



WESTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY
COMMENCEMENT

Silver City, NM | Friday, December 12, 2025

WESTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF REGENTS

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Farmington, New Mexico

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Hurley, New Mexico

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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.



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
Detachment 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 Crespín

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

Trevor Kenyon

Social Work
Montrose, CO

Adeline Kreuser

Social Work
Philadelphia, PA

Kennon Lee

Social Work
Williston, ND

Diana Rodriguez

Mansfield
Social Work
South Jordan, UT

Nicole E.**Martinez-Romero**

Social Work
Clovis, NM

Elaine Mele

Social Work
Helena, MT

Mahmoudreza Naemeh

Social Work
Santa Cruz, NM

Alejandra Ochoa

Social Work
Las Cruces, NM

**Shaverence Lawanda
Outlaw**

Social Work
Greensboro, NC

Kayla Paige**Phagan White**

Social Work
Yuma, AZ

Rayanna Sunshine**Ponce**

Social Work
Roswell, NM

Isabel Beth Quarta

Social Work
Pahoa, HI

Andrea Margaret**Marie Rein**

Social Work
Scottsbluff, NE

Tamara Rubin

Social Work
Los Angeles, CA

Darlene Gutierrez**Salcedo**

Social Work
Oak Harbor, WA

Amanda Straka

Social Work
Taos, NM

Tyler David Strong

Social Work
Edmonds, WA

Chariss Tatman

Social Work
Richmond, VA

Alexandra Thevenin

Social Work
Rahway, NJ

Mishel Therese Tom

Social Work
Durango, CO

Rebecca Marie Trujillo

Social Work
Las Vegas, NM

Dorian M. Ulibarri-Chavez

Social Work
Las Cruces, NM

Chance Edward Urias

Social Work
Big Spring, TX

Morgan Lane Vanikiotis

Social Work
Salt Lake City, UT

Kelly Jo Willoughby

Social Work
Alexandria, IN

Jessi L. Yates

Social Work
Albuquerque, NM

CLASS OF 2025 GRADUATE CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES

Antoinette Arrey
Special Education
Deming, NM

Maria Barela
Rural Community
Social Work Services
Las Vegas, NM

Ivan Fernando Barrio
Bilingual Education
Deming, NM

Refugio E. Botello
Special Education
Chaparral, NM

Emily Brinkerhoff
School Social Work
Silver City, NM

Jason Bronaugh
Secondary Education
Hobbs, NM

Angela Browning
Secondary Education
Albuquerque, NM

Brianne N. Brumbaugh
Secondary Education
Truth or Consequences, NM

Damon J. Bullock
Social Work Services to
Military Families
Little Rock, AR

**Jacquelyn Alyse
Bunker**
Mathematics
Silver City, NM

Arturo Bustillos Gurrola
Bilingual Education
Hatch, NM

Victoria Alexis Castro
Secondary Education
Tucson, AZ

Elodia Tarango Chavez
Rural Community
Social Work Services/
School Social Work/
Social Work Services to
Military Families
El Paso, TX

**Lourdes Andrea
Chico Gonzalez**
Rural Community
Social Work Services
El Paso, TX

Gabriel Cristo
Secondary Education
Deming, NM

Virginia Y. Damron
Social Work Services to
Military Families
Stony Brook, NY

Deanna Diaz
Rural Community
Social Work Services
Santa Teresa, NM

Emily Claire Durkin
Teaching English to
Speakers of Other
Languages
Albuquerque, NM

