

# COMMENCEMENT

*FALL 2025*



UNIVERSITY OF  
**NORTHERN COLORADO**



UNIVERSITY OF  
**NORTHERN COLORADO**

***CLASS OF 2025***

# COMMENCEMENT

December 12–13, 2025

**#UNCBearGrad**



Find a complete and updated version  
of this program online at:

<https://www.unco.edu/commencement/program.aspx>

## ***UNC BOARD OF TRUSTEES***

*Dick Monfort, '76, Chair*

*Stephen Jordan, '71, Vice Chair*

*Greg Anton, '87*

*Maia Babbs*

*Brenda Campos-Spitze*

*Shashwata Prateek Dutta, '08*

*Annette Martinez, '86*

*Audra Yocum, Student Trustee*

*Fritz Fischer, Faculty Trustee*



**UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTHERN  
COLORADO**

# A Message from the **PRESIDENT**



Dear Graduates of the Class of 2025,

Congratulations! Earning your college degree is a significant milestone, and the entire University of Northern Colorado Community celebrates you and your achievement.

At UNC, our commitment to putting Students First is based on the belief that education transforms lives, positively impacting each graduate, their families and support systems, and their communities. As you cross the stage and receive your degree, take a moment to reflect on the journey that led you here. Every

challenge and triumph has prepared you for the path ahead.

As you embark on your next adventure, I hope you carry with you the knowledge, skills, and friendships you cultivated during your time at UNC. Remember to dream big, take risks, embrace the unknown, and strive to leave a positive mark on the world around you.

Today, you join a vibrant and growing network of proud Bear alumni. On behalf of the entire UNC community, I wish you success and fulfillment in all that lies ahead in your life and career beyond graduation. Remember: Once a Bear, Always a Bear!

*With heartfelt congratulations,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Feinstein'.

**Andy Feinstein**

***President, University of Northern Colorado***

# GRADUATE SCHOOL TIMELINE

**1914**

The State Teachers College of Colorado confers its first master's degrees.

**1934**

The college confers its first doctorates on three candidates, all in Education.



**1907**

Carter Hall is built. It was originally home to the university library. Carter Hall has been home to the Graduate School since 1997.



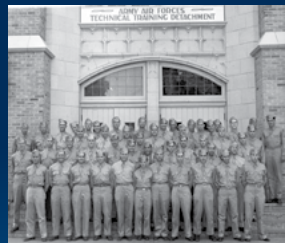
**1921**

The college's first residence halls are completed and named in honor of Normal School Trustee and women's suffragist leader Frances Belford, national Women's Club pioneer Sara Platt Decker, and education, social and political leader Sophia Park Gordon.



**1920**

Graduating class of master's students.



**1942**

During World War II, more than 4,000 men in the Army Air Force Clerical Training School, an eight-week program for trainees becoming servicemen, are housed on campus.

## 1942

UNC offers student teaching credit to Japanese-Americans who had been relocated from their homes on the Pacific coast to the Granada Relocation Center near Lamar, Colorado.

## 1983

The Ph.D. program in Rehabilitation Sciences is ranked as one of the top two in the United States.

## 2013

The Graduate School celebrates its 100-year anniversary.

## 1955

In June, as a result of increasing enrollment, graduate instruction is turned over to a newly created graduate division.



## 1994

The university develops online courses.



## 1973

The university names its \$5 million library and media resource center the James A. Michener Library, after the well-known alumnus, teacher and author.



## 2024

UNC celebrated the groundbreaking of its proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine, the state's third medical school.

# GRADUATE CEREMONY

Friday, December 12, 2025 • 6:00 p.m. • Bank of Colorado Arena

## PROCESSIONAL

*Pomp and Circumstance*  
by Sir Edward Elgar  
UNC Symphonic Band

## POSTING COLORS

## NATIONAL ANTHEM

*The Star-Spangled Banner*  
by Francis Scott Key  
Kathryn Whalen, PVA Graduate Student

## WELCOME AND CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES

Andy Feinstein, President

## STUDENT FAREWELL ADDRESS

Guofeng Shen, Doctor of Philosophy in  
Special Education

## ACADEMIC TRADITIONS

Kirsten Fleming, Provost and  
Executive Vice President

## HOODING OF THE GRADUATES

Nancy Sileo, Interim Vice Provost,  
Graduate School

## PRESENTATION OF THE GRADUATES

Heather Pendleton-Helm, Interim Dean,  
College of Education and Behavioral Sciences

Jim Doerner, Dean, College of  
Humanities and Social Sciences

Steve Elias, Dean, Kenneth W. Monfort  
College of Business

Kamel Haddad, Dean, College of  
Natural and Health Sciences

Cristina Goletti, Dean, College of  
Performing and Visual Arts

## AUTHORIZATION AND CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Stephen Jordan, '71, Trustee  
Andy Feinstein, President

## RECESSIONAL

*Fanfare and Recessional*  
by James Ployher  
UNC Symphonic Band

## GRADUATE CEREMONY SPEAKER



### Guofeng Shen

Guofeng Shen is a Ph.D. candidate in Special Education at the University of Northern Colorado. Her research focuses on culturally responsive interventions for children with disabilities and their families, with an emphasis on behavior analysis and family-professional partnerships. Originally from China, Guofeng came to the United States to pursue advanced study and expand opportunities for inclusive education across cultures. She has presented at national conferences, published in peer-reviewed journals, and remains committed to bridging research and practice. Upon graduation, she aspires to continue her work as a scholar, educator, and advocate for children and families worldwide.



# Master's Degrees

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

### Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Adams, Tyler Ann  
Ali, Zulaykha Abdulhakim  
Bailey, Nathaniel Larelle  
Brown, Sandra Fay  
Campbell, Makenzie Lee  
Chambo, Kyriana E  
Chen, Mary Durlan  
Dreslinski, Cassandra Lynn  
Dudash, Andrew Dale  
Eccher, Rachael Anne  
Hines, Lauren Marquardt  
Holsten, Alexa Grace  
Jenkins, Jenna Victoria  
Jones, Dana  
Knight, Elijah Daniel  
Kurchinski, Jacquelyn Rae  
Levine, Lauren Anne  
Marsh, Lizzie B  
May, Emily C  
Mikkelsen, Monica Nagle  
Packard, Rachel  
Peters, Kevin  
Plante, Rebecca  
Reed, Alyssa Carol  
Vigil, Zachary Ruben  
Warner, Emily  
Zimmerman, Shelby Kay

### Education: Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Education

Becker, Elizabeth Rose  
Cuyppers, Jennifer  
Garman, Kathryn G  
Goodwin, Cindy May  
Hall, Stephanie  
Hamilton, Kellie  
Hatch, Victoria Yen  
Hernandez Martinez, Alejandro  
Lane, Dianna Beth  
Lynch, Martha  
Martinez, Laurel Lee  
Muñoz, Lisset  
Pope, Michelle  
Price, Chelsi Marie

Reddin, Lynnette  
Romocki, Trista  
Wolver, Katie Shanley

### Education: Curriculum Studies

Blanco, Anna K  
Botelha, Kaitlin  
Curry, Scott Andrew  
Helland, Stephanie Lynn  
Hilgeman, Christopher  
Izboinikov, Alyssa  
Lawley, Katelyn A  
Weiss, Astrida

### Education: Elementary Education Endorsement (Grades K-6)

Behls, Erin Martin  
Bowley, Amanda  
Dolfi, Rory Elizabeth  
George, Kelly Christina  
Guadarrama Alonso, Lily Katherine  
Hayes, Hannah  
Jones, Jazz Taylor  
Kover, David  
Patterson, Kylee Mae  
Paw, Meh Sod  
Pickels, Ellen Brueckner  
Wishner, Melissa Joy

### Education: English Education

Blake, Tucker Lee  
Haskett, Lauren  
Lower, Paige

### Educational Leadership

Brugato, Gabrielle  
Cardenas, Hannah Robins  
Cox, Steven A  
Forshee, Elizabeth  
Foss, Jared Raymond  
Hume, Tiffany  
Kellogg, Keegan  
Kieffer, Janette  
LaHendro, Alexis Michelle  
Laidman, Kaitlyn Marie  
McDonald, G Alexander  
Paine, Cody  
Pearce, Natalie  
Perez, Jacob B  
Puffett, Emily Ann  
Seavall, Nicole Diane

