



WESTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT

Silver City, NM | Friday, December 12, 2025

WESTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS

Steve P. Neville, Chair
Farmington, New Mexico

John W. Wertheim, Vice-Chair
Albuquerque, New Mexico

J. Dean Reed, Treasurer
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Keana Huerta, Deputy Secretary/Treasurer
Hurley, New Mexico

Gregory Trujillo, Member
El Prado, New Mexico

WESTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Christopher Maples, Ph.D.
Interim President

W. Jack Crocker, Ph.D.
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Kelley Riddle, MPA
Vice President for Business Affairs

Betsy Miller, MA
Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management

Magdaleno Manzanarez, Ph.D.
Vice President for External Affairs

Julia Morales, MBA
Vice President for Compliance and Communications

Manuel Bustamante, Ph.D.
Faculty Marshal

TO OUR GUESTS

The solemn but joyful recognition of the graduates' years of study, commencement is an important occasion for Western New Mexico University, its faculty, staff and students. Guests play a key role in even a hybrid ceremony, and so we hope you'll join us and your loved ones, who are celebrating a life-changing accomplishment. The ceremony will be streamed live on wnmu.edu and on the university's Facebook page.



COMMENCEMENT

DECEMBER 12, 2025

WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre

*Overflow seating will be available in the
Global Resource Center auditorium.*



SHARMAN APT RUSSELL
PROFESSOR EMERITUS/ AUTHOR

A long time nature writer and teacher of writing, Sharman Apt Russell has published fourteen books translated into nine languages.

Her Diary of a Citizen Scientist won the prestigious John Burroughs Medal for Distinguished Natural History Writing.

Her recent nonfiction *What Walks This Way: Discovering the Wildlife Around Us Through Their Tracks and Signs* (Columbia University Press, 2024) is part memoir and part introduction to common mammal tracks in North America.

She has particularly explored the alignment of environmental and humanitarian goals in her *Within Our Grasp: Childhood Malnutrition Worldwide and the Revolution Taking Place to End It* (Pantheon Books, 2021) and *Hunger: An Unnatural History* (Basic Books, 2005).

Her awards include a Rockefeller Fellowship, Pushcart Prize, New Mexico/Arizona Book Award, and Writers at Work Award. Sharman lives in the magical realism of the Gila Valley and teaches in the low-residency MFA program at Antioch University in Los Angeles. She is also a proud professor emeritus at Western New Mexico University, where she taught writing skills for more than thirty years.

WESTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY 2025



MARK HUNTER RILEY

**BS FORESTRY WILDLIFE (Posthumous Degree)
FARMINGTON, NM**

Mark Hunter Riley was born July 18, 2000 in Farmington, NM, to parents Brenda and Jeffrey Riley (passed 2024) and brother David. Mark passed on April 16th, from complications related to a brain tumor caused by neurofibromatosis.

Mark endeared himself to everyone he met with his unique combination of kindness, goofiness, and heartfelt sincerity. He was intentional in relationships, investing time in the people he loved. He cherished time spent with family. He was a wonderful son and an amazing though sometimes maddening brother. He loved his grandparents, and was always there to help them. He played with his little cousins, who adored him.

To older cousins, he was a fun, unifying presence. He kept in touch with friends near and far from all periods of his life. Mark enjoyed camping, fishing, hunting, hiking, and exploring his natural surroundings. He was pursuing a Forestry Law degree in hopes of becoming a game warden.

Mark was most passionate about his faith and shared God's love with all he met. At WNMU, he attended regular bible study and participated in a discipleship program. He valued scripture and prayer, attributing the blessings in life and the strength to overcome challenges, to God.

WESTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY 2025

FALL COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Processional

Pomp and Circumstance by Sir Edward Elgar

Convocation

Charnelle Lee, Professor of Nursing

Presentation of the Colors

Color Guard — Marine Corps League, Gaffney-Oglesby
Detatchment 1328

Pledge of Allegiance

National Anthem — Mariachi Plata de WNMU

Welcome and Introduction of Guests

Christopher Maples, Ph.D.

Presentation of Posthumous Degree

Betsy Miller to the family of Mark Hunter Riley

Associated Students of WNMU President Address

Carlos Carranza

Conferral of Degrees

Christopher Maples, Ph.D.

W. Jack Crocker, Ph.D.

Presentation of Candidates

Mr. Jason Quimby - Zoom reader

Phillip Schoenberg Ph.D.