Michael Fralick
Mathematics
Tucumcari, NM

Alaina Nicole Garcia
Ecotherapy
San Bernadino, CA

Celeste M. Griego
Rural Community
Social Work Services
Socorro, NM

Lemuel Guerro
Secondary Education
Alamo Navajo, NM

**Donna Marie
Esparsen Harrison**
Rural Community
Social Work Services
Portales, NM

Bryan Joffe
Ecotherapy
Ocean Ridge, FL

Jessica Lynn Karstadt
Rural Community
Social Work Services
Prescott Valley, AZ

Trevor R. Kenyon
Rural Community
Social Work Services
Montrose, CO

Rachel Erica Layden
Secondary Education
Rio Rancho, NM

CLASS OF 2025 GRADUATE CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES

Kennon Lee

Rural Community
Social Work Services
Williston, ND

Alyssa Tiana Lizardo

Secondary Education
Tatum, NM

Daisy Maldonado

Early Childhood Education
Las Cruces, NM

Nicole E.**Martinez-Romero**

School Social Work
Clovis, NM

Olivia Mayes

Mathematics
Rio Rancho, NM

Sean P. Meister

Secondary Education
Gila, NM

Anthony Wayne Norman

Secondary Education
Marshall, OK

Teresa J. Oaxaca

Special Education
Albuquerque, NM

Alejandra Ochoa

School Social Work
Las Cruces, NM

Michael David Olive

Elementary Education
Gallup, NM

Ashley Ordonez

Elementary Education
Rio Rancho, NM

**Shaverence Lawanda
Outlaw**

Rural Community
Social Work Services
Greensboro, NC

Patrina Perry

Elementary Education
Crownpoint, NM

Judy Peters

Early Childhood
Education
Sanostee, NM

Azalia Areli Ramirez

Early Childhood
Education
Las Cruces, NM

Nicholas Lee

Rummell
Political Science
Crossville, TN

**Darlene Gutierrez
Salcedo**

School Social Work
Oak Harbor, WA

Matthew K. Sanchez

Special Education
Silver City, NM

Jamie S. Semarge

Early Childhood
Education
Rio Rancho, NM

**Valerie Angelina
Silvas**

Secondary Education
Lordsburg, NM

Daniel I. Soliz

Special Education
Silver City, NM

**Caitlin Janay
Summers**

Rehabilitation
Counseling
Portales, NM

Chariss Tatman

Rural Community
Social Work Services
Richmond, VA

Robert Templin

Mathematics
Rio Rancho, NM

Mishel Therese Tom

Rural Community
Social Work Services
Durango, CO

Dorian M. Ulibarri-Chavez

Social Work Services to
Military Families
Las Cruces, NM

David Anthony Valdes

Mathematics
Bosque Farms, NM

Anthony A. Valdez

Mathematics
Albuquerque, NM

Yared A. Vivas

Secondary Education
Lubbock, TX

Manoela Yajaira Walser

Elementary Education
Las Cruces, NM

CLASS OF 2025 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

Cristina J. Acero*

Social Work
Farmington, NM

Armando Adame Tapia

Accounting
Deming, NM

Valeria Adame Tapia

Marketing
Columbus, NM

Mikhael Mohsen

Agbenu
Kinesiology
Buena Park, CA

**Elias Aguirre
Hernandez***

Marketing
Chihuahua, MX

Savannah Allen

Cell & Molecular Biology
Silver City, NM

**Belinda Christina
Almanza**

Interdisciplinary
Oxnard, CA

**Zariah Christine
Hasley Arellin**

Nursing
Silver City, NM

Elizabeth N. Arguello*

Social Work
