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BAS 2021 Graduate

We did it.

We had high highs and low lows, but we're here now with our diplomas.

We lost hours of sleep, we sacrificed our health, we burnt out, but we did it.

Some of us came close to dropping out, or maybe just me.

Some of us leaned on our friends. I know I did.

We had great crits. We've had devastating crits. Salman's gonna remember this one — when we were getting roasted in our housing crit, and I don't know why but I could not stop smiling, and it made it so much worse. I guess I was smiling through the pain.

I know we all have our own bad crit stories.

But here we are, we did it. We can be proud of what we went through.

In first year we came here, some of us were from different towns, from different provinces, from different countries and continents, and some were from here, but none of us knew what to expect and what was to come.

We weathered the storm, we found our community, we found friends, and we learned a lot about each other and ourselves.

We have to be proud of what we accomplished. We have to be proud of every single detail, every single struggle, because it wasn't easy.

Over the past four years, some of us worked harder than ever before. Some of us had dealt with more stress than ever before. Some of us had to deal with medical conditions — that may or may not have come from a friendly raccoon or drinking the water on a trip to Mexico.

Some of us travelled on the DSA trip.

Some of us went on exchange and got stuck on the other side of the world worrying and stressing about how to get home during a pandemic, and some of us decided to surf it out. Shout out to Angie.

We went through it, and as corny as it is, if it weren't for you and the friends I've made, I wouldn't be here right now.

So, I'm grateful, and I'm proud of what we've accomplished.

Our families, our profs, and our friends got us through it.

I want to say thank you to all of you. Thank you to the faculty and administration. Thank you to Ellen, Johan, Jill, Maria, and Manuel for making this event happen. Thank you to the students speaking. Thank you to the profs who spoke. Thank you, Mariana, for caring so much for me and all your students, and thank you to my family for supporting me.

We did it guys, Thank you.