Alumni Welcome

Jodi Edens-Crocker

Closing

Charnelle Lee

Recessional

Pomp and Circumstance
by Sir Edward Elgar



ACADEMIC REGALIA

Academic Regalia date back to the medieval universities of the eleventh and twelfth centuries. Scholars were members of religious orders, then guilds. The university was a guild of Masters of Arts, where the Bachelor was an apprentice to the Master. The first known statute governing academic dress appeared in 1321 at the University of Coimbra (Italy); in the United States the practice goes back to 1754 when King George II transplanted many regulations from Oxford and Cambridge to the newly chartered King's College (now Columbia University).

The principal features of the academic regalia are the cap, gown and hood. The bachelor's gown is distinguished by long pointed sleeves and is worn closed, while the master's gown, which may be worn open or closed, has a long closed sleeve from which the forearm emerges through the slit near the elbow. The doctor's gown is faced with broad velvet panels and has full round sleeves, which bear three velvet bars. The square cap originated at Oxford in the sixteenth century and is the same for all degrees, with the tassel in black or in the color of the field of study; doctors are privileged to wear gold tassels.

Originally the hood was a tippet, a shoulder covering worn by medieval friars, which, during the fourteenth century, came to be used to cover the head. When caps were adopted in the fifteenth century, hoods became ornamental and were draped over the shoulders and down the back. Today, the length of the hood and the width of the velvet border that edges it vary with the degree, while the color of the border represents the field of learning. Examples are:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Arts, Letters, Humanities | White |
| Business Commerce | Drab |
| Communication | Red |
| Education & Counseling | Blue (light) |
| Engineering | Orange |
| Fine Arts | Brown |
| Law | Purple |
| Music | Pink |
| Nursing | Apricot |
| Occupational Therapy | Peacock Blue |
| Oratory | Grey (silver) |
| Philosophy | Blue (dark) |
| Physical Education | Green (sage) |
| Science | Yellow (gold) |
| Social Work | Yellow |
| Theology | Scarlet |
| Physical Education | Green (sage) |
| Science | Yellow (gold) |
| Theology | Scarlet |

HONORS

MEDALLION | Baccalaureate students who are graduating with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher are awarded a bronze medallion noting their academic achievement. The medallion worn by honors graduates during the commencement acknowledges the student's and the university's commitment to academic excellence.

HONOR SOCIETIES & CLUBS

Alpha Phi Sigma (Criminal Justice)

Royal Blue Letters on Gold Stole
Officers — Royal Blue & Gold Cord

Associated Students of WNMU (ASWNMU)

Silver Cord

Cardinal Key National Honor Society

Red Letters on White Stole
Active Members — Gold Cord
Officers — Red Cord
Master Students — White Cord

Delta Mu Delta (Business Administration)

Purple & Gold Cord

El Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan (MECHA)

Red, White & Green Cord

Emerging Mustang Leadership Program

Teal Cord

Kappa Delta Pi (Education Honor Society)

Green & Purple Cord

Mathematics & Computer Science Club

Club Members — Black & Silver
Club Officers — Black/Silver/Gold

Millennium III Honors Program

Gold Letters on Purple Stole

National Society of Leadership & Success

Red & Black Cord

Native American Student Alliance

Native American Pattern Stole
Turquoise Cord

Phi Alpha (Social Work)

Blue & Gold Cord

Pi Gamma Mu (Social Sciences)

Gold Letters on Royal Blue Stole

Psi Chi (Psychology)

Blue & Gold Cord

Sigma Delta Pi (Spanish)

Red & Gold Cord

Sigma Tau Delta (English)

Honor Cord for Full Membership

Society for Education in Politics (SEP)

Pink & Black Cord

Upsilon Pi Epsilon (Computing & Information)

All Members — Maroon/White

VICA (Vocational Industrial Club of America)

Associate — White Letters on Red Sash
Bachelor — White Letters on Red Sash
with Gold Tassel

WNMU Student Hall of Fame Inductee

Purple Cord

WNMU Veteran Students

Red, white & blue cord

WNMU Resident Assistants

Purple & gold Aiguillette left shoulder

CLASS OF 2025 MASTER DEGREE CANDIDATES

MASTER OF ARTS

Patrick A. Bagley
Interdisciplinary Studies
Moline, IL

Kaneeta Sage Brown
Interdisciplinary Studies
Chico, CA

Elsa Martina IolaniKealoha Cocker
Interdisciplinary Studies
Odessa, TX

Madison Rhie Copeland
Interdisciplinary Studies
Lubbock, TX

Chelsea Skye Crespin
Early Childhood Education:
Trauma -Informed Practices
Laguna Pueblo, NM