Farmington, NM

Anastacia Armijo*

Chemistry
Albuquerque, NM

Alex June Biggs

General Business
Upper Fruitland, NM

Laura Ann Black

Nursing
Bayard, NM

**Zachary Alexander
Blea***

Social Work
Edgewood, NM

Danielle Bond*

Elementary Education
Farmington, NM

**Bryant Keith
Brock Jr.**

History
El Paso, TX

Jennifer Brown*

Interdisciplinary
Livermore, CA

Adam Jacob Brue

Social Work
Rio Rancho, NM

Noah Bugayong

Criminal Justice
Quemado, NM

**Luis Raul
Burgos Ramos***

Marketing
Chihuahua, MX

Lisa Marie Carbajal

Kinesiology
Santa Clara, NM

**Jordanne Alizabeth
Chavez***

Early Childhood
Education
Farmington, NM

Gabriela Chavira*

Nursing
El Paso, TX

Hailey Cisneros*

Accounting
Silver City, NM

Dawn Clark

Special Education
Deming, NM

**Vanessa Cordova
Erives**

Nursing
Deming, NM

**Samuel Corral
Jurado**

Nursing
Deming, NM

**Ammy Jacqueline
De la Garza Parra***

General Business
Chihuahua, MX

**Jordyn Michelle
Drake**

Interdisciplinary
Glendale, AZ

**DeSha Amara
Monae Epps**

Marketing
Fayetteville, NC

CLASS OF 2025 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

Cassandra Fierro

Interdisciplinary
Silver City, NM

Catherine Arlene**Fierro***

Nursing
Silver City, NM

Yesenia Janette**Flores**

Early Childhood
Education
Deming, NM

Sharon Lynn**Frisch**

Social Work
Albuquerque, NM

Janelle Eden**Gallegos Vigil**

Early Childhood
Care & Education
El Paso, TX

Yamel Andrea**Gamboa Munoz***

Business Management
Silver City, NM

Jasmine Garcia

General Business
Las Vegas, NM

Dustin Michael**Gnader Galindo***

Kinesiology
Silver City, NM

Kianna Gomez*

Nursing
Deming, NM

Noami S. Gonzales

Psychology
Silver City, NM

Carla Gonzalez

General Business
Albuquerque, NM

Bianca Grambo*

Social Work
Tyrone, NM

Christina Dominike**Guerrero***

Nursing
Deming, NM

Jarely Gutierrez**Martinez**

Nursing
Deming, NM

Kristina Hansen*

Interdisciplinary
Alamogordo, NM

Alonni Rae Harrell

Social Work
Deming, NM

Tonya Nicole**Hendricks**

Elementary Education
Farmington, NM

Deysi Henkel*

Early Childhood
Education
Albuquerque, NM

John M. Hernandez

Teaching and Learning
Las Cruces, NM

Sandra Hernandez**Gonzalez**

Social Work
Phoenix, AZ

Carmen Simone Hilb

English
Aztec, NM

Josephina Hoskie

Interdisciplinary
Thoreau, NM

Alyssa Hughes*

General Business
Eunice, NM

Troy Jackson

Chemistry
Pima, AZ

Daniel Luera**Jacquez***

Criminal Justice
La Mesa, NM

Torrie Jason**James***

Secondary Education
Gallup, NM

William Scott**Jameson***

Interdisciplinary
Arlington, TX

Angela Dorothy**Johnson***

Elementary Education
Opheim, MN

Don A. Johnson

Social Work
Woodstock, VA

CLASS OF 2025 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

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

**Roselynn 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. Loreda*
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