Skaggs Roley, Sean Michael  
Stoltzfus, Hunter  
Stuerke, Robin  
Unruh, Amanda Dawn  
Vaughn, Taylor  
Yettman, Krista

### **Educational Leadership and Special Education Administration with Dual Licensure as a Principal and Special Education Director**

Ball, Kristin  
Beechler-Ernst, Jamisen  
Houtchens, Brooke Christine  
Newman, Sara-Danielle

### **Educational Leadership: PK12 with Principal Licensure Concentration**

Wortmann Jr, Thomas Charles

### **Educational Psychology**

Azua, Elicia Lynn  
Hatch, Katelyn Ann

### **Educational Psychology: Teaching Applications**

Anguiano, Emily Gail  
Castaneda Thumim, Larissa  
Corrigan, Fiona Anne  
Davis, Lana  
Dillard, Shalelia Janelle  
Gould, Samantha M  
Hartley, Brent  
Jackson, Joi  
Klements, Cassidy Phillip  
Lorenz, Alisa C  
Minnick, Lexi  
Taylor, Stashia Anne  
Thurnall, Katelyn

### **Educational Technology**

Rivera Diaz, Angel  
Rodriguez, Marina

### **Foundations of Professional Psychology**

Austin, Anna Claire  
Davis, Kelsey Monique  
Dwyer, Juliet  
Harper, Nathan James  
Marquez, Mireya Elizabeth  
Smith, Abigail  
Smith, Trevor D  
Thompson, Crystal

### **Higher Education and Student Affairs Leadership**

Beckham, Megan Lee  
LeClere, Deschelina Saragih  
Nava Ortiz, Alicia  
Schultz, Wilson  
Smock, Morgan R  
Torres, Mary Alice

### **Marriage, Couples, and Family Counseling/Therapy**

Bradley, Casey Leanne  
Cordova, Kelly  
Ewer, Ellie Louise  
Harris, Aleah R  
Miller, Dawn Renee  
Pugh, Judi Silcox  
Rui, Cristina  
Turn, Maya Susann

### **Multilingual Education: Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages**

Bernabo, Rebecca Ashley

### **Multilingual Education: World Language Licensure**

Bolshakova, Maria Alekseyevna  
Gutierrez, Cindy Michelle  
Villegas Alvarez, Victoria

### **School Counseling**

Skeels, Alexia Rose

### **Secondary Pedagogy: Secondary Licensure: English/Language Arts (Grades 7-12)**

Kimble, Sophie Marie  
Prendergast, Mackenzie

### **Secondary Pedagogy: Secondary Licensure: Math (Grades 7-12)**

Allison, Grace

### **Secondary Pedagogy: Secondary Licensure: Science (Grades 7-12)**

Devers, Todd Travis  
Goulette, Giselle Marie  
King, Eli B  
Redmond, Mickey

### **Secondary Pedagogy: Secondary Licensure: Social Studies (Grades 7-12)**

Wysocki, Laura Nicole

### **Special Education: Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

Boivin, Johnne Angel  
Last, Charity  
Mateu-Cox, Zulainny

### **Special Education: Early Childhood Special Education**

Behlers, Kelsey Lynn  
Bose, Sharon Aileen  
Davenport, Elizabeth  
DePue, Katy M  
Duggan, Bethany Hope  
Farquharson, Karen  
Gladbach, Amanda Joy  
Gray, Brooke  
Greene, Marion Blackwell  
Horn, Kelsey Rayahn  
Johnson, Cameron Leah  
Lattimer, Macy M  
Morgan, Vanessa Renee  
O'Hara, Breanna  
Peters, Julie Diane  
Rana, Kari E  
Rauscher, Luisa Monroy  
Romo, Jennifer D

### **Special Education: Generalist**

Anderson, Britney Nicole  
Covarrubias, Susana  
Coyer, Kimberly Mei  
Deaton, Rowan  
DeLazzer, Deborah K  
Farrell, Christopher Searing  
Fouts, Lilly G  
Grogan, Maria Brianna  
Humphreys, Rachel E  
Jaynes, Corynne G  
Khuraiban, Aisha  
Knoll, Eric  
Krakow, Kayla Ann  
Leonard, Adam Charles  
Lisowy, Allison  
Massie, Avery  
Mccarthy, Megan  
Morgan, Halie M  
Patrick, Cameron  
Pinch, Samuel  
Powers, Makenzie  
Christine Rahe  
Ramirez, Natalie  
Romero, Kareena Rae  
Sandhoff, Hanna Nicole  
Schelhaas, Lydia Brooke  
Spengler, Shannon

Subramanian, Shyla  
Thrash, Cathryn Osborne  
Weekly-Stecklein, Brittney  
Williams, Kara Nichole

### **Special Education: Gifted Education Specialist Endorsement**

Buck, Sarah Margret  
Burnett, Michele Harris  
Hussain, Donna  
Kaufman, Ilsbeth Gail McDonald  
Ostermiller, Jennifer Lyn

### **Special Education: Intervention Specialist: Academic Coaching and Leadership**

Swancutt, Cassandra R

### **Special Education: Visual Impairment**

Hajarie-Chambers,  
Samantha Kimberly  
Holtz, Bianca  
Lewis, Jill Louise

### **Teaching American Sign Language**

Carpenter, Shelby Lynn  
Jones, Steven  
Kreutzer, Rebecca  
Mosher, Alexio  
New, Lydia E.  
Ojeda, Alaya Cerrena  
Varthakavi, Holly J

### **Teaching Diverse Learners: CLD (K-12) Endorsement Special Education Generalist Endorsement**

Gonzales, Tera Lyne  
Hartshorn, Alyssa Mae  
Rice, Alexandra Rose

## **COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

### **Criminology and Criminal Justice**

Hogan, Reilly Shea

### **English**

Brooks, Cole C

### **Foreign Language: Spanish Teaching**

Achziger, Kendall Renee  
Arcinada Madera, Viviana  
Casas Ramirez, Elia  
Galindo, Rosa  
Gallardo, Gisela Sara  
Garcia-Alonzo, Paola  
Whelan, Tania

### **History**

Miller, Rebecca N  
Moreau, Audrey Ellen

### **Sociology: Applied**

Hass, Caitlin Nicole  
McClure, April Lynette

### **Sociology: Thesis**

Hammersfeld, Ezra Jaakov  
Myers, Lillian Joy

## **KENNETH W. MONFORT COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**

### **Business Administration: Accounting Analytics**

Caires, Justin  
Castaneda, Marissa A  
Cupery, Abi Marie  
Gwilliam, Isabel  
Haggard, Andrew  
Majszak, Jonathan K  
Nguyen Duc ThanhGiang  
Palomares, Emilio  
Peters, Zillah  
Robinson, Briana Ajahnae  
Watters, Paul

### **Business Administration: Finance**

Flores, Micah

### **Business Administration: General Business**

Baker, Sarah Nicole  
Bass, Kailey Brooke  
Boukary Saidou, Balkissatou  
Brown, Jacob T  
Burton, Ami  
Cushman, Summer C  
Desormier, Jenna  
Devereaux, Patrick W  
Irwin, Payten Mame  
Jay, Rebekah Christina

Martinez, Gabriella Roxann  
Martinez, Sydney Faye  
Minchin, Scott  
Pera, Terri Lyn  
Richter, Diana-marie Ursula  
Sanchez, Chelsie  
Schneider, William Gerard  
Svee, Taylor A  
Tadla, Isaac William  
Tna Vasquez, Armando  
Van Cleve, Jeffrey Peter  
Van Meter, Elizabeth Joy  
Vasquez, Xavier Austin

**Business Administration:  
Healthcare Administration**

Afari, David Osei  
Browning I, Austin Thomas  
Burton II, Richard Edward  
Clifford, Erin  
Desai, Heli Biren  
Espinoza, Rachel  
Frasier, Kyle  
Gelman, Melissa Renee  
George, Cheryl  
Gorddard, Danielle Barbara  
Howard, Rebekah Gabriel  
Kim, Tae  
Lee, Courtney Ann Elizabeth  
Lewis, Tina Abrafi  
Marchant, David Thomas  
McConnell, Ellen  
Nowicki, Elise Mae  
Peele-Smith, Christina Emma  
Saleh, Diana Samih  
Sharma, Kartik  
Vigil, Felice Catheren