Arnel Dela Cruz
Educational Leadership
Gallup, NM

Sergio Jacquez
Interdisciplinary Studies
Hurley, NM

Jennifer Ann Luera
Interdisciplinary Studies
EL Paso, TX

Justin Scott Lujan
History
Pecos, NM

Alexander Olivas
Educational Leadership
Farmington, NM

Maria Mesa
Early Childhood Education:
Trauma-Informed Practices
Lordsburg, NM

Michael James Saucedo
History
El Paso, TX

MASTER OF COUNSELING

Isis Selenia Berger
Counseling
Sierra Vista, AZ

Astrid Escobar Ibarra
Counseling
Albuquerque, NM

Antoinette L. Mike
Counseling
Gallup, NM

Jordan Gull
Counseling
Roswell, NM

Samantha Marquez
Counseling
Gallup, NM

Epic Storm-West
Counseling
Charlotte, NC

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Allison Aguirre
Secondary Education
Albuquerque, NM

Ivan Fernando Barrio
Elementary Education
Deming, NM

Angela Browning
Specialization
Albuquerque, NM

Maria Elena Arriaga
Specialization
Hatch, NM

Refugio E. Botello
Special Education
Chaparral, NM

Arturo Bustillos Gurrola
Specialization
Hatch, NM

CLASS OF 2025 MASTER DEGREE CANDIDATES

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Josue Reyes Carrazco Secondary Education Deming, NM | Alicia Yesenia Jaquez Special Education Hatch, NM | Patrina Perry Specialization Crownpoint, NM |
| Chelsey Rae Dupree Elementary Education Deming, NM | Vanessa Sonora Magdaleno Specialization Carlsbad, NM | Cheri Reynolds Reading Education Deming, NM |
| Elma A. Garcia Specialization Albuquerque, NM | Veronica M. Martinez-Muniz Specialization San Lorenzo, NM | Matthew K. Sanchez Specialization Silver City, NM |
| Taunna Garcia Specialization Albuquerque, NM | Myah M. Medrano Specialization Carlsbad, NM | Jamie S. Semarge Specialization Rio Rancho, NM |
| Lemuel Guerro Secondary Education Alamo Navajo, NM | Georjina Elida Nogal Special Education Deming, NM | Donelle E. Smith Specialization Albuquerque, NM |
| Branden J. Jaquemai Specialization Las Cruces, NM | | Manoela Yajaira Walser Specialization Las Cruces, NM |

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| Oscar Jose Arteaga Romero Business Administration Cabimas, Zulia-Venezuela | Abhilash Muralidhar Bharadwaj Business Administration Gilbert, AZ | Jackson Douglas Golightly Business Administration Maryville, MO |
| Ebenecer Diana Barallardos Business Administration Douglas, AZ | Tyra Brown Business Administration St. Louis, MO | Joseph Hanson-Rivera Business Administration Silver City, NM |
| Jessica Fitzgerald Beckworth Business Administration Silver City, NM | Ivan William Chan Business Administration El Paso, TX | Sarah N. Polanco Business Administration El Paso, TX |
| | Alexandra Dickey Huntley Business Administration Marana, AZ | Kelsi Erin Skee Business Administration Silver City, NM |

