climate Science minor at UW. After graduating in only 3 years, Amanda plans to follow her dreams where she can use her education to work in harmony with her passions. Amanda would like to thank her mom for always providing endless love and constant support for her dreams, as well as being an inspiration and role model to look up to; She thanks her boyfriend Paul for sticking by her side and providing unconditional love and constant motivation. She thanks her best friend Rebekah who was always there for her; And lastly, thanks her dog Kenzie who has been an admirable companion along her journey.



Karen Gong

Bachelor of Science in Physics: Applied Track Minor in Applied Mathematics Spring 2021 Hometown: Vancouver, WA

Karen enjoyed her physics coursework and is grateful to have learned alongside such diverse and intelligent students. She would like to thank her professors for guiding her through the mysteries of the universe, her friends and all those she met at UW for the adventures and reminding her the value of friendship, and always, her wonderful family for all the love and unwavering support throughout her life. She could not have done this without you.

Jonah Brooks Hall

Bachelor of Science in Physics: Biophysics Minor in Applied Mathematics Spring 2021

Jonah became fascinated with mathematical models and their ability to reveal mechanisms in nature that are not easily understood. Under the mentorship of the Schiffer Lab at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center Jonah worked to become a published author in infectious disease modeling and will continue to study infectious diseases while attending graduate school at the University of British Columbia department of Mathematics.



Blake D. Hartung

Bachelors in Applied Physics Minor in Entrepreneurship Spring 2021

Extremely happy to have been a part of the program this last 4 years. What started from an EFS Class on Dark Matter led to a complete undergraduate experience. I was happy to diversify myself using my resources on campus to experience new things and find my passion. I'd like to thank my family, friends, faculty, and everyone who helped me grow over these years.





Jack Henry

Bachelor of Science in Physics: Biological Physics 2021 Hometown: Stanwood, Wa

After Jack transferred from Skagit College he really enjoyed his studies into the applications of physics to biological functions of the body. He worked as an undergraduate researcher at the I-LABS. This is where he found more fascination into the physics of the brain.

Jack wants to thank his math professors at Skagit for inspiring him to go further, Professor Taulu for giving him a chance at the I-LABS, Megan for making it through AMATH with him, and he wants to thank his family for their loving support.

Alex Herrmann

Bachelor of Science in Physics: Comprehensive Track Baltic Studies and Latvian minors Spring 2021 From Mountlake Terrace, Washington Alex would like to thank everyone who supported her these past four years and to all the wonderful people she met at the UW both inside and outside the physics department!







Darren Evan Hunt

Bachelor of Science in Physics: Comprehensive Physics & Astronomy

Bachelor of Arts in Geography Winter 2021

Hometown: Middletown, Connecticut

Darren has always aimed for a career in science. Summer nights at the Manastash Ridge Observatory developed his passion for observational astronomy and instrumentation, and he will next work at Las Cumbres Observatory before pursuing a PhD in astronomy. He will continue working towards a future where STEM is accessible and disabled scientists are embraced in their fields.

Darren thanks Professors Jessica Werk, Oliver Fraser, and his mentor Dr. Jennifer Sobeck for sharing the beauty of astronomy; Professors Boris Blinov, Amal al-Wahish, and advisor Margot Nims for their unmatched support in physics; his partner Brian L., family in Connecticut, DRS coordinator Kowan Russell, and astro friends Andi B. and George S. for all their help along the way.



Andrew Ivanov

Bachelor of Science Comprehensive Physics

Bachelor of Science Astronomy

Spring 2021

Andrew would like to thank Professors Armita Nourmohammad, Deep Gupta and Kai-Mei Fu for mentorship and opportunities to grow as a researcher. His special word of appreciation goes to Margot and Professor Olmstead whose kind advice and support made it all possible.

This Fall, he will be entering a Physics PhD program at Caltech with the goal to explore and expand the frontiers of theoretical physics.



Ofir Kedar

Bachelor of Science in Physics: Applied Physics Minor in Applied Mathematics Spring 2021

Hometown: Redmond, WA

Physics has given me a unique and amazing perspective on how I view the world around me. We as humans live in a mathematical puzzle, and getting to explore it, understand it, and utilize this knowledge in my own endeavors has been an incredible experience.

With all the ups and downs, I'm sure we've all found that this coursework was not always a walk in the park, so I deeply thank everyone who's been part of this journey; my professors who put in that extra effort (it did not go unnoticed), my family, my study mates/friends, my housemates, and Desmos Graphing Calculator. Thank you all for getting me to where I am now. You are very much appreciated.



Rebecca Kyer (she/they)

Bachelor of Science in Physics (Comprehensive) and Astronomy Spring 2021

Rebecca is pleasantly surprised to learn that she can, after all the challenges of getting started, do physics. Rebecca is looking forward to her post-bacc. research position studying high-mass X-ray binaries over the summer and plans to apply to graduate programs in astronomy in the autumn.

Rebecca would like to thank Professor Eric Bellm for teaching her how to do research, Professor Jess Werk for supporting her through the ups and downs, the many former students who welcomed her into the fold when she first came to UW, and her family for believing in her always.

Nikou Lei (雷铌釦)

Bachelor of Science in Physics:

Comprehensive, with Honors

Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics: Standard

Winter 2021

Hometown: Jingzhou, Hubei, China



Nikou is proud to be the first-generation college student in her family. She will be pursuing a PhD in medical physics at the University of Wisconsin in the fall.

Nikou thanks everyone she has met, all the kindness and challenges in her life. Together they have shaped her values, goals, and who she is. Special thanks to:

Her family and friends.

Nikou's undergraduate research mentors, Prof. Taulu and Dr. al-Wahish.

The physics department advising team for being the best advisors.

Nikou's professors and the medical physics team at UW Medicine who have given her genuine support and advice.

Pubo Huang.



Yifan Liu

Bachelor of Science in Physics: Comprehensive Physics Winter 2021 Hometown: Beijing, China

Yifan truly enjoyed her past four years at UW and the Physics Department, during which she explored different areas of physics and was attracted to the beauty of light. This fall, she will attend University of Colorado Boulder for a PhD in Physics.

Yifan thanks Profs. Majumdar and Taulu for their help and guidance in finding her passion, PhD student David Rosser for his teaching in the lab, her friends Yiru, Yiwen, Yiyin and Zeyu for their advice and company at different stages of her college years, and her wonderful parents for their love, support and understanding throughout her life.



Yuan Lu

Bachelor of Science in Physics: Applied Physics Spring 2021 Hometown: Beijing, China

Yuan loved his study in applied physics and from his internship and research experience at Sensor, Energy and Automation Lab, he decided to continue his study and acquire a higher engineering education for his future research and career. Next fall, he will enter the electrical engineering master program at Columbia University to pursue his passion in smart energy.