

HARVARD COLLEGE



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**Special Commendation  
Extraordinary Teaching in Extraordinary Times**

July 10, 2020

Dear Alexandra,

As you know, we decided this spring that we couldn't ask students to evaluate their courses and their instructors as they ordinarily would, given the magnitude of the disruption caused by the pandemic and by the abrupt shift to remote teaching. As a result, we're not able to recognize excellence in teaching in the customary way.

I did ask all the undergraduates, however, if there were any instructors who deserved recognition for their work this spring. The undergraduates named 281 of out of over 2,500 working this semester, and you were one of them. Your students praised your flexibility and creativity in adapting to online teaching—and your compassionate response to the challenges they faced.

I want to join your students in thanking you for your work. That we were able, in the midst of all the disruptions, to continue offering a meaningful education to our students is due entirely to instructors like you.

With all best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda Claybaugh', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Amanda Claybaugh  
Dean of Undergraduate Education  
Harvard College Professor  
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