CLASS OF 2025 MASTER DEGREE CANDIDATES

Marian Valle Angulo
Business Administration
Caborca, Sonora, MX

Melissa Zenil
Business Administration
Hermosillo, MX

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

Felice Ann Acosta
Social Work
Gillette, WY

Elodia Tarango Chavez
Social Work
El Paso, TX

Alaina Nicole Garcia
Social Work
San Bernardino, CA

Piper Alexander
Social Work
Asheville, NC

Lourdes Andrea Chico Gonzalez
Social Work
El Paso, TX

Gina Marie Garcia
Social Work
Tuscon, AZ

Amanda N. Alvarez
Social Work
Napa, CA

Amanda Nicole Comelli
Social Work
Roswell, NM

Alyssa L. Gardner
Social Work
Layton, UT

Noelle Armijo
Social Work
Albuquerque, NM

Isabelle Alana Dennis
Social Work
Sequim, WA

Celeste M Griego
Social Work
Socorro, NM

Maria Barela
Social Work
Las Vegas, NV

Deanna Diaz
Social Work
Santa Teresa, NM

Caitlin O'Malley Harman
Social Work
Chicago, IL

Aviance Avanti Bee
Social Work
New Orleans, LA

Ann Marie Eastman
Social Work
Gallup, NM

Donna Marie Esparsen Harrison
Social Work
Portales, NM

Jade J. Begay
Social Work
Tucson, AZ

Tricia L. Fierro
Social Work
Las Cruces, NM

Rebecca Heredia
Social Work
El Paso, TX

Emily Brinkerhoff
Social Work
Silver City, NM

Brenda Flores
Social Work
El Paso, TX

Brianna Herrera
Social Work
El Paso, TX

Thelma A. Brusuelas
Social Work
Silver City, NM

Jazmin Gamez
Social Work
Albuquerque, NM

Bryan Benjamin Joffe
Social Work
Ocean Ridge, FL

CLASS OF 2025 MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Jessica Lynn Karstadt Social Work Prescott Valley, AZ | Kayla Paige Phagan White Social Work Yuma, AZ | Mishel Therese Tom Social Work Durango, CO |
| Trevor Kenyon Social Work Montrose, CO | Rayanna Sunshine Ponce Social Work Roswell, NM | Rebecca Marie Trujillo Social Work Las Vegas, NM |
| Adeline Kreuser Social Work Philadelphia, PA | Isabel Beth Quarta Social Work Pahoa, HI | Dorian M. Ulibarri-Chavez Social Work Las Cruces, NM |
| Kennon Lee Social Work Williston, ND | Andrea Margaret Marie Rein Social Work Scottsbluff, NE | Chance Edward Urias Social Work Big Spring, TX |
| Diana Rodriguez Mansfield Social Work South Jordan, UT | Tamara Rubin Social Work Los Angeles, CA | Morgan Lane Vanikiotis Social Work Salt Lake City, UT |
| Nicole E. Martinez-Romero Social Work Clovis, NM | Darlene Gutierrez Salcedo Social Work Oak Harbor, WA | Kelly Jo Willoughby Social Work Alexandria, IN |
| Elaine Mele Social Work Helena, MT | Amanda Straka Social Work Taos, NM | Jessi L. Yates Social Work Albuquerque, NM |
| Mahmoudreza Naemeh Social Work Santa Cruz, NM | Tyler David Strong Social Work Edmonds, WA | |
| Alejandra Ochoa Social Work Las Cruces, NM | Chariss Tatman Social Work Richmond, VA | |
| Shaverence Lawanda Outlaw Social Work Greensboro, NC | Alexandra Thevenin Social Work Rahway, NJ | |

CLASS OF 2025 GRADUATE CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Antoinette Arrey Special Education Deming, NM | Arturo Bustillos Gurrola Bilingual Education Hatch, NM | Michael Fralick Mathematics Tucumcari, NM |
| Maria Barela Rural Community Social Work Services Las Vegas, NM | Victoria Alexis Castro Secondary Education Tucson, AZ | Alaina Nicole Garcia Ecotherapy San Bernadino, CA |
| Ivan Fernando Barrio Bilingual Education Deming, NM | Elodia Tarango Chavez Rural Community Social Work Services/ School Social Work/ Social Work Services to Military Families El Paso, TX | Celeste M. Griego Rural Community Social Work Services Socorro, NM |
| Refugio E. Botello Special Education Chaparral, NM | Lourdes Andrea Chico Gonzalez Rural Community Social Work Services El Paso, TX | Lemuel Guerro Secondary Education Alamo Navajo, NM |
| Emily Brinkerhoff School Social Work Silver City, NM | Gabriel Cristo Secondary Education Deming, NM | Donna Marie Esparsen Harrison Rural Community Social Work Services Portales, NM |
| Jason Bronaugh Secondary Education Hobbs, NM | Virginia Y. Damron Social Work Services to Military Families Stony Brook, NY | Bryan Joffe Ecotherapy Ocean Ridge, FL |
| Angela Browning Secondary Education Albuquerque, NM | Deanna Diaz Rural Community Social Work Services Santa Teresa, NM | Jessica Lynn Karstadt Rural Community Social Work Services Prescott Valley, AZ |
| Brianne N. Brumbaugh Secondary Education Truth or Consequences, NM | Emily Claire Durkin Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages Albuquerque, NM | Trevor R. Kenyon Rural Community Social Work Services Montrose, CO |
| Damon J. Bullock Social Work Services to Military Families Little Rock, AR | | Rachel Erica Layden Secondary Education Rio Rancho, NM |
| Jacquelyn Alyse Bunker Mathematics Silver City, NM | | |