**Business Administration:  
Human Resource Management**

Goudy, Steven W  
Mapel, Carlie  
Naab, Tatiana Danielle  
Preston, Katrina Elizabeth  
Purcell, Amanda Kristine

**Business Administration: Marketing**

Boniface, Jennifer  
Cann, McKenna  
Florez, Daniel  
Garcia, Amber  
Lomeli-Hernandez, Gg E  
Maglinger, Bradley Allen  
Wolf, Erik Paul

**Business Administration:  
Project Management**  
Ahlers, Perrin Blakely  
Allen, Siena  
Hoyer, Thea Acacia  
Milliman, Samantha Clair

**COLLEGE OF NATURAL AND  
HEALTH SCIENCES**

**Biological Sciences: Non-thesis**

Braya-Szela, Staci  
Lindsay, Erica Joy

**Biological Sciences: Thesis**

Buchanan, Casper Wynn  
Goodluck, Tyra

**Biomedical Science**

Chiang, Mei-Li  
Curry, Nina Gonzales  
McNabb, Bryn Ashlen

**Chemistry: Thesis**

Al Mousa, Ahmad Hejji A  
Hall, Mary Kathryn  
Kakra, Benjamin Kwesi  
Oubkeo, Crystal  
Subuloye Jr., Isaac Opeyemi

**Dietetics with Internship**

Phillips, Michelle

**Environmental Geosciences**

Buck, Samantha Jean

**Graduate Interdisciplinary Degree  
Program: Science Education**

Branson, Tayler K  
Fritz, Hunter W  
Geddes Jr., David William  
Gonzalez, Ania  
Henning, Savanna Jo  
Peterson, Kristina Mae

**Mathematics: Teaching**

Bright, Lydia Rain  
Conner, Zachary Huizar  
Leon-Duarte, Anahi

**Public Health: Community  
Health Education**

Castillo, Patricia  
Lopez-Tzun, Andrea

**Rehabilitation Counseling**

Fackelman, Angelina

Fritschen, Christine  
Mamalis, Chezney Kamalani

### Science Education

Berry, William Keith

### Speech-Language Pathology

Blossey, Madison Glee  
Bordewick, Abby Lee  
Brown, Lindsay A  
Campbell Baldwin, Emily Ann  
Coghlan, Julia Marie  
Croteau, Michaela Layne  
Deschler, Belle  
Fagin, Charlie June  
Galbreath, Lauren  
Gupton, Aspen Nicole  
Haberer, Beth  
Heydon, Madeline Kelly  
Kari, Makenna  
Knipscheer, Anna Si  
Kurtz, Emma  
Lindauer, Madeline E  
Madic, Katie Nicole  
Michlig, William Ray  
Miller, Abigail  
Rueter, Hannah Kay  
Schultis, Paris Danielle  
Scogin, Kelly  
Velick, Aidin Pearl  
Wernsman, Haley  
Wightman, Emily  
Woolley, Sydney

### Sport and Exercise Science:

#### Biomechanics

Ashcraft, Johnathon Scott  
Kropushek, David Austin  
Vassar, Jacob Darius

### Sport and Exercise Science:

#### Exercise Physiology

Allen, Whitney  
Bjorn, Marc  
Fink, Justin Reginald  
Ogren, Liam David  
Romero, Javier Daniel  
Sandy, Benjamin  
Williams, Brianna C

### Sport and Exercise Science:

#### Sport Administration

Blackmon, Ryan S  
Brumfield, McKel Evan  
Bullard, Jakob  
Keone, Kia'i

Lewis, Delino A  
Liu, Yu Chieh  
McKevett, Michael John  
McMinn, Victoria Evelyn  
Mendoza, Emilio  
Patterson, Bailey  
Price, Brendan Jackson  
Schafer, Cale M  
Sierra, Isaias Roberto  
Stellato, Anthony  
Wagner, Catherine Diane

### Sport Coaching

Adair, Aubrey  
Aguigui, Shawn Keoni  
Emerson, Hannah G  
Gonzales, Joseph J  
Mudd, Jaclynn Marie  
Osborn, Adam

## COLLEGE OF PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS

### Dance Education

Arnold, Alyssa  
Barrett, Heather  
Monk, April  
O'Toole, Megan  
Stine, Stephanie  
Wise, Angelle Cain

### Music: Jazz Studies

Gillen, Griffin  
Jung, Yujin  
Nagel, Gwen

### Music: Music Education

Bock, Heather Rene  
Phillips, Samantha  
Sargent, Kairos Joie

### Theatre Education: Theatre Educator Intensive

Barnes, Travis  
Burch, Travis James  
Douty-Amick, Tess Elizabeth  
Fragopoulos, Eleni C  
Grahnquist, Jennifer  
Horst, Jeffrey A  
Kiefer, Katie  
Lowe, Cole  
Murphy, Emily Paige  
Ordonez-Cortes, Berta Alicia  
Poitra-Burkhard, Brittany Raechel  
Williams, Patricia

# Specialist Degrees

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

### Educational Leadership

Babb, Amada Raquel  
Bennett, Evan Graham  
Carver, Melissa Kae  
Culotta, Joseph Raineir  
Esquibel, Valyne Vanessa  
Fox, Eliza Gilford  
Kelley, Dayla  
Lamont, Stefanie  
Nixon, Moriah Dawn  
Peck, Catherine Bedford  
Ramirez, Eyery  
Ramos, Adam Daniel  
Roecker, Kristen  
Ronci, Katherine Ann  
Russell, Salynthia Renee  
Sandoval, Mindy  
Trosclair, Colton James

### Educational Leadership and Special Education Administration

Barker, Sarah Elizabeth  
Blackburn, LeAnn Aricia  
Guerriero, David Joseph  
Hauge, Andrea Lynn  
Henson, Cathrine Elizabeth  
Kuhn, Heidi Press  
O'Brien, Elisabeth Jaleene  
Pittsenbarger, Cyndi Deann  
Rhoton, Tami Leigh  
Smith, Matthew Landon  
Walton, Jordan Chanel



# Doctoral Degrees

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

### Applied Statistics and Research Methods

Alqahtani, Abdulaziz Abdullah M, B.A., M.Ed, Ph.D  
*Response Rates and Response Quality of Online  
Course Survey for Deaf College Students: A Mixed-  
Method Study*

Essel-Kaitoo, Ernest, B.S., M.S.  
*Assessing K-Nearest Neighbors Imputation  
Methods for Missing Data: A Simulation Study*

### Counseling Psychology

Alverio, Tabitha, B.S., M.A.  
*Veterans of Color at the Crossroads: Unraveling the  
Intersection of Military and Racial Identity when  
Receiving Mental Health Care from White Providers  
in the Current Sociopolitical Context*

Bach, Emily Corrinne, B.A.  
*Emotion Beliefs, Emotion Regulation, and Dyadic  
Coping in Couples*

Bortfeld, Devon Alexandra, B.S.  
*Internalized Heterosexism Through  
Intersectionality: An Interpretive Phenomenological  
Analysis*

Bowling, Jeffrey Vincent, B.S., M.A.  
*The Big Five, Impulsivity, and Problem Gambling in  
Online Sports Betting*

Sachs, Natalie Aaren, B.S., M.S.  
*Stayin' Alive: Examining the Moderating Effect of  
Suicide Resilience on the Relationship Between  
Sexual Minority Stress and Subjective Well-Being*

Shields, Courtney, B.S., M.S.  
*Emerging Adulthood, Identity Conflict, and  
Self-Compassion's Impact on Mental Health  
Interference of Collegiate Student-Athletes*

Steinman, Luke, B.A., M.A.  
*A Phenomenological Examination of Value  
Recognition and Development in Mental Health  
Counselors-in-Training*

Sullivan III, John Michael, B.A.  
*Gender Identity Development in Social Virtual  
Reality: A Phenomenology*

### Counselor Education and Supervision

Capraro, Alexandria, B.A., M.S.  
*The Experiences of Queer Black Indigenous People  
of Color Teaching a Multicultural Course: A  
Participatory Action Research Study*

