

College of Health, Education, & Social Transformation

EDUCATOR PREPARATION IMPACTS & OUTCOMES

Dr. Rick Marlatt, Dean, College of HEST

Dr. Leanna Lucero, Interim Director, School of TPAL

Dr. Mary Fahrenbruck, Professor, School of TPAL

Carson Pharris, Elementary Education Major, Current Student Teacher

Francesca Espinoza, Elementary Education Major, Current Student Teacher

Emilee Smedley, NMSU Alumna, Third Grade Teacher, Mesilla Elementary

Erika Acosta, STEM Specialist, STEM Outreach Center

Dr. Dulcinea Lara, Department Head, Borderlands & Ethnic Studies

Dr. Wendi Miller-Tomlinson, Deputy Superintendent, LCPS

Esther Peterson, Director of Teaching & Learning, LCPS



College & EPP Overviews



Literacy Initiatives & Updates



Math Initiatives & Updates



Martinez/Yazzie Initiatives & Updates



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College Overview

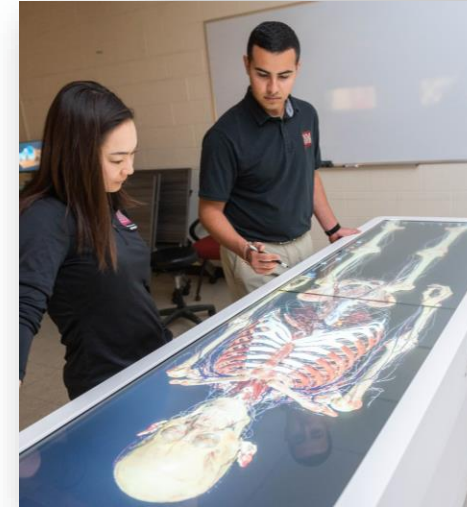
- HEST serves nearly 3,000 UG & over 1,200 GR students in Fall 2025
- HEST's 4,224 enrolled HC & 37,678 SCH in Fall 2025 are all-time highs
- HEST supports over 200 faculty members & nearly 200 staff members
- HEST's research expenditures in FY26 are \$17.5M
- 7 FTE lines hired through HED Endowments in Social Work, Nursing, & Education
- **2025-2026 HEST Priorities**
 - Embody NMSU's Land-Grant Mission
 - Prioritize Student Success & Social Mobility
 - Amplify Experiential Learning & Cooperative Education
 - Unify & Operationalize systems, practices, & processes
- **HEST Through-Lines**
 - Mental & Health & Wellness
 - Social-Emotional Learning
 - Workforce Development for New Mexico
 - High Quality Instruction



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HEST's Academic Units

- School of Nursing (CCNE)
- School of Teacher Preparation Administration & Leadership (NMPED, CAEP)
- School of Social Work (CSWE)
- Kinesiology Department (CAATE)
- Public Health Sciences Department (CEPH)
- Counseling & Educational Psychology Department (APA, CACREP, NASP)
- Communication Disorders Department (CAA)
- Sociology Department
- Borderlands and Ethnic Studies Department
- Notable New Academic Program Pathways
 - Social Work Education to Enhance Training in Special Education (SWEET)
 - Reimagining Intervention to Support Early Childhood (Project RISE)
 - Equity in Early Intervention (E2)
 - Early Childhood Education Doctoral Cohort