CLASS OF 2025 GRADUATE CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Kennon Lee Rural Community Social Work Services Williston, ND | Shaverence Lawanda Outlaw Rural Community Social Work Services Greensboro, NC | Daniel I. Soliz Special Education Silver City, NM |
| Alyssa Tiana Lizardo Secondary Education Tatum, NM | Patrina Perry Elementary Education Crownpoint, NM | Caitlin Janay Summers Rehabilitation Counseling Portales, NM |
| Daisy Maldonado Early Childhood Education Las Cruces, NM | Judy Peters Early Childhood Education Sanostee, NM | Chariss Tatman Rural Community Social Work Services Richmond, VA |
| Nicole E. Martinez-Romero School Social Work Clovis, NM | Azalia Areli Ramirez Early Childhood Education Las Cruces, NM | Robert Templin Mathematics Rio Rancho, NM |
| Olivia Mayes Mathematics Rio Rancho, NM | Nicholas Lee Rummell Political Science Crossville, TN | Mishel Therese Tom Rural Community Social Work Services Durango, CO |
| Sean P. Meister Secondary Education Gila, NM | Darlene Gutierrez Salcedo School Social Work Oak Harbor, WA | Dorian M. Ulibarri-Chavez Social Work Services to Military Families Las Cruces, NM |
| Anthony Wayne Norman Secondary Education Marshall, OK | Matthew K. Sanchez Special Education Silver City, NM | David Anthony Valdes Mathematics Bosque Farms, NM |
| Teresa J. Oaxaca Special Education Albuquerque, NM | Jamie S. Semarge Early Childhood Education Rio Rancho, NM | Anthony A. Valdez Mathematics Albuquerque, NM |
| Alejandra Ochoa School Social Work Las Cruces, NM | Valerie Angelina Silvas Secondary Education Lordsburg, NM | Yared A. Vivas Secondary Education Lubbock, TX |
| Michael David Olive Elementary Education Gallup, NM | | Manoela Yajaira Walser Elementary Education Las Cruces, NM |
| Ashley Ordonez Elementary Education Rio Rancho, NM | | |

CLASS OF 2025 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

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|--|---|--|
| Cristina J. Acero* Social Work Farmington, NM | Alex June Biggs General Business Upper Fruitland, NM | Jordanne Elizabeth Chavez* Early Childhood Education Farmington, NM |
| Armando Adame Tapia Accounting Deming, NM | Laura Ann Black Nursing Bayard, NM | Gabriela Chavira* Nursing El Paso, TX |
| Valeria Adame Tapia Marketing Columbus, NM | Zachary Alexander Blea* Social Work Edgewood, NM | Hailey Cisneros* Accounting Silver City, NM |
| Mikhael Mohsen Agbenu Kinesiology Buena Park, CA | Danielle Bond* Elementary Education Farmington, NM | Dawn Clark Special Education Deming, NM |
| Elias Aguirre Hernandez* Marketing Chihuahua, MX | Bryant Keith Brock Jr. History El Paso, TX | Vanessa Cordova Erives Nursing Deming, NM |
| Savannah Allen Cell & Molecular Biology Silver City, NM | Jennifer Brown* Interdisciplinary Livermore, CA | Samuel Corral Jurado Nursing Deming, NM |
| Belinda Christina Almanza Interdisciplinary Oxnard, CA | Adam Jacob Brue Social Work Rio Rancho, NM | Ammy Jacqueline De la Garza Parra* General Business Chihuahua, MX |
| Zariah Christine Hasley Arellin Nursing Silver City, NM | Noah Bugayong Criminal Justice Quemado, NM | Jordyn Michelle Drake Interdisciplinary Glendale, AZ |
| Elizabeth N. Arguello* Social Work Farmington, NM | Luis Raul Burgos Ramos* Marketing Chihuahua, MX | DeSha Amara Monae Epps Marketing Fayetteville, NC |
| Anastacia Armijo* Chemistry Albuquerque, NM | Lisa Marie Carbajal Kinesiology Santa Clara, NM | |

CLASS OF 2025 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

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|--|---|--|
| Cassandra Fierro Interdisciplinary Silver City, NM | Noami S. Gonzales Psychology Silver City, NM | Sandra Hernandez Gonzalez Social Work Phoenix, AZ |
| Catherine Arlene Fierro* Nursing Silver City, NM | Carla Gonzalez General Business Albuquerque, NM | Carmen Simone Hilb English Aztec, NM |
| Yesenia Janette Flores Early Childhood Education Deming, NM | Bianca Grambo* Social Work Tyrone, NM | Josephina Hoskie Interdisciplinary Thoreau, NM |
| Sharon Lynn Frisch Social Work Albuquerque, NM | Christina Dominike Guerrero* Nursing Deming, NM | Alyssa Hughes* General Business Eunice, NM |
| Janelle Eden Gallegos Vigil Early Childhood Care & Education El Paso, TX | Jarely Gutierrez Martinez Nursing Deming, NM | Troy Jackson Chemistry Pima, AZ |
| Yamel Andrea Gamboa Munoz* Business Management Silver City, NM | Kristina Hansen* Interdisciplinary Alamogordo, NM | Daniel Luera Jacquez* Criminal Justice La Mesa, NM |
| Jasmine Garcia General Business Las Vegas, NM | Alonni Rae Harrell Social Work Deming, NM | Torrie Jason James* Secondary Education Gallup, NM |
| Dustin Michael Gnader Galindo* Kinesiology Silver City, NM | Tonya Nicole Hendricks Elementary Education Farmington, NM | William Scott Jameson* Interdisciplinary Arlington, TX |
| Kianna Gomez* Nursing Deming, NM | Deysi Henkel* Early Childhood Education Albuquerque, NM | Angela Dorothy Johnson* Elementary Education Opheim, MN |
| | John M. Hernandez Teaching and Learning Las Cruces, NM | Don A. Johnson Social Work Woodstock, VA |

