

# Distinguished Graduate

# 2022



## Gabriela Navarro

**ARCHITECTURE**

*“Without music, life would be a mistake.”*

**- Friedrich Nietzsche**

*“I can go the distance.”*

**- Disney’s Animated Movie, Hercules**

Gabriela was born in San Angelo, Texas. Shortly after she was born, her father joined the military and she moved about every 3 years after. She is the oldest of six and learned to be responsible from a young age. In 2012 she graduated from Clark High School in San Antonio, and went to UTSA that same year, but due to personal circumstances, she was unable to complete her degree. She started training in martial arts and received her black belt in Tae Kwon do in 2014, her black belt in Muay Thai in 2017, and continued to achieve her 2nd degree blackbelt in Tae Kwon Do that same year.

She met her husband, Jesse, while training and they were married in 2015. With his encouragement, she enrolled in San Antonio College in Fall 2019 after they both lost their jobs 2 years earlier and struggled with minimum wage. She planned to further her education to better provide for her family and became the main provider while attending college.

Gabriela fell in love with the San Antonio College atmosphere and stepped out of her comfort zone to become the person she is today. She discovered her confidence and the ability to persevere while juggling work, school and maintaining her martial arts training. She is currently enrolled in her last semester at San Antonio College with a GPA of 4.0 and hopes to graduate with her Associates in Spring 2022.