Dixon, Brianne, B.A., M.Ed.  
*Making Meaning of the Dissertation Process:  
An Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis  
Study Exploring Counselor Education Students'  
Experiences and Beliefs about the Traditional  
Dissertation Process*

Engle-Newman, Evan, B.A., M.A.  
*Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Gender  
Expansive, and Queer+ Client Experiences  
Discussing Consensual Nonmonogamy in Therapy:  
An Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis*

### Educational Leadership

Garren, Keely, B.A., M.A.  
*The Principal-School Counselor Relationship: A  
Constructivist-Grounded Theory Study on How  
Principals Can Foster Positive Relationships with  
School Counselors to Improve Student Outcomes*

Jones, Emily Mrazek, B.A., Ed.S.  
*The Coping of Special Education Directors in the  
Western United States*

Ruffatti, Christina Natascha, B.A., B.A., M.A.  
*Rural Secondary Principals' Perceptions of Their  
Role in Transition Planning for Students with  
Disabilities*

### Educational Psychology

Chapman, Mary, B.A., M.A.  
*Do Need for Cognition and Need for Affect  
Moderate the Relationship Between Lecture Style,  
Learning Strategies, and Retention*

Kemp, Ashlee Morgan, B.A., M.A.T.  
*The Psychological Impacts of Higher Education Faculty During the COVID-19 Pandemic*

Manzanares, Amanda Diane, B.S., M.A.  
*Cognitive and Affective Factors Related to Geoscience Academic and Career Choice*

Miller, Chelsea, B.A., M.A.  
*First-Generation Students' Thriving Not Just Surviving*

## Educational Studies

Adams, Genevieve Kate, B.A., M.A.  
*Teachers' Perceptions on Success and Effectiveness of Required Professional Development in a Midwest Middle School*

Czys, Evan Edward, B.S.  
*A Joint Mindfulness and Growth Mindset Intervention for Reducing Math Anxiety for Pre-Service Elementary Teachers*

Guthrie Strong, Emily Anne, B.A., M.Ed., M.A.  
*Perceptive Portraits: A Qualitative Study Exploring the Adolescent Experience of Connectedness Through Their Words and Photos*

Laurx, Joanna, B.S., M.Ed.  
*Revealing the Impacts of Teachers' Lived Experiences with Burnout: An Educational Criticism Study*

Reinhardt, Rebecca L., B.A., M.S.  
*Meaning in Occupational Therapy Practice: A Mixed Methods Study Exploring Perceived Meaning and Burnout in Occupational Therapists*

Siegfried, Neve Grosse, B.A., M.S.  
*Experiences of Care from the Perspective of Students with Disabilities: A Multi-Case Study*

## School Psychology

Coburn, Ashley Marie, B.S., M.S.  
*Through Their Eyes: A Photovoice Study of Mental Health and Well-being Among Rural-Dwelling Latina Adolescents*

Frey, Katlyn Fowler, B.A., M.A.  
*A Formative Evaluation of a Combined Reading and Emotional-Behavioral Intervention*

King, Breanna, B.S., B.S.  
*Secondary Traumatic Stress and Posttraumatic Growth: The Moderating Effects of Cognitive Flexibility and Compassion Satisfaction on School Personnel*

Mort, Cassandra J., B.S., M.A.  
*The Bystander Effect in Cyberbullying: The Influence of Gender Identity, Moral Disengagement, Closeness, and Severity*

Nyberg, Jaden, B.S., M.A.  
*Teacher Motivation to Implement Evidence-Based Interventions With Fidelity: Development and Testing of a New Psychometric Instrument*

Odiorne, Shane, B.A.  
*The Effects of the Childhood Trauma and the Ongoing Coronavirus-19 Pandemic on College Student's Mental Health, School Performance, and Smartphone Usage*

Otero, Christopher, B.S., M.A.  
*Nomophobia in Early Adolescence: An Exploration of Prevalence, Academic Performance, and School Policy in United States Middle School Students*

Ryan, Alexandra McCorkle, B.A.  
*A Moderation Analysis of the Relationships Between Burnout, Internalizing Symptoms, and Self-Care*

Thomas, Antonia, B.A., M.A.  
*From Foster Care to College Graduation: A Qualitative Study of the Experiences of College Graduates who Aged Out of Foster Care*

Ybarra, Julia Isabella, B.A., M.A.  
*Wrestling with Morality: A Study on Moral Development and Social Behavior in Individual Sports*

## Special Education

Cruz, Diana L., B.S., M.S.  
*"The Goal is to Help the Community": Motivations and Experiences of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Families in a Special Education Parent Advocacy Program*

Duncan, Kristin Claire, B.S., M.S., M.A.  
*Preschool-to-Kindergarten Transition for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder*

Kalos, Michelle Aleen, B.A., M.A.

*Beliefs of California and Colorado Parents, Teachers, and School Administrators Around Providing Comprehensive Sexuality Education to School-Aged Youth with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*

McCabe, Lyndsay Loretta, B.A., M.A.

*LGBTQ+ Adolescents with Disabilities Experiences of School Connectedness and Identity Navigation*

Shen, Guofeng, B.S., M.A.

*Culturally Responsive Functional Communication Training for Asian Families: A Single-Subject Design Study*

Simmons, Sylvia, B.S., M.A., Ed.S.

*Exploring the Use of Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Practices Within the Multi-Tiered System of Support Framework when Supporting Students with Disabilities at a Dual Language Immersion School*

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

### Audiology

Mumford, Skyler P., B.S.

*The Effect of Socioeconomic Status on Adult Access to Hearing Aids*

### Biological Education

Irvin, Lani Marie, B.S., M.S.

*A Transcriptomic Approach to Identify Pea Aphid Effector Proteins During Interactions with Medicago and Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi*

Mayo, Lydia Nicole, B.S.

*Supporting Cultural Capital in Undergraduate Biology: Instructor Roles and Practices*

### Chemical Education

Jones, Timonthy, B.S., M.S.

*Students' Ability to Transfer Organic Chemistry Concepts to Metabolic Reactions*

### Educational Mathematics

Martsching, Wesley Kyle, B.S., M.A.

*Multivariational Reasoning in Linear Algebra: The Case of Linear Transformations*

Sparks, Sarah Lynn, B.S., M.A.

*Metacognitive Processes of Undergraduate Students During Mathematical Proof Construction*

Waters, Samuel, B.S., M.A.

*Investigating Undergraduate Students' Statistical Literacy in Media Contexts*

### Nursing

Janssen, Monica Marie B.S.N., M.S.N.

*Development and Validation of a Baseline Clinical Tool for Primary Care Providers to Address Nicotine Delivery System Usage in Adolescents*

### Nursing: Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner

Motta, Maria Claudia, B.S., M.S.

*Virtual Reality Protocol Development for Bone Marrow Aspiration and Biopsy in Adults with Blood Cancer*

### Nursing Education

Coes, Angela, B.S.N., M.S.N.

*Is There a Relationship Between Motivation and Nursing Student Engagement? A Descriptive Cross-Sectional Correlation Study*

Gonzalez, Lisa, B.S., M.S.

*Teaching Strategies Clinical Educators Use to Develop Undergraduate Students' Clinical Reasoning Skills*

Haynes, Shauna Lynn, B.S.N., B.A., B.S., M.S.N.

*Undergraduate Faculty Experiences with Test Remediation*

Hluwood, Jenna, B.S.N., M.S.

*New Graduate Nurse Retention: The Effect of Financial Literacy on New Graduate Nurse Intent to Stay*

Jones, Nathan Seth, B.S.N., M.S.N.

*Academic Self-Efficacy in Nurse Anesthesia Residents*

Leas, Mary Margaret B.S.N., M.S.N.

*Exploring Moral Distress in Hospital-Based Nurse Case Managers: A Qualitative Descriptive Study*

### **Sport and Exercise Science: Exercise Physiology**

Covington II, Buck Williams, B.S., M.S.

*Effects of Exercise Timing on Circadian Rhythm and Functional Outcomes in Cancer Patients Undergoing Treatment*

Rodriguez, Edwin Richard, B.S., M.S.

*Can You Breathe Your Way to Better Health?*

### **Sport and Exercise Science: Social Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity**

Altomare, Genevieve Rose, B.S., M.Ed.