CLASS OF 2025 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

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|--|--|--|
| Suzanne Alice Johnson Rehabilitation Services Las Cruces, NM | Cristina Lucero* Elementary Education Hatch, NM | Mary Rae Martinez* Criminal Justice Albuquerque, NM |
| Bleigsh-Mykeals Doris Kee Elementary Education Farmington, NM | Jessica G. Mackenzie* Social Work Truth or Consequences, NM | Roselynne Monnette McNeal* Elementary Education Hanover, NM |
| Haleigh Kixmiller Social Work Vincennes, IN | Brittany Madrid Hernandez Interdisciplinary Silver City, NM | Ariana Christine Medina* Nursing Silver City, NM |
| Tibor Loyd Kocsis Jr.* Business Management Las Cruces, NM | Kyle Mahan* Business Management San Antonio, TX | Clarissa Medina* Secondary Education Carlsbad, NM |
| Heather D. Lopez* Social Work Farmington, NM | Nayeli Mancilla* Fine Arts Las Cruces, NM | Amanda Marie Mendez* Nursing Reserve, NM |
| Melissa Lopez* English Los Lunas, NM | Genaro Mancinas* Business Management Chihuahua, MX | Ashley Marie Miranda Mathematics Albuquerque, NM |
| Ryanne Michelle Lopez Secondary Education Tucumcari, NM | Deborah Renee Mariano Special Education Laguna, NM | Jazmyn Miranda-Guerrero Kinesiology Silver City, NM |
| Maria A. Loredo* Special Education Santa Fe, NM | Eder Roberto Marmolejo Garcia* Business Management Morelia, Michoacan, MX | Azucena Mireles Ruiz Secondary Education Columbus, NM |
| Joseph Ray Lorenzo General Business Buckeye, AZ | Rosa Maria Marquez* Early Childhood Care & Education Las Cruces, NM | Edward Roman Misquez III Forest Wildlife Mimbres, NM |
| Abigail Rebecca Loughran Social Work Billings, MT | Barbara Jeannette Martinez Early Childhood Education Las Cruces, NM | Alannah Diane Mohr* Nursing Silver City, NM |

CLASS OF 2025 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

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|---|---|--|
| Karol Mohr Fine Arts Silver City, NM | Miguel Angel Novoa Ruiz* Criminal Justice Albuquerque, NM | Kevin Oscar Perez Marquez* Business Management Ciudad Obregon, Sonora, MX |
| Adrianna Nicole Montoya* Criminal Justice Santa Clara, NM | Ezbayde Neidea Onate Soto Elementary Education Farmington, NM | Alfadiva Peru Social Work Deming, NM |
| Bethani Alexis Montoya* Psychology Albuquerque, NM | Francia L. Ortega Robles* Business Management Hermosillo, Sonora, MX | Isabel Monique Padilla Peru Nursing Hurley, NM |
| Clarissa Marie Montoya Cell & Molecular Biology Silver City, NM | Maria Del Rocio Ortiz* Special Education Deming, NM | Janelly Porras Early Childhood Education Deming, NM |
| Gabrielle Marie Ellen Moon Social Work Albuquerque, NM | Claudia Pacheco* Nursing Deming, NM | Osvaldo Raigosa Hernandez* Criminal Justice Whittier, CA |
| Chantelle Morales Interdisciplinary Gallup, NM | Sunshine Patterson* Nursing Santa Barbara, CA | Chantelle Ramirez Elementary Education Carlsbad, NM |
| Ruth Susana Moyer Early Childhood Education Silver City, NM | Aubrey Nichole Perales Nursing Deming, NM | Maria Victoria Ramirez* Elementary Education Lemitar, NM |
| Autumn Rebecca Murray Early Childhood Care & Education Dulce, NM | Aaron Perez Kinesiology El Paso, TX | Daniela Renteria Early Childhood Education Animas, NM |
| Aspen Newland Secondary Education Aztec, NM | Caleb Perez* Accounting Tyrone, NM | Dulce Maria Renteria* Early Childhood Education Animas, NM |
| Mikal K. Nih* Early Childhood Care & Education Beclabito, NM | Yamileth Perez Dominguez Business Management Silver City, NM | |

