

Thank A Professor

2020-2021

What is Thank a Professor?

The CTL has launched a “Thank a Professor” initiative to enable students to recognize faculty members whose efforts helped create an outstanding experience for them. Students can send personalized messages to faculty, and each faculty member receives a letter and certificate with the student’s message, with copies going to department chairs. Deans and vice presidents receive a summary listing all faculty recognized by the students, accompanied by selected messages from each school or college. We are sharing these notes with the permission of the students, and have removed any identifying information.

In the 2020-2021 academic year, 362 students completed 625 submissions, recognizing the hard work and dedication of 305 faculty members.

Thank a Professor Recipients, Academic Year 2020-2021

Architecture & Design

Matthias Altwicker
John Bermudez
Gertrudis Brens
Michelle Cianfaglione
Robert Cody
Nicholas DeFelice
David Diamond
Sergio Elizondo
Jonathan Friedman
Hyun-Tae Jung
Sean Khorsandi
Dong-Sei Kim
Charles Matz
Donghwan Moon
Jessica Ngan
Efrat Nizan
Michael Nolan
William Palmore
Jeffrey Raven
Neil Rosen
Isaac Southard
Jason Van Nest
Nader Vossoughian
Dustin White

Arts & Sciences

Kamal Achrafi
Linda Aghraham
Sumaira Ali
Chad Andrade
Matthew Andria
Lissi Athanasiou-Krikelis
Nkosi Bandele
Michael Banks

Madhabi Barua
Catherine Bernard
Rozeta Bicaku
Christeen Bisnath
Nicole Calma-Roddin
King Cheek
Yusui Chen
Sheetal Chowdhary
Daniel Cinotti
Crystal Collins
Carol Dahir
Christiana Davies
Cindy Davis
Sophia Domokos
Chris Douvris
Minaz Fazal
Robert Feirsen
Rochelle Feldman
Jole Fiorito
John Fisher
Ruslan Flek
Franca Foligatti
Jennifer Formica
Bernard Fryshman
Claude Gagna
Gregory Gerber
Bryan Gibb
Amanda Golden
Joanne Grasso
Michael Hadjiargyrou
John Hogan
Michael Hosenfeld
Michael Hull
Michael Izady
Anila Jaho
Scott Jarvis
Leroy Jemison
Lori Jirousek-Falls

Ciera Jones
Chrisoula Kalogiannis
Dina Karafantis
John Karahalidis
Ellen Katz
Jacqueline Keighron
Christine Kerigan
Donald Kershan
Nayoung Kim
Henry Kudisch
Cindy Leibel
Bonnie Love
Marilyn Lucchi
Jill Macdonald
Vera Manzi-Schacht
Jim Martinez
Andrea Merckx
John Misak
John Moore
Christopher Moylan
Ann Murray
Niharika Nath
Cesar Navarrete
Kate O'Hara
Ben Ovrin
Sung (Kevin) Park
Jungho Park
Ann-Marie Parkes
Sanjay Patel
Ana Petrovic
Sharon Petrushka
Anthony Piazza
Gabrielle Platz
Navin Pokala
Judith Prescott
Angela Quapp
Victoria Rayskin
Emily Restivo

Yael Roitberg
Alexander Root
Dennis Rowen
Ranja Roy
Carrie Rubinstein
Sonia Russell
Gail Sachs
Jen Salavarrieta
Pejman Sanaei
Anne Sanderson
Katarzyna Sawicka
Michael Schiavi
Tracey Segal-Nachamie
Ryan Seslow
Vazgen Shekoyan
Alexander Shundi
Stan Silverman
Anna Silverstein
Laurence Silverstein
Gerilyn Smith
Cristian Suvagau
Rex Taibu
Monique Taylor
Spencer Turkel
Martin Vasas
Rozina Vavetsi
Britta Wheeler
Patty Wongpakdee
Melda Yildiz
Meyer Yousha
Mena Youssef
Roger Yu
Mandy Zhang