Karol Mohr
Fine Arts
Silver City, NM

Adrianna Nicole Montoya*
Criminal Justice
Santa Clara, NM

Bethani Alexis Montoya*
Psychology
Albuquerque, NM

Clarissa Marie Montoya
Cell & Molecular Biology
Silver City, NM

Gabrielle Marie Ellen Moon
Social Work
Albuquerque, NM

Chantelle Morales
Interdisciplinary
Gallup, NM

Ruth Susana Moyer
Early Childhood Education
Silver City, NM

Autumn Rebecca Murray
Early Childhood Care
& Education
Dulce, NM

Aspen Newland
Secondary Education
Aztec, NM

Mikal K. Nih*
Early Childhood Care
& Education
Beclabito, NM

Miguel Angel Novoa Ruiz*
Criminal Justice
Albuquerque, NM

Ezabayde Neidea Onate Soto
Elementary Education
Farmington, NM

Francia L. Ortega Robles*
Business Management
Hermosillo, Sonora, MX

Maria Del Rocio Ortiz*
Special Education
Deming, NM

Claudia Pacheco*
Nursing
Deming, NM

Sunshine Patterson*
Nursing
Santa Barbara, CA

Aubrey Nichole Perales
Nursing
Deming, NM

Aaron Perez
Kinesiology
El Paso, TX

Caleb Perez*
Accounting
Tyrone, NM

Yamileth Perez Dominguez
Business Management
Silver City, NM

Kevin Oscar Perez Marquez*
Business Management
Ciudad Obregon, Sonora, MX

Alfadiya Peru
Social Work
Deming, NM

Isabel Monique Padilla Peru
Nursing
Hurley, NM

Janelly Porras
Early Childhood
Education
Deming, NM

Osvaldo Raigosa Hernandez*
Criminal Justice
Whittier, CA

Chantelle Ramirez
Elementary Education
Carlsbad, NM

Maria Victoria Ramirez*
Elementary Education
Lemitar, NM

Daniela Renteria
Early Childhood
Education
Animas, NM

Dulce Maria Renteria*
Early Childhood
Education
Animas, NM

CLASS OF 2025 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

Jessica P. Reyes

Special Education
Silver City, NM

Mark Hunter Riley

Forest Wildlife
Farmington, NM

Joe Rivas IV*

Kinesiology
San Diego, CA

Jocelyn Lynette

Rodriguez*

Nursing
Silver City, NM

Tracy Romero*

Physical Education
Socorro, NM

Katelynn Rubio

Elementary Education
Carlsbad, NM

Eduardo Noel Saldana

Forest Wildlife
Law Enforcement
Las Cruces, NM

Jesús Salvador

Samaniego Bonillas
Business Management
Agua Prieta, Sonora, MX

Angela Sanchez*

Interdisciplinary
Deming, NM

Marissa Lianne

Sanchez
Psychology
Albuquerque, NM

LaShonda Shorty*

Special Education
Thoreau, NM

Bob Sroka

Instructional Technology
Design
Silver City, NM

Isabel Stinson

Marketing
Albuquerque, NM

Guy M. Sullenger

Social Work
Truth or Consequences, NM

Marlyn Sullivan

History
Albuquerque, NM

Marilyn Jiselle Tafoya

Psychology
Dulce, NM

Kiuola He Lotu Teu

Interdisciplinary
East Palo Alto, CA

Suelena Mandysyl

Thomas*
Early Childhood
Care & Education
Lordsburg, NM

Maxx Dale-Marcus

Todden*
Kinesiology
Jackson, CA

Ahlyia Trujillo*

General Business
Silver City, NM

Chastidy Sophia

Trujillo*
Early Childhood
Education
Las Tablas, NM

Sandra A. Varela

Early Childhood
Education
Deming, NM

Anysi Gabriela

Vazquez Ortiz*
Business Management
Hermosillo, MX

Deidre Vega*

Nursing
Santa Clara, NM

Sharleene Antonette

Vega
Nursing
Silver City, NM

Elizabeth Villegas

Venzor*
Nursing
Deming, NM

Lindsay Nicole

Walters*
Social Work
La Plata, NM

Kaitlyn Warczinski*

Early Childhood
Education
Deming, NM

Priscilla Rosela

Weber*
Interdisciplinary
Alamogordo, NM

LaTanya Denise

Yazzie*
Early Childhood
Education
Bloomfield, NM

CLASS OF 2025 ASSOCIATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

Harmony Abalos

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Silver City, NM

Macey Sandra Abeyta

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Las Cruces, NM

Michael Abril

Electrical Technology
Silver City, NM

Hernan R. Acosta

Welding Technology
Show Low, AZ

Sequoia Aguirre

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Silver City, NM

Jacob Altamirano

Electrical Technology
Welding Technology
Silver City, NM

Zariah Christine

Hasley Arellin

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Silver City, NM

Amber Danielle

Arrey

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Silver City, NM

Gabriel Cayetano

Atencio

Business Administration
Fairbanks, AK

Aria Limone Baca

Graphic Design
Silver City, NM

Jeven Beltran

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Las Cruces, NM

**Brissa Alessandra
Bolivar**

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Tucson, AZ

Alejandro Cabrera

Criminal Justice/
Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Miami, FL

Taylianna L.

Castillo

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Silver City, NM

Yanet Castillo

Business Administration
Silver City, NM

Ezra Chikamba

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Silver City, NM

Mina De La Garza

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Lordsburg, NM

Autumn R. Duarte

Electrical Technology
Silver City, NM

Vianey Duran

Early Childhood Education
& Family Support
Columbus, NM

Patrick Joe Ferrell

Welding Technology
Silver City, NM

MaCailia L. Foy

Business Administration
Deming, NM

Angelica Garcia

Early Childhood Education
& Family Support
Bayard, NM

**Serina Nicolette
Garcia**

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Socorro, NM

Ernesto Gomez Jr.