CLASS OF 2025 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

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|--|---|---|
| Jessica P. Reyes Special Education Silver City, NM | Bob Sroka Instructional Technology Design Silver City, NM | Sandra A. Varela Early Childhood Education Deming, NM |
| Mark Hunter Riley Forest Wildlife Farmington, NM | Isabel Stinson Marketing Albuquerque, NM | Anysi Gabriela Vazquez Ortiz* Business Management Hermosillo, MX |
| Joe Rivas IV* Kinesiology San Diego, CA | Guy M. Sullenger Social Work Truth or Consequences, NM | Deidre Vega* Nursing Santa Clara, NM |
| Jocelyn Lynette Rodriguez* Nursing Silver City, NM | Marlyn Sullivan History Albuquerque, NM | Sharleene Antonette Vega Nursing Silver City, NM |
| Tracy Romero* Physical Education Socorro, NM | Marilyn Jiselle Tafoya Psychology Dulce, NM | Elizabeth Villegas Venzor* Nursing Deming, NM |
| Katelynn Rubio Elementary Education Carlsbad, NM | Kiuola He Lotu Teu Interdisciplinary East Palo Alto, CA | Lindsay Nicole Walters* Social Work La Plata, NM |
| Eduardo Noel Saldana Forest Wildlife Law Enforcemnt Las Cruces, NM | Suelena Mandysyl Thomas* Early Childhood Care & Education Lordsburg, NM | Kaitlyn Warczinski* Early Childhood Education Deming, NM |
| Jesús Salvador Samaniego Bonillas Business Management Agua Prieta, Sonora, MX | Maxx Dale-Marcus Todden* Kinesiology Jackson, CA | Priscilla Rosela Weber* Interdisciplinary Alamogordo, NM |
| Angela Sanchez* Interdisciplinary Deming, NM | Ahlyia Trujillo* General Business Silver City, NM | |
| Marissa Lianne Sanchez Psychology Albuquerque, NM | Chastidy Sophia Trujillo* Early Childhood Education Las Tablas, NM | LaTanya Denise Yazzie* Early Childhood Education Bloomfield, NM |
| LaShonda Shorty* Special Education Thoreau, NM | | |

CLASS OF 2025 ASSOCIATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

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|---|--|--|
| Harmony Abalos Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Silver City, NM | Aria Limone Baca Graphic Design Silver City, NM | Vianey Duran Early Childhood Education & Family Support Columbus, NM |
| Macey Sandra Abeyta Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Las Cruces, NM | Jeven Beltran Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Las Cruces, NM | Patrick Joe Ferrell Welding Technology Silver City, NM |
| Michael Abril Electrical Technology Silver City, NM | Brissa Alessandra Bolivar Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Tucson, AZ | MaCailia L. Foy Business Administration Deming, NM |
| Hernan R. Acosta Welding Technology Show Low, AZ | Alejandro Cabrera Criminal Justice/ Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Miami, FL | Angelica Garcia Early Childhood Education & Family Support Bayard, NM |
| Sequoia Aguirre Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Silver City, NM | Taylianna L. Castillo Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Silver City, NM | Serina Nicolette Garcia Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Socorro, NM |
| Jacob Altamirano Electrical Technology Welding Technology Silver City, NM | Janet Castillo Business Administration Silver City, NM | Ernesto Gomez Jr. Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Deming, NM |
| Zariah Christine Hasley Arellin Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Silver City, NM | Ezra Chikamba Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Silver City, NM | Chloe Alexandra Gallegos Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences San Antonio, NM |
| Amber Danielle Arrey Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Silver City, NM | Mina De La Garza Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Lordsburg, NM | Crystal Ann Goodyear Business Administration Silver City, NM |
| Gabriel Cayetano Atencio Business Administration Fairbanks, AK | Autumn R. Duarte Electrical Technology Silver City, NM | Sofia Lorenza Grijalva Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Bayard, NM |