*Integrating Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion into an Undergraduate Sport and Exercise Science Program: A Holistic Case Study Utilizing Social Justice Education*

### **Sport and Exercise Science: Sport Administration**

Hajek, Tyler John, B.S., M.A.

*Narrative Economics of Sports Gambling Legalization: A Case Study of the United States*

Padhye, Yash Kishore, B.A., M.S.

*A Qualitative Examination of Sport Management Faculty Challenges Faced During Implementation of Game-Based Learning Within the Classroom*

Sawyer, Taylor Celeste, B.S., M.B.A.

*Using the Theory of Planned Behavior to Examine Purchase Intention Differences Among the Four Primary Types of Cyclists*

## **COLLEGE OF PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS**

### **Music: Conducting**

Kornegay, Travis Terrence, B.M., M.M.

*The Interpretation and Historical Performance Practices of Black Choral Music: The Spiritual and Gospel Music, A Comparative Study*

### **Music: Jazz Studies**

Kuo, Tsu-Hao, B.M., M.M., M.M.

*A Lineage of Contemporary Jazz Violin*

### **Music: Music Education**

Lu, Yao, B.S., M.M.

*Exploring the Integration of Social and Emotional Learning in Chinese High School Music Courses*

Syu, Pei-Jyun, B.M., M.A.

*From Colonization to Cultural Responsiveness: Examining Cultural Identity and Representation in Taiwanese Music Education*

### **Music: Music Performance**

Larcqua, Jake, B.A., M.M.

*Ethnomusicologically Augmented French Diction Syllabus*

Valderrama Vega, Bryan, B.M., M.M.

*Episodios Para Fagot Y Orquesta: A performance Guide and Study of Costa Rican Composer Vinicio Meza's Chamber Music with Bassoon*



# Pride Points



## 91% OF STUDENTS

are employed, in graduate school, or in a service/volunteer position within 6 months of graduation.



## TOP RANKED FOR SOCIAL MOBILITY

UNC is regularly ranked for helping graduates move up economically, regardless of where they started.



## #2 LOWEST LOAN DEBT

Our students have the second lowest average student loan debt at graduation than any Colorado public research university (2024).



## MORE THAN 95%

of students receive some type of financial assistance.

# THE POWER OF A UNC DEGREE



Stephen Paulson, '11,  
*Bachelor of Arts in  
Interdisciplinary Studies*

*Photo courtesy of the Colorado  
Department of Education*

## UNC Alum Named 2026 Colorado Teacher of the Year

Nearly 30% of Colorado Teachers of the Year are UNC graduates since the award's inception in 1963 — a testament to the exceptional preparation our education programs provide.

This year, **Stephen Paulson, '11**, a social studies teacher at Greeley Central High School, is the latest Bear to join this distinguished group as Colorado's 2026 Teacher of the Year, the 19<sup>th</sup> UNC alum to receive this honor.

Paulson credits UNC with giving him a strong foundation in both teaching philosophies and practices, along with his connections to Greeley-Evans School District 6, where he completed his entire student teaching experience.

His success reflects what makes UNC Education graduates stand out: high expectations paired with unwavering student support, a commitment to continuous growth and the belief that every student deserves the opportunity to succeed. When you earn your degree from UNC's College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, you're joining a legacy of educators who transform students' lives in Colorado classrooms.



# UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION TIMELINE

**1889**

Colorado Governor Job A. Cooper signs Senate Bill 104 to create the State Normal School, which would eventually become UNC.



**1891**

The Colorado State Normal School's first graduating class of 12 students.

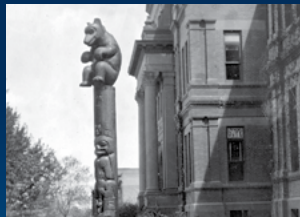


**1903**

The institution regularly plays teams from other schools in tennis, football and basketball. Women's physical education focuses on fencing, marching, gymnastics and basketball.

**1926**

Construction begins on Gunter Hall.



**1925**

The College adopts the bear as its mascot, inspired by the brown bear atop "Totem Teddy," the totem pole sent to campus by an alumnus in 1914. The totem pole was repatriated to the Tlingit people in Alaska in 2003.

**1952**

The Pride of the Rockies Marching Band gains prominence under the direction of music faculty member Wayman Walker. Today, 165 students are members of the marching band.

**1935**

The State Teachers College of Colorado becomes Colorado State College of Education in Greeley.



**1956**

Colorado State College of Education President William Ross acquires the 168-acre Petrikin farm for the college, more than doubling the size of the campus.



**1957**

The Colorado State College of Education at Greeley becomes Colorado State College.

**1970**

Colorado State College becomes the University of Northern Colorado.

**1983**

The Black Cultural Center opened on February 1, 1983, in conjunction with Black History Awareness Month. The Center was subsequently named the Marcus Garvey Cultural Center.

**2014**

UNC celebrates its 125-year anniversary.



**1985**

The Hispanic Cultural Center first opened its doors on September 3, 1985. Its name was later changed to the César Chávez Cultural Center, in honor of the civil rights leader.



**2012**

Students participate in UNC's Homecoming Parade.

**1966**

Greeley leader Judy Farr brings together supporters of the college to establish the Colorado State College Foundation, which will become the UNC Foundation.



**1996**

UNC wins back-to-back national Division II football championships in 1996 and 1997.



**2024**

UNC celebrated the groundbreaking of its proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine, the state's third medical school.

# UNDERGRADUATE CEREMONY

Kenneth W. Monfort College of Business • College of Natural & Health Sciences  
College of Performing & Visual Arts  
Saturday, December 13, 2025 • 9:00 a.m. • Bank of Colorado Arena

## PROCESSIONAL

*Pomp and Circumstance*  
by Sir Edward Elgar  
UNC Symphonic Band

## POSTING COLORS

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

*The Star-Spangled Banner*  
by Francis Scott Key  
Autumn Keith,  
PVA Undergraduate Student

## WELCOME AND CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES

Andy Feinstein, *President*

## STUDENT FAREWELL ADDRESS

Claudia Hernandez, *Bachelor of Science in  
Business Administration: Finance*

Cheyenne Smith, *Bachelor of Science in  
Biological Sciences: Cell and  
Molecular Biology*

## ACADEMIC TRADITIONS

Kirsten Fleming, *Provost and  
Executive Vice President*

## PRESENTATION

### OF THE GRADUATES

Steve Elias, *Dean, Kenneth W. Monfort  
College of Business*

Kamel Haddad, *Dean, College of  
Natural and Health Sciences*

Cristina Goletti, *Dean, College of  
Performing and Visual Arts*

## AUTHORIZATION AND CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Annette Martinez, '86, *Trustee*

Andy Feinstein, *President*

## RECESSIONAL

*Fanfare and Recessional*

by James Ployher

UNC Symphonic Band

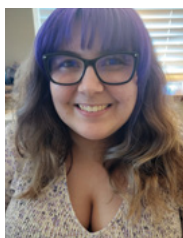
Fredrick M. Brown, DMA, *Director*

# UNDERGRADUATE CEREMONY SPEAKERS



## **Claudia Hernandez**

Claudia Hernandez is a finance major with a minor in entrepreneurship at the University of Northern Colorado. As a first-generation, non-traditional student and daughter of immigrants, she is passionate about using her knowledge to help others. Earning her bachelor's degree is one of her proudest accomplishments.



## **Cheyenne Smith**

Cheyenne Smith is a Cellular and Molecular Biology major with a minor in Chemistry. As a McNair scholar she is looking into going to Graduate school for a Ph.D. in Cellular Biology. Cheyenne was involved in the Tribeta Biological Honors society as Vice President for two years and she worked in Dr. Judy Leatherman's research lab since 2023.



## **Jo Weaver-Douglas**

Jo Weaver-Douglas (they/them/theirs) is graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology with minors in Africana Studies & Multicultural Anthropology, and a certificate in Equity & Inclusion. They are known around campus in their capacity as a leader, facilitator, & advocate. Jo is passionate about creating safe community spaces for marginalized groups, which led them to develop their undergraduate thesis "I (don't) Think I Mattered": Factors That Contribute to Black Student Attrition at UNCO (2025). Combining research, advocacy & support, Jo is determined to bridge institutional gaps in educational outcomes in effort to uplift and liberate marginalized communities in academia.