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Deming, NM

**Chloe Alexandra
Gallegos**

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
San Antonio, NM

Crystal Ann

Goodyear

Business Administration
Silver City, NM

Sofia Lorenza Grijalva

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Bayard, NM

CLASS OF 2025 ASSOCIATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

Kolton C. Guerra
Electrical Technology
Silver City, NM

Lejuan Harris
Criminal Justice
Oceanside, CA

Teofilo Hernandez
Electrical Technology
Deming, NM

Holly Mora Jacquez
Early Childhood Education
& Family Support
Lordsburg, NM

Keon Jaure
Electrical Technology
Silver City, NM

Cole Lalama
Business Administration
Queen Creek, AZ

Josiah Leslie
Welding Technology
Silver City, NM

Izayah M. Lozano
Electrical Technology
Silver City, NM

Bitia Maciel
Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Deming, NM

Valerie Rose Maestas
Early Childhood Education
& Family Support
Clayton, NM

Nayeli Mancilla
Graphic Design
Las Cruces, NM

Evangeline Marquez Dominguez
Early Childhood Education
& Family Support
Santa Clara, NM

Torin Mayse
Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Scottsdale, AZ

Amanda Marie Mendez
Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Reserve, NM

Amitai Minjarez
Early Childhood Education
& Family Support
Deming, NM

Britannia Montes Lopez
Business Administration
San Buenaventura,
Chihuahua, MX

Jesus Alexis Mota Armenta
Graphic Design
Phoenix, AZ

Juan M. Muro
Human Services
Albuquerque, NM

Lloyd Mwansa
Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Zambia, Kasama

Jesse Alan Ojeda
Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Santa Teresa, NM

Tessie M. Ortega
Criminal Justice
Artesia, NM

Maricella Katherine Ortiz-Maldonado
Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Silver City, NM

Alishia Shay Pacheco
Early Childhood Education
& Family Support
Kirtland, NM

Claudia Pacheco
Business Administration/
Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Deming, NM

Nichole EmmaMarie Pedraza
Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Mimbres, NM

Vanessa Yvette Pizarro
Secondary Education
Deming, NM

Khloe Rios-Yates
Business Administration
Silver City, NM

Guadalupe Rodriguez
Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Deming, NM

Nicole Rodriguez
Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Silver City, NM

CLASS OF 2025 ASSOCIATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

Jessica Renee Savorillo

Business Administration
Silver City, NM

Frances Sayson

Business Administration
Las Cruces, NM

Hannah Gail Skinner

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Silver City, NM

Zion Stephens

Business Administration
Beaumont, CA

Jordan M. Thomas

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Jackson, MS

Jeremy Joseph Valdez Jr.

Electrical Technology
Lordsburg, NM

Laisha Vargas Garcia

Business Administration
Albuquerque, NM

Timothy Luis Vasquez

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Santa Clara, NM

Jesus A. Verdugo

Welding Technology
Deming, NM

Samara Vivanco Griego

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Mexicali, Baja California, MX

Robin Lynne Wilson

Business Administration
Hobbs, NM

Christa Annette Yosten

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Truth or Consequences, NM

Shayla Meagan Wilson*

Early Childhood Education
& Family Support
Hatch, NM

Ariana Suzette Zuniga

Applied Liberal Arts
and Sciences
Tucson, AZ

UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES

Jacob J. Altamirano

Electrical Technology/
Welding Technology
Silver City, NM

Billy Ray Barragan

Law Enforcement
Silver City, NM

Autumn Rae Duarte

Electrical Technology
Silver City, NM

Louis Frank Gomez Jr.

Law Enforcement
Bayard, NM

Chance W. Gordon

Law Enforcement
Truth or Consequences, NM

Teofilo Hernandez

Electrical Technology
Deming, NM

Adrian L. Jones

Law Enforcement
Lordsburg, NM

Tanner Konkle

Law Enforcement
Silver City, NM

Oscar Lopez

Law Enforcement
Santa Fe, NM

Izayah M. Lozano

Electrical Technology
Silver City, NM

Ronald J. Martinez Jr.

Law Enforcement
Bayard, 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.