

# University of Texas at Arlington – College of Engineering Commencement Address

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College of engineering, Esteemed faculty, Parents and Families thank you for inviting me to the graduating Class of 2019!

Graduates, you did it, you're here, and thank God, it is over right? You made it through one of the hardest parts of life. The long hours spent in the Nedderman basement, the ERB and the Central library finally paid off.

(when Dean Crouch asked me to speak here, I was surprised because, I am not a high-powered politician, a policy maker or a motivational speaker. I am an ordinary bridge engineer, but at least I am amongst other engineers and that's home for me, so you are stuck with me for the next 10 minutes)

I remember my commencement ceremony and the reason, why I became an engineer, it was to create. You too will create. Great things, just like over 200,000 bright individuals who walked through these UTA halls, and over half of them stayed in Metroplex . These returning students contributed over \$16B to 7th largest economy in the Country and the 6<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world, which we call it home the great state of TX. I know you will be furthering their contributions. It was the generations of engineers before you who created the Brooklyn bridge, Microsoft, facebook, google, apple, hoover dam and my personal favorite the LBJ express right here in the Metroplex. They never stopped dreaming for the pursuit of excellence, their passion led to perfection. Like you, they knew failure is not an option, I know YOU TOO Will ALWAYS BE LEARNING, ALWAYS BE HUNGRY AND ALWAYS BE A STUDENT OF ENGINEERING!

Engineers are pioneers! Engineers shape how we travel, ( hperloop or highspeed rail) how we communicate (text or snap), how we exercise, how we use energy, how we improve environment. There are so many things we take for granted which are created by engineers like you, the clean bottled water, wireless internet we cannot live without, the amazon delivery to our door step, the satellite images of our galaxy and even the Avengers end game. The fact of the matter is everything we do in our lives is touched by an engineer. As remarkable as these engineering achievements are, there are just as many challenges to be realized beyond our imagination.

As our world evolves from mass production to advanced technologies, you will be the integral part of improving the quality of our lives. You will leave a better world than the one you came in.

You are going to make a difference after all you are a Maverick. UTA has trained and perfected the skillsets you need for a successful and enduring career. Many times, we engineers are not in the popular crowd and are introverts, we are secluded in our corner of the campus, maybe against our will, but then, maybe not, that seclusion, that dedication and that devotion is today's graduation.

The truth of the matter is that this time luck is on your side you are graduating in a golden age of engineering. There is tremendous demand of engineers in the industry. It is truly a remarkable time to be an engineer.

Everyone considers law and medicine as the kingpin professions. What they don't realize is that the strong engineering fundamentals have prepared you for tasks beyond the capability of any profession. Because of this knowledge, you are in demand not only in an engineering field but in any field. You will have multiple job offers, companies big and small are eager to take your help. My advice is to go with your passion, because if you do what you love, you will never work another day.

Our field is wide, and knowledge is deep it offers us so many opportunities. Gone are the days when people used to think an engineer is a train operator, but what **they don't think about is the multi-faceted beast that we are; we the engineers- permeate through all aspects of a person's daily life, we are the reason, they're able to do what they want, when they want and how they want.**

So, you see my fellow engineers you are of the utmost importance to the world. You are wanted. You are needed. You are powerful and above all you are an engineer.

Thank you and Congratulations graduates!