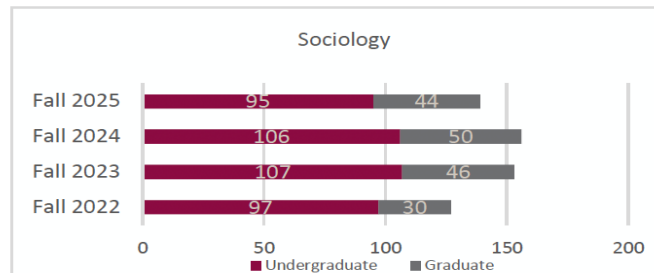
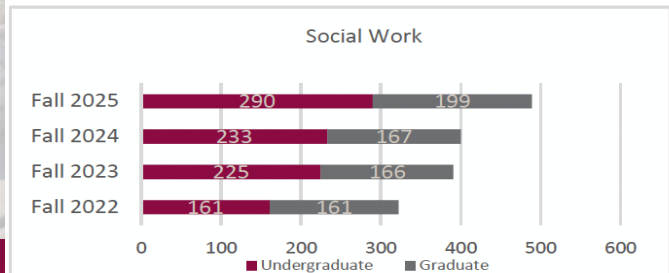
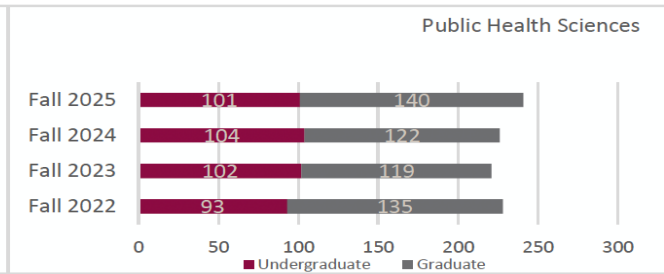
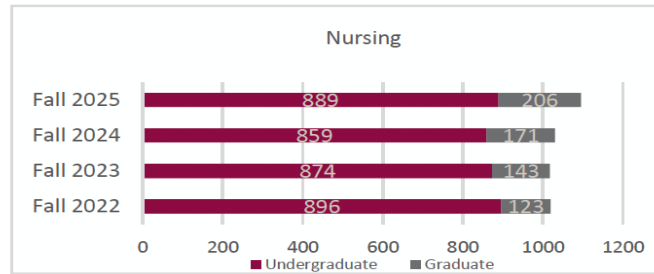
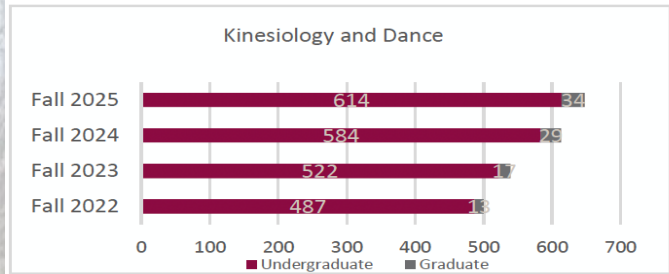
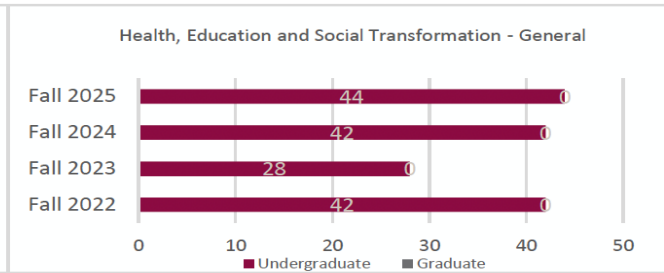
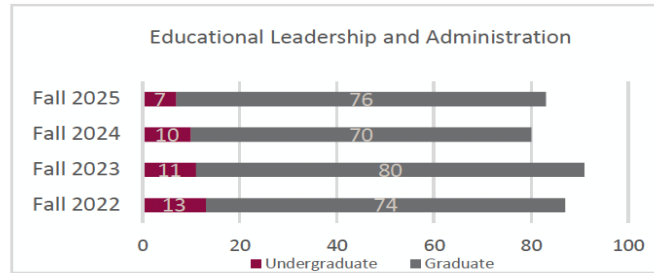
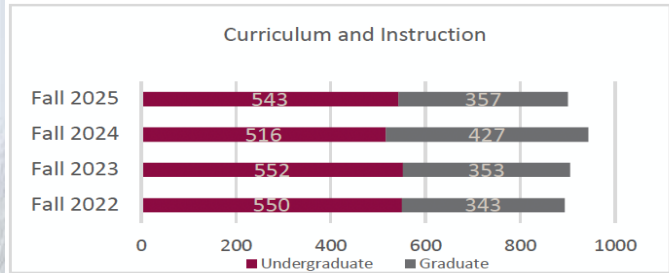
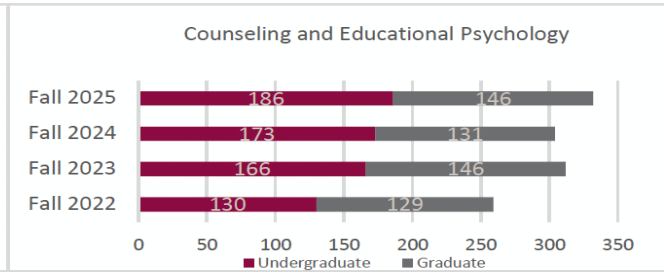
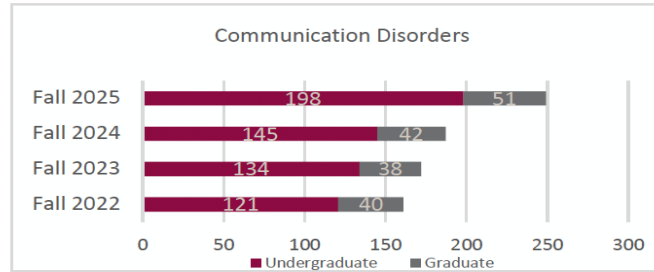
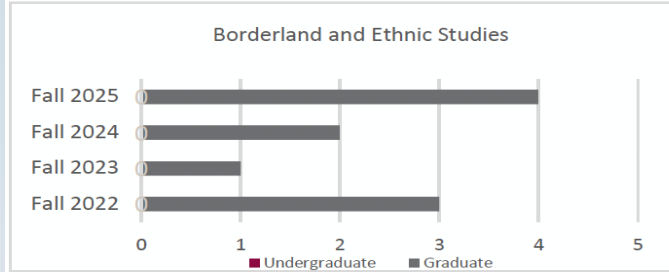
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Institutional Analysis