Engineering & Computing Sciences

Altaf Afaq
Maherukh Akhtar
Ludmilla Amani
Reza Amineh
Robert Amundsen

N. Sertac Artan
Hamid Atighechi
Ahmadreza Baghaie
Kiran Balagani
Sidi Berri
Arman Bonakdarpour
Damon Bruccoleri
Houwei Cao
Dorinamaria Carka
Batu Chalise
Remi Charron
Jerry Cheng
Leila Dastgheib-Beheshti
XiaoJun Di
Cecilia Dong
Arian Ebneyamini
Taoufik Ennoure
Chakib Farhat
Felix Fischman
Susan Gass
Paolo Gasti
Stanley Greenwald
Yongjian Gu
Anupama Gupta
Maryam Hamidi Rad
Tanweer Haroon
Xueqing Huang
Azhar Ilyas
Tindaro Ioppolo
Ayat Jafari
LLoyd Jura
Ehsan Kamel
Supriya Karmaker
Momchil Karov
Abdolhossein Kashani
Patricia Keen
Abdolazim Keshtkar
Sandra Kopecky
Chee-Meng Lee
Wenjia Li
Fang Li

Wei Li
Ju Seop Lim
Ali Mahdavi-Amiri
Tokunbo Makanju
Yasir Malik
Saverio Marsicano
Richard Meyers
Sarah Meyland
Bill Mihajlovic
Amin Milani Fard
Annette Muttray
David Nadler
Howard Newman
Michael Nizich
Lazaros Pavlidis
Robert Raciti
Mohammad Rahnama
Seyed Masood Razavi
Samuel Rostam
George Salayka Jr.
Anand Santhanakrishnan
James Scire
Yunlong Shao
Michael Silva
Sergiy Sokolovskiy
Stefan Storey
Jeffrey Ting
Robert Tudisco
Artemij Voskoboynikov
Sabiha Wadoo
Qian Wang
M. Christopher Wernicki
Tao Zhang

Health Professions

Tobi Abramson
Zehra Ahmed
Tindu Arikupurathu
Yennie Armand
Colleen Chiariello
Jaclyn Cotgreave
John Crenny

Michele Damiani
Donna Darcy
Natalie Eichele
Beth Elenko
David Emig
Patricia Falero-Strickland
Christina Finn
Laura Friedland
Christine Galante
Robert Gallagher
Mindy Haar
Mercy Joseph
Birgland Joseph
Pamela Karp
Gurpreet Kaur
Shinu Kuriakose
Anthony Longo
Alexander Lopez
Mary Frances McGibbon
Lorraine Mongiello
Melisa Piccinini
Barbara Piccirillo
Helen Marie Pietro
Michael Pizzi
Sharon Shyrer
Lisa Sparacino
Pamela Treister
Ling Wan-Albert
Sara Winter
Corri Wolf

Management

Diamando Afxentiou
Kelechi Akazi
Leon Applewhaite

Ozen Asik
Stacey Baez
Joshua Bienstock
Luana Carcano
Sinan Caykoylu
Elisa Chan
Majid Davoodi Makinejad
Petra Dilling
Martin Feuer
Venugopal Prabhakar Gantasala
Peter Harris
Frederick Harris
Alan Holzer
Lu Huang
Xueting Jiang
Hamid Kazemi
John Kent
Bisrat Kinfemichael
Colleen Kirk
Alper Kocer
Robert Koenig
Maya Kroumova
Tianze Li
Frank Lorne
Rajan Madan
Purushottam Meena
Rakesh Mittal
James Murdy
Birasnav Muthuraj
Raja Nag
Seunghan Nam
William Ninehan
Radoslaw Nowak
Tunc Ozelli
Vincent Petraro
Cristina Seaman

Steven Shapiro
Shaya Sheikh
Veneta Sotiropoulos
Jangwon Suh
Rajendra Tibrewala
Vanaja Vadakepat
Jihong Zeng

Osteopathic Medicine*

William Blazey

** Initiative not yet publicized to COM students; William Blazey taught a course in School of Health Professions.*

College of Arts & Sciences

Thank you (Professor) for being such a great professor this semester! Your class was easily my favorite, and I gained so much insight into just how intricate and layered the case involving the JFK assassination was. So much so, that I have decided to switch my major to interdisciplinary studies and I'm currently exploring the idea of law school! I hope to take a class with you again in the future! Take care!

•

Thank you (Professor) for an excellent semester. I was worried about taking this class because I haven't taken calculus 3 in 2 years but you made this subject clear, approachable and most importantly, extremely interesting. You have a gift for teaching and clearly a strong passion for mathematics which is great for us students. If NYIT develops a math major I would be happy to attend more of your classes. Take care and best of luck with all future endeavors.

•

Wanted to thank you for great 3 semesters. You managed to make writing a joy, infused with so much creativity. I wanted to thank you for the student support towards all students and for always Being available to answer any question that occurred. This has been a great learning experience for me thank you!