## **Shayla Bermudez**

Shayla Bermudez is a McNair Scholar graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. During her time at UNC, she served as Student Body Vice President, Resident Assistant, Writing Center Consultant, and University 101 Class Leader. Her favorite part of her time here has been building community either in residence halls, classrooms, or student government. After graduation, Shayla plans to pursue graduate study in industrial organizational psychology and a career in human resources, continuing her commitment to creating supportive communities in every environment she enters.

# Bachelor's Degrees

## KENNETH W. MONFORT COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

### Business Administration: Accounting

Alaniz Ortiz, Katie  
Ayala, Gamaliel  
Chavez Avila, Rosario  
DeRosa, Brandon Eugene  
Etzel, Matthew Jacob  
Flores, Cynthia Paola  
Marick, Seth  
Martinez, Idhaly  
McFall, Evan Thomas  
Mercado Espinoza, Haire  
Reyna, Gabriella Raven  
Roth Jr, Thomas G. \*\*\*  
Sanchez-Reyes, Chanice \*\*  
Say, Moo K' Pow Lo  
Stark, Baryn Layne  
Wilkens, Brayden Bond

### Business Administration: Computer Information Systems

Barcklow, Clansy Eric  
Blair, Ethan Edward  
Lee, Tyler Michael  
Ramirez, Keemen W.C.  
Ruesch, Hunter William  
Wilson, Mary Allisha Lynn

### Business Administration: Finance

Allarid, Terrence  
Ayala, Gamaliel  
DeRosa, Brandon Eugene  
Forester, Taylor  
Hernandez, Claudia  
Jacobs, Adam T.  
Love, Hunter Scott  
Luby Howard, Aaron Decker  
Martinez, Idhaly  
McFall, Evan Thomas  
Mercado Espinoza, Haire  
Roth Jr, Thomas G. \*\*\*  
Valenciano, Avery Benjamin Michael  
Whitaker, Jared S.

### Business Administration: General Business

Dominguez, Jonathan A.

### Business Administration: Management

Berg, Madison E.  
Blake, Heather Alayne  
Burrow, Charles Allen II  
Clements, Fisher  
Corral, Nevaeh Christy \*\*\*  
Delacruz Martinez, Vanessa  
Hartge, Luke Joseph \*\*\*  
King, Jake  
Martin, Victoria Hye-Lin  
Moran Macedo, Miranda  
Naber, Jack Arlin  
Ortiz Ahumada, Marlene  
Polsley, Deborah Sue  
Robbins, Mikala Ashlyn  
Sailas, Kenneth Loren  
Stiles, Brendan Elliott  
Stocker, Keegan Miller  
Vilhauer, Rylee Lynn \*

### Business Administration: Marketing

Allert, Haley Lynne  
Bennett, Ava Nicolette  
Christopher, Cameron  
Corral, Nevaeh Christy \*\*\*  
Cruz, Franklin T.  
DeMeyer, Evan  
Dupont, Timothy Jacob  
Kingsbury, Hannah Marie  
Knight, Caden A.  
Rojas, Jessica  
Samaniego Huaman, Gladys Miriam  
Stiles, Brendan Elliott

### Software Engineering

Chavez, Aaron J.  
Gimmestad, Ethan Michael  
Hanson, Jacob Jabar  
Holmes, Andrew W.  
Lessman, Matthew Edgar  
Perches, Carlos E. \*\*  
Santander, Diego Quitze

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

### Audiology and Speech- Language Sciences

Milagros-Avila, Leanna Renee  
Nagel, Eliza  
Roy, Shyla P.

### Biological Sciences: Cell and Molecular Biology

Hinzmann, Samantha Rae  
Moreland, Savannah L.  
Smith, Cheyenne Elena \* ‡

### Biological Sciences: Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Longshore, Sarah  
Martinez, Maxwell Micheal  
Massey, Erica Alyson  
Vazquez, Felix

### Biological Sciences: Pre-Health and Biomedical Sciences

Carrillo, Brittanny Marlene  
Ceron, Yatzel  
Graba, Payton E.  
Grajalez, Ullrich Daniel  
Ketchum, Cameron  
Michael \*\*\*

Lewis, Darian \*\*\*  
Pope, Samuel  
Price, Nia Simone  
Summers, Collette Genevieve  
Voigt, Oliver Joshua \*  
Winford, Alyssa J.  
Zavaleta Lopez, Imanol

### Chemistry: Biochemistry

Lane, Camden Rowland

### Chemistry: Forensic Science

Bentley, Keri Roseann  
Fornwalt, Larissa Nicole  
Tong, Ethan Daniel

### Chemistry: Pre-Health

Greek, Rachel E. \*\*\*  
Petrone, Sydney

### Communication Sciences and Disorders

Kelly, Jack B

### Dietetics

Gonzalez, Gisela \*\*  
McCarter, Georgia Anne \*

### Earth Sciences: Environmental Earth Sciences

Heineman, Colbi Jane \*\*\*

### Health Sciences: Healthcare Administration

Abril, Brianna Nicole  
Foster, Alyssa  
Roseman, Dylan Kevin \*\*\*  
Sarbaugh, Sierra Lynn

### Health Sciences: Public Health

Arinze, Adaobi Mesoma

### Human Services

Bickford, Sophia Anne Marie  
Day, Zoe A.  
Garcia, Esmeralda V.  
Kilimann, Zoe Kristine  
Neiberger, Kathryn Pauline  
Oo, Kaing N.  
Piotrowski, Abigail Mae  
Renner, Jasmine Cherie  
Stiles, Alexis  
Trujillo, Yolanda S.

### Interdisciplinary Studies: Student Designed, Pre- Anesthesiology

Smythe, Chloe

### Mathematics: Computer Science

Lessman, Matthew Edgar  
Smith, Pieper Marie \*\*\*

### Mathematics: Licensure, Middle School Mathematics (Grades 6-8)

Childers, Samantha Marie  
Yost, Samantha Marie

### Nursing

Albrecht, Ally E. \*\*\*  
Ao-Nguyen, Nicholas \*\*\*  
Asantewaah, Manuella  
Baker, Morgan \*\*\*  
Beers, Madisyn Taylor  
Billington, Ahnysti  
Book, Tristin \*\*\*  
Brown, Audrey E.  
Coon, Megan Marie  
Daniels, Amanda Kay  
Davis, Lillian \*\*  
Dilley, Hannah  
Doering, Diego

Dunne, Edward Anthony \*\*\*  
Eschenbrenner, Samson  
Gonzalez, Lesly  
Goodman, Sophia Lynne  
Johnson, Jasmine T.  
Kissler, Kristen \*\*\*  
Loya, Celeste Alejandra  
Lundmark, Ariana Rose  
Martinez, Paul K. \*\*\*  
McGehee, McKenna F.  
Midolo, Hailey Elisabeth  
Munoz-Lerma, Ashley  
Elizabeth \*\*

Novinger, Kersten  
Nunez, Lesley Marie \*  
O'Connor, Erin Michelle \*\*\*  
Oredson, Amy Lynn  
Owens, Jasmine Josephine \*  
Ownbey, Austin Allen \*  
Palmeri, Austin Louis  
Priest, Anthony R.  
Pureco Diaz, Mayra Marlen  
Ramos, Yessica \*  
Rangel, Tristan  
William-Patrick \*\*  
Ring, Victoria Grace  
Salmeron Marquez,  
Kayla Joanna  
Sanchez, Matthew \*  
Sandoval, Christopher Charles  
Sarno, Elisia Marie \*\*\*  
Shirley, Brian \*\*  
Simpson, Chloe E. \*\*  
Stasiak, Ella Ann \*\*\*  
Staszak, Rebecca I.  
Svenson, Gwendolyn Rose \*  
Torres Ortiz, Gisselle \*\*\* ‡  
Vialpando, David Michael  
Williams, Riannon Alyssa

### Sport and Exercise Science: Exercise Science

Berumen Dela Cruz, Alexis  
Buxton, Blake Kenneth  
Casados, Aidan M.  
Filla, Katelyn M.  
Flancher, Jack P.  
Leos, Brianna Marie  
Padgett, Isaac James Dewey \*  
Salcido Jr, Todd Anthony  
Schultz, Berkleigh Ann \*\*