CLASS OF 2025 ASSOCIATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

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|---|---|---|
| Kolton C. Guerra Electrical Technology Silver City, NM | Evangeline Marquez Dominguez Early Childhood Education & Family Support Santa Clara, NM | Tessie M. Ortega Criminal Justice Artesia, NM |
| Lejuan Harris Criminal Justice Oceanside, CA | Torin Mayse Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Scottsdale, AZ | Maricella Katherine Ortiz-Maldonado Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Silver City, NM |
| Teofilo Hernandez Electrical Technology Deming, NM | Amanda Marie Mendez Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Reserve, NM | Alishia Shay Pacheco Early Childhood Education & Family Support Kirtland, NM |
| Holly Mora Jacquez Early Childhood Education & Family Support Lordsburg, NM | Amitai Minjarez Early Childhood Education & Family Support Deming, NM | Claudia Pacheco Business Administration/ Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Deming, NM |
| Keon Jaure Electrical Technology Silver City, NM | Britannia Montes Lopez Business Administration San Buenaventura, Chihuahua, MX | Nichole EmmaMarie Pedraza Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Mimbres, NM |
| Cole Lalama Business Administration Queen Creek, AZ | Jesus Alexis Mota Armenta Graphic Design Phoenix, AZ | Vanessa Yvette Pizarro Secondary Education Deming, NM |
| Josiah Leslie Welding Technology Silver City, NM | Juan M. Muro Human Services Albuquerque, NM | Khloe Rios-Yates Business Administration Silver City, NM |
| Izayah M. Lozano Electrical Technology Silver City, NM | Lloyd Mwansa Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Zambia, Kasama | Guadalupe Rodriguez Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Deming, NM |
| Bitia Maciel Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Deming, NM | Jesse Alan Ojeda Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Santa Teresa, NM | Nicole Rodriguez Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Silver City, NM |
| Valerie Rose Maestas Early Childhood Education & Family Support Clayton, NM | | |
| Nayeli Mancilla Graphic Design Las Cruces, NM | | |

CLASS OF 2025 ASSOCIATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Jessica Renee Savorillo Business Administration Silver City, NM | Jeremy Joseph Valdez Jr. Electrical Technology Lordsburg, NM | Robin Lynne Wilson Business Administration Hobbs, NM |
| Frances Sayson Business Administration Las Cruces, NM | Laisha Vargas Garcia Business Administration Albuquerque, NM | Christa Annette Yosten Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Truth or Consequences, NM |
| Hannah Gail Skinner Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Silver City, NM | Timothy Luis Vasquez Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Santa Clara, NM | Shayla Meagan Wilson* Early Childhood Education & Family Support Hatch, NM |
| Zion Stephens Business Administration Beaumont, CA | Jesus A. Verdugo Welding Technology Deming, NM | Ariana Suzette Zuniga Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Tucson, AZ |
| Jordan M. Thomas Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Jackson, MS | Samara Vivanco Griego Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences Mexicali, Baja California, MX | |

UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Jacob J. Altamirano Electrical Technology/ Welding Technology Silver City, NM | Chance W. Gordon Law Enforcement Truth or Consequences, NM | Oscar Lopez Law Enforcement Santa Fe, NM |
| Billy Ray Barragan Law Enforcement Silver City, NM | Teofilo Hernandez Electrical Technology Deming, NM | Izayah M. Lozano Electrical Technology Silver City, NM |
| Autumn Rae Duarte Electrical Technology Silver City, NM | Adrian L. Jones Law Enforcement Lordsburg, NM | Ronald J. Martinez Jr. Law Enforcement Bayard, NM |
| Louis Frank Gomez Jr. Law Enforcement Bayard, NM | Tanner Konkle Law Enforcement Silver City, NM | Sean Jacob Ramirez Law Enforcement Lordsburg, NM |

FAST-TRACK CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES

Jacob J. Altamirano
Electrical Technology/
Welding Technology
Silver City, NM

Ashtin Y. Apodaca
Welding Technology
Silver City, NM

Autumn Rae Duarte
Electrical Technology
Silver City, NM

Teofilo Hernandez
Electrical Technology
Deming, NM

Jayke Johannes
Welding Technology
Animas, NM

Izayah M. Lozano
Electrical Technology
Silver City, NM

Orlando J. Talavera
Welding Technology
Lordsburg, NM

Jacob A. Vigil
Electrical Technology
Silver City, NM

HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY CANDIDATES

Jerik Dabbs
High School Equivalency
Silver City, NM

Mekyh Jaure
High School Equivalency
Gila, NM





This program contains the list of candidates for graduation as of December 12, 2025. Subject to completion of all degree requirements, degrees will be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements.

Since 1893, Western New Mexico University has served the people in its region as a comprehensive, rural, public body. As a Hispanic-Serving Institution and the state's only public Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences university, WNMU is committed to developing cross-cultural opportunities that encourage people to explore new experiences. The WNMU student body represents every segment of New Mexico's diverse population.