•

Thank you for guiding me through my thesis project and helping me get ready for my future career! Without your help, it would have been much more difficult to create such a meaningful project and connect with various sources of support. Specially, during this pandemic, you have been always caring about my classmates and me both mentally and health-wise, and truly helped us in many ways even beyond what was required in the course. I feel very lucky to have joined the UX/UI Design and Development program at NYIT and I couldn't have asked for a better mentor in this program. I hope I get a chance to return the favors you've done for me in the future. Again, thank you very much! With much respect, I wish you the very best!

•

Chemistry is not easy and it is always a challenge. However, you made it so simple and easy. I love the way you teach and I love the way that you came to class everyday with a planned lesson plan. You are very organized and overall you are a professor that I would recommend for anyone taking chemistry at New York Tech. Thank You so much. You are awesome, enjoy your summer!

•

Thank you so much for being such an empathetic professor who understands the circumstances we had to encounter this semester. I was a little frantic walking into this semester because you were the only professor I have never took a course with (I mean I found out that you were a pretty new professor). I am so glad that I took this class with you, and honestly I really hope I can take another course with you. You care about your students, I can tell, and I'm so grateful to have been able to have this opportunity. Thank you so much for being an amazing professor!

College of Engineering & Computing Sciences

I would like to express my thankfulness to you, a great professor, for your wonderful lessons over the past year. I also want to thank you so much for your kindness and your great assistance to an international student like me. But the most important thing I've appreciated is your belief in me. I'm a better researcher because of you. Without your helpfulness and directness, the school would have been more challenging. Thank you for being a remarkable teacher and I am very grateful to have you as a teacher.

•

I would like to thank my professor for giving such an amazing teaching experience despite of the COVID pandemic. We never felt the drawback on learning online under his guidance. Specially the assignments and the lectures were so unique and engaging that I can't thank him enough. I will always refer my juniors to take this course under his guidance (specifically). Thank you professor for all the efforts you put in to teach the students.

•

I honestly don't know where to begin, but let me just begin by saying that you are beyond incredible both as a professor and as a person. Thank you for everything you taught me since I stepped foot in NYIT. You are a great professor who actually cares about educating his students and cares about them as people, you never gave us less than 100%, not even 1 session, you have always been on top of the game even during COVID with most professors taking time to adjust to remote learning, you came in with a plan and your organization blew me and other students away. I have truly enjoyed your lectures and your witty comments, jokes and stories, I would do it all over again if I could. I am deeply saddened that I will not have any classes with you next semester, it's something I have gotten used to while in NYIT but one thing I know is that you are one of the best professors I have ever had and I will always remember and talk about you. Thank you for everything! professors like you are what drives students like myself to success.

•

Thank you (professor) for your encouragement throughout my entire academic journey at NYIT. You always brought a passion to the classroom that was contagious and it helped me stay focused and do my very best in all of your courses. Stay well.

•

Thank you for so meticulously organizing your course materials online. It was like having a roadmap to success.

•

Thank you for mentoring our team during the Senior Design Project and letting us publish our research. This project gave me a lot of insight and opened doors to a lot (of) internship opportunities.

School of Architecture & Design

If I would name one Professor at SoAD who has the best influence and impact on my creativity and ability to produce more quality and quantity in design, I would pick (this) Professor. Even though you only had me for one semester still, you will always be my inspiring teacher. I can't thank you enough for your professional and honest hard work, and the quality of work you did to help me understand what architecture and design is. You have planted seeds of creativity, clarity and comprehensive design thinking in my brain. I really appreciate the hark work of every single Professor I had the honor to learn from at NYIT and I believe SoAD is very rich with the best and nicest professors. I have no doubt that SoAD at NYIT will be even more successful in the future because it has great teachers and hard working people like you. Thank you

•

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the guidance and support you gave us. You were always there to listen to our concern and were always patient in giving us your valuable lectures. Thank you for being a wonderful mentor and shaping both our professional and personal life. We will always appreciate everything you did for us.

•

Thank you for the continuous support that you offered my friends and I in your class. No matter how much I struggled and emailed you, you always responded in a very very short time period. I cannot compare you to any other professor because if I did, they wouldn't stand a chance. I never would have thought that Reinforced Concrete could be so interesting and engaging. I know that in reality it's probably boring; but you made it fun and kept us on our toes. From the practice homework problems, to the full test reviews before and after tests, to the project checkups you've provided, you have made online schooling a better place all together. I've truly learned from this class and cannot wait to incorporate all of it into my future projects. Thank you and please keep doing what you've been doing.