**Sport and Exercise Science:  
Human Performance**

Ballard, Jenalee L.  
Brady, Morgan Rose  
Coleman, Sarah Alyse  
Hedri, Ali B.  
Reese, Gabrielle Olivia  
Soto Roblero, Yadira  
Trujillo, Miya M.  
Vieyra, Javier  
Vrem, Bailey Evelyn

**Sport and Exercise Science:  
Licensure, Physical Education  
(Grades K-12)**

Luckeroth, Aubrey Lynn  
Mueller, Benjamin \*\*

**Sport and Exercise Science:  
Sport Administration**

Alexander, Benjamin Lee  
Mallett, Kylie  
Michael, Justin Jaden  
Stout, River Chase

**Statistics**

Smith, Finn M. \*\*\*

**COLLEGE OF  
PERFORMING AND  
VISUAL ARTS**

**Acting**

Witkop, Grant Michael

**Art and Design: Art Studio**

Pant, Meena Kumari  
Parsons, Katelynn \*\*  
Retterer, Grace Leigh \*\*\*  
Sovich, Marcus  
Yang, Audree N. \*

**Art and Design:  
Graphic Design**

Bass, Adrien  
Brown, Deja N.  
Buford, Cole Thomas  
Huggett, Ian  
Hyland, Kristen Nicole \*  
Leven, Alyssa Marie  
McQuown, Michaela Ann  
Tabatt, Tiauna \*\*\*

**Art and Design: K-12 Art  
Teaching, Licensure: Visual Art**

Clark, Angelia May  
Horihan, Tabitha James Gunnar  
Job, Chloe Elizabeth \*\*  
Medel, Tanya  
Miller, Alayna A.  
Oliver, Ainsley Jean \*

**Music: Composition**

Delacruz-Peña, Christin  
Gustavo \*  
Erekson, Ryan Francis

**Music: Instrumental  
Performance**

Baxter, Mary Lucille \*

**Music: Latinx Music**

Vicente, Sarah N.

**Music: Music Business and  
Recording Arts**

D'urso, Riccardo  
Erekson, Ryan Francis  
Gibson, Marcus Charles  
Hoskins, Alexander V. \*\*\*  
Ojendiz, Atlas Fitzwilliam ‡  
Spencer, Jake Eugene  
Taylor, Beyna Jane

**Music: Vocal Performance**

Keith, Autumn Joy \*\*\*

**Music Education: K-12  
Instrumental Teaching,  
Licensure: Music**

Baxter, Mary Lucille \*  
Boucneau, Robert Michael  
Claypool, Serra Christine \*  
Valles, Aries R

**Music Education: K-12 Vocal,  
Piano and General Teaching,  
Licensure: Music**

Keith, Autumn Joy \*\*\*  
Vicente, Sarah N.

**Musical Theatre**

Weiss-Jones, ZEWEJ E

**Theatre Arts**

Ausloos, Sarah Catherine

**Theatre Arts: K-12 Drama  
Teaching, Licensure: Drama  
Theatre Arts**

Ausloos, Sarah Catherine  
Betz, Caitlyn M.  
Wetzel, Nathan G. \*\*



# UNDERGRADUATE CEREMONY

College of Education and Behavioral Sciences

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Saturday, December 13, 2025 • 12:30 p.m. • Bank of Colorado Arena

## PROCESSIONAL

*Pomp and Circumstance*

by Sir Edward Elgar

UNC Symphonic Band

Fredrick M. Brown, DMA, *Director*

## POSTING COLORS

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

*The Star-Spangled Banner*

by Francis Scott Key

Sabrina Patten, PVA Undergraduate Student

## WELCOME AND CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES

Andy Feinstein, *President*

## STUDENT FAREWELL ADDRESS

Shayla Bermudez, *Bachelor of*

*Arts in Psychology*

Jo Weaver-Douglas, *Bachelor of*

*Arts in Sociology*

## ACADEMIC TRADITIONS

Kirsten Fleming, *Provost and*

*Executive Vice President*

## PRESENTATION OF THE GRADUATES

Heather Pendleton-Helm,

*Interim Dean, College of*

*Education and Behavioral Sciences*

Jim Doerner, *Dean, College of*

*Humanities and Social Sciences*

## AUTHORIZATION AND CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Steve Jordan, '71, *Trustee*

Andy Feinstein, *President*

## RECESSIONAL

*Fanfare and Recessional*

by James Ployher

UNC Symphonic Band

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

### American Sign Language

#### English Interpretation

Cronrath, Andrea Joy \*\*\*

LaPrade, Caroline Jady \*\*\*‡

Leverich, Emily Gene \*\*\*

Osborne, DeAdre \*\*

### Early Childhood: Licensure, Early Childhood Education (Ages Birth-8)

Cannon, Isabella G.

Juarez, Madilynn R. \*

Morales, Yulissa \*\*\*

Ryan, Tatiana C.

### Early Childhood Education: Liberal Arts

Benhallou, Wassila \*\*

Massey, Morgan Sue

Mitchell, Kristina

Underwood, Hanna Ryan

### Elementary Education: Non-Licensure

#### Educational Studies

Alvarez, Stephanie

Burnett, Lindsey Nicole

Howell, Haley

Morrissey, Sandra Michele

Ravnsborg, Sierra M.

Sinkwich, Sierra Ryan

### Elementary Education: Teacher Licensure,

#### Elementary Education Endorsement

Alexander, Candra Morres

Ashley, Daneille Joy \*

Bair, Arlene A.

Baldwin, Elena Gail \*\*\*

Barrow, Emma Rae

Bergal, Sydnie Daniele

Calderon, Blanca Alejandra \*\*

Frier, Catherine N. \*\*\*

Gonzalez, Nicolas

Gonzales, Sabrina M. \*

Hafner, Shantell LaRae \*\*\*

Hummel, Olivia Louise \*\*\*

Ives, Kathryn Elise

Lindsay, Maile Kai \*\*\* ‡

Machuca, Brooklyn \*\*\*

Neiman, Mallory Gwen

Oredson, Ella D. \*\*\*

Pack, Anthony C.

Preston, Lilyann \*\*\*

Richmond, Caitlyn Eve \*\*\*

Schulte, Isabel Margaret \*\*\* ‡

Schieffelin, Abigail Lyn \*\*\*

Snyder, Tasha \*\*

Stromberg, Abigail Taylor \*\*\*

Togher, Mason \*\*\*

Ver Duft, Abigail S. \*\*\*

Wardlow, Hannah Christine

White, Sophia Jayla \*

Wood, Dashiell Benjamin

### Psychology

Aguilar, Regina M.

Alexander, Madalyn Marie

Awan, Modassir Hussain

Barron, Margarita

Beilman, Taylee Shae-Marie

Bennett, Ben

Bercian, Chelsea

Bermudez, Shayla \*\*\*‡

Bertram, Shelby Lynn \*\*

Bojorquez, Kiarah \*\*\*‡

Bowsher, Havah Lynn

Carlson, Megan K.

Childers, Victoria Ashlie

Day, Melissa

Eskew, Davi Danielle \*\*\*

Fernandez, Sabrina Rene

Frost, Kelsey Elizabeth

Gagne, Mackenzy Kristen

Gibson Jr, Eric Kenyon

Guardado, Isidro \*\*\*

Gugelman, Leah Michelle

Hernandez, Jennifer N.

Hickey, Makayla Kay

Hilliard, Dayanna L.

Huston, Sarah R.

Irwin, Danielle Dawn

Johnson, Taylor J.

Kelley, Emilia May \* ‡

Kupfner, Shawna Lynn

Lawson, Carley Elise

Lynn, Taylor Renae

Mellum, Valerye

Mendez, Jonathan

Mlack, Madison Rae

Naff, Reilly Garrett

Overbey, Tamara Danielle Marie

Pacheco Luna, Jasmin

Pedro, Zacura Michelle Brophy ‡

Powell, Hailey J. \*\*\*

Ramos, Karla D.

Retterer, Grace Leigh \*\*\*

Rose, Elyea Lidia

Sims, Deja Nejay

Sims, Ranzel Kyle

Soto-Confer, Adrianna Gabrielle

Stroud, Aidan Gregory

Suarez Vega, Roslyn  
 Taudien, Nicole  
 Ternes, Tia Katherine  
 Trevino, Daniella Marie  
 Waller, Lilliann \*\*  
 Williamson, Erika Marie  
 Wittlif, Eva Josephine  
 York, Jennifer

### **Special Education: Licensure, Special Education Generalist**

Baki, Adam \*  
 Cooley, AlanaBlu Jean \*\*  
 Frisch, Lauren Marie  
 Owens, Jake Edward \*\*  
 Winston, Conner Vance \*\*\*

### **Special Education: Liberal Arts**

Hearn, Yazmine Carlisha  
 Serrano Moreno, Stephanie \*\*

## **COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

### **Anthropology**

Moreno, Miguel A.  
 Raine, Zachary Scott \*\*\*

### **Asian Studies: Liberal Arts**

Bankston, Zoey \*\*\*  
 Reed, Brenna L.  
 Walter, Savannah Payton

### **Communication Studies**

Barnhart, Allyson A. \*\*  
 Bodine, Dalen James \*\*‡  
 Cross, Serina Catherine  
 Hickman, Austin Stephen  
 Holien, Michael Cornell  
 Hossack, Porter Cole  
 Miller, Hannah Grace  
 Shoemaker, Jesslyn Marie  
 Traore, Aliou Rocco  
 Whittaker, Emma Grace

### **Criminology and Criminal Justice**

Chen, Erica H. \*\*\*  
 Delgadillo, Alexander Nathaniel  
 Edwards, Ewan Patrick  
 Geertsema, Brianna Rose  
 Gore, Jeffery David  
 Hernandez, Arely  
 Hiatt, Trista Christine  
 Knapp, Ashlyn Dean \*  
 Makowski, Brock Thomas \*  
 Mann, Alena Danae  
 Mlack, Madison Rae  
 Nevarez, Jocelyn A.  
 Pedro, Zacura  
 Michelle Brophy ‡  
 Rozyc, Jassmen Teresa \*\*  
 Smith, Jake Anthony  
 Tharp, Kayla Ellen  
 Tjaden, Megan

### **Economics: Business**

#### **Economics**

Cabot, Madison  
 Herrera, Fabiola  
 Jeffries, Jett  
 Martin, Jaymon  
 Mckelvy, Brenden  
 Merriion, Eliza Lynn \*\*  
 Sanford, Jessa L.

#### **Economics:**

#### **Environmental Policy**

Garside, Kyalin A. \*\*

### **Economics: International**

#### **Economic Policy**

Downey, Ellie Bree \*\*\*  
 Moats, Rachel Laura  
 Peterson, Catherine Xinx  
 Price, Abigail

### **Economics: Liberal Arts**

Tuha, Sione Lui Akauola

### **English: Liberal Arts**

Alm, Tyler R.  
 Mitchell, Dayona D.

### **English: Writing, Editing and Publishing**

Gharritty, Caitlin  
 Gagnon, Matthew John

### **Environmental and Sustainability Studies**

Brown, Jax Lincoln  
 Sandoval, Jaziah Caine  
 Trujillo, Michele

### **Geography: Field Studies**

Dean, Justin Conner  
 Trujillo, Michele

### **History: Liberal Arts**

Carnes, Garrett  
 Raine, Zachary Scott \*\*\*  
 Rayburn, Catherine

### **History: Licensure, Social Studies (Grades 7-12)**

Roberts, Adam Wayne  
 Weatherwax, Ethan B  
 White, Samuel Charles \*\*\*

### **International Affairs: Area Studies**

Arritola-Estrada, Lissete  
 Consol, Sky Seth  
 Downey, Ellie Bree \*\*\*  
 Padecio Dinkel, Sofia  
 Lourbecca Bernales  
 Sanchez, Abraham

### **International Affairs: International Political Economy**

Peterson, Catherine Xinx  
 Smith, Finn M. \*\*\*

**Journalism: News and  
Multimedia Journalism**

Galster, Andrew Lawrence  
Moe, Conlan \*

**Mexican American Studies:  
Liberal Arts**

Romero Rojas, Ana Karina

**Philosophy: Ethics and  
Public Policy**

Rapp, Hunter Thomas

**Political Science**

Dean, Justin Conner  
Edwards, Ewan Patrick  
Galster, Andrew Lawrence  
Rapp, Hunter Thomas

**Sociology**

Garcia, Cinthya M.  
Hamby, Tyler L.  
Kaili-Carrion, Kimiko L.  
Medrano-Arango,  
    Kayla Jacqueline  
Padilla, Heather C. \*  
Porch, Lyndsey  
Rodriguez Jimenez, Alberto  
Samaniego, Amairany  
    Guadalupe  
Schwartz, Stacey Anne \*\*\*  
Weaver-Douglas, Jo Olivia \*\* ‡

**Spanish: K-12 Spanish Teaching**

Pacheco, Sofia

**Spanish: Liberal Arts**

Barraza Cordova, Ana C. \* ‡



# Honors Program

## Upper Division Honors

Bermudez, Shayla

Psychology

Honors Thesis: *The Math Experiences and Attitudes of Latinas Majoring in STEM in Higher Education*

Advisor: Molly Jameson

Kelley, Emilia May

Psychology

Honors Thesis: *Mothers and Mental Health:*

*Exploring Self-Efficacy, Postpartum Depression, and Positive Interventions in Psychology*

Advisor: Theoklitos Karipidis

Pedro, Zacura Michelle Brophy

Criminology and Criminal Justice; Psychology

Honors Thesis: *Understanding What Can Influence a Positive Work Culture for Police Officer Mental Health*

Advisor: Lisa Nichols

Smith, Cheyenne Elena

Biological Sciences

Honors Thesis: *Investigating L(2)03659, What a Lethal Gene Can Tell Us About Stemness and Differentiation.*

Advisor: Judy Leatherman

Weaver-Douglas, Jo Olivia

Sociology

Honors Thesis: *I (don't) Think I Mattered: Factors That Contribute to Black Student Attrition at the University of Northern Colorado*

Advisor: Hannah Conner

## University Honors Program

Bojorquez, Kiarah

Psychology

Honors Capstone: *An Exploration of College*

*Adaptation in Latinx Students Enrolled at the University of Northern Colorado*

Advisor: Eric Peterson

Ojendiz, Atlas

Music Business & Recording Arts

Honors Capstone: *Imperfect Machine Studios LLC:*

*A Strategic Business Plan to Focus on Community Equity & Storytelling*

Advisors: Sarah Off, Rachel Roberts

## Honors Capstone Experience

Barraza Cordova, Ana C

Spanish

Honors Capstone: *Proposal for a Law Requiring Security Cameras in all Buildings with Children*

Advisor: Jordan Garcia

## Honors Interdisciplinary

### Program Graduates

Bodine, Dalen James

LaPrade, Caroline Jadyn

Lindsay, Maile Kai

Schulte, Isabel Margaret

Torres Ortiz, Gisselle





## UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO

### WELCOME TO THE UNC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

#### ***Congratulations, Bear Grad!***

When you graduate from the University of Northern Colorado, the community you knew as a student is the network you connect to as a professional. A network where every relationship creates an opportunity for you, no matter the direction your education and career take you next.

Put that network to work when you get involved in your UNC Alumni Association. As a UNC graduate, you are automatically a member of the alumni association, and we are here to help you succeed in the next stage of your career and life.

### ALUMNI CAREER SUCCESS AND SUPPORT

#### **Access Career Support**

Whether you have a position or are currently looking, make use of your Bear Network. Students and recent graduates retain full access to the Center for Career Readiness for three years following graduation. Additionally, all alumni retain access to online and on-demand career resources offered through the Office of Alumni Relations.

**[unco.edu/careers](https://unco.edu/careers)**

#### **Connect & Network**

Put your Bear Network to work when you connect with alumni who share your interests, professions and academic areas of study. Find a Bear Network alumni group online and begin making connections today.

**[alumni.unco.edu](https://alumni.unco.edu)**



Learn more when you visit **[alumni.unco.edu](https://alumni.unco.edu)**.  
We are excited to join in the celebration of  
this important milestone.

*Help us celebrate your important day by sharing your graduation stories  
and memories on social: @UNCBearsAlumni #UNCBearGrad*



**Closed Captioning of the  
ceremony is available.  
Scan the QR code.**