•

Dear Professor, I can't find the right words to describe my appreciation for the outstanding and inspiring work you managed to do through the last 2 semesters. Your professionalism, smart management, knowledge and guidance made me more competent and confidant. I believe no matter how long I may live after graduation but I will always remember your reductive notes and recommendation. I feel proud to call myself as a student of (this) Professor everywhere I go. Thank you so much

•

I wanted to say that I'm glad I had you for this class and that I learned the most about architectural history that I was able to apply to all my studios. I always wished I would have you again as a professor for another class, but the memories I do have will be with me forever.

•

Thank you for all of your help and feedback this semester. Thank you for caring about the students in the program and for ensuring that the program meets our needs and expectations.

School of Health Professions

Hi (Professor), I just wanted to say thank you for another amazing semester. Despite the challenges of remote learning, I truly feel like I've learned a lot from you. Thank you so much for being so attentive and patient.

•

Thank you (Professor) for allowing me to become an effective researcher to be able to create an executive summary, a healthcare clinic business proposal, and a healthcare clinic business plan. I learned a lot about all that is entailed in creating an efficiently organized healthcare clinic from the management to the healthcare staff members and the EHR systems used to protect patient healthcare records. This knowledge will help me in my career as a healthcare professional.

•

(Professor) I just want to say thank you so much for going out of your way for us this past Fall and Spring semester, ensuring we all get placements and graduate on time. I truly appreciate all your hard work, you rock!!

•

Thank you for a great and challenging semester. I enjoyed your lectures and learnt so much. I look forward to taking another class with you very soon. Thank you for being a great professor and keep up the good work.

•

Thank you for your genuine concern for your students' success!

•

Thank you (Professor) for assisting me with my professional development. The topics for your posts on a weekly basis made it possible to share my experiences at my practicum site with my peers which allowed me to strengthen my interpersonal communication skills which will be valuable in my professional future. The daily logs and professional development assignments allowed me to build on my writing ability and I can proudly say that these tools were instrumental in developing my strong work ethic. In addition, your instruction in this course has allowed me to establish a confident professional writing style and enabled me to establish efficient time management.

School of Management

Dear Professor, thank you so much as you are one of the most supportive professors I have ever had, and the material and topics you provided to us during this semester were very useful and practical. I wish you all the best.

•

Thank you, Professor. You're one of the kindest professors I've met at NYIT. You are really passionate about teaching. You're very knowledgeable in your field of study and I feel that you really enjoy your job. I was in your BUSI class and most of the students were international students who didn't speak much English but you were very patient with them. You also look at your students as friends and allow them to text you if they have any questions.

•

Thank you for being such a fantastic teacher. Your enthusiasm for teaching and commitment to your students shine through in everything you do. I consider myself extremely fortunate to have you as my instructor. I hope you are aware of the incalculable effect you are having on so many people's lives.

•

Dear Professor, when I first came to NYIT, I had just completed my collegiate athletic career as a Business Management major, and as someone who was eager to be more involved with statistics, quantitative analysis and data, your course(s) were the gateway for me to explore just that. It is thanks to your outstanding quality in instructing your students like myself, that had made it available for me to switch my major to Finance, and have the ability to graduate in May 2021 with Summa Cum Laude. I will forever be grateful for your efforts in keeping up with me and my fellow classmates, and teaching us regardless of how hard it seemed at the time. Looking forward to staying in touch.

•

Thank you for being a great professor and advice giver! It's because of your teachings that I'm able to apply my knowledge of marketing to my current position as a Market Research Manager at the company that I work at. Thank you for making learning fun and having really engaging class discussions.

•

I really enjoyed your class as it was interactive and informative. You kept the class engaged and I feel like I responded well to your teaching style. Also, it was helpful that you kept the assignments organized and displayed on canvas from the beginning of the semester. Each assignment built off one another which allowed us to understand how the process of preparing for international assignments occur. Thank you for a great class!

•

Thank you for considering us your colleagues and not just your students. It has been such a unique experience learning from you that the 5-hour long classes didn't feel that long after all. I didn't just learn what the syllabus needed me to but so much more about the real world of finance. Thank you for everything and I will be sure to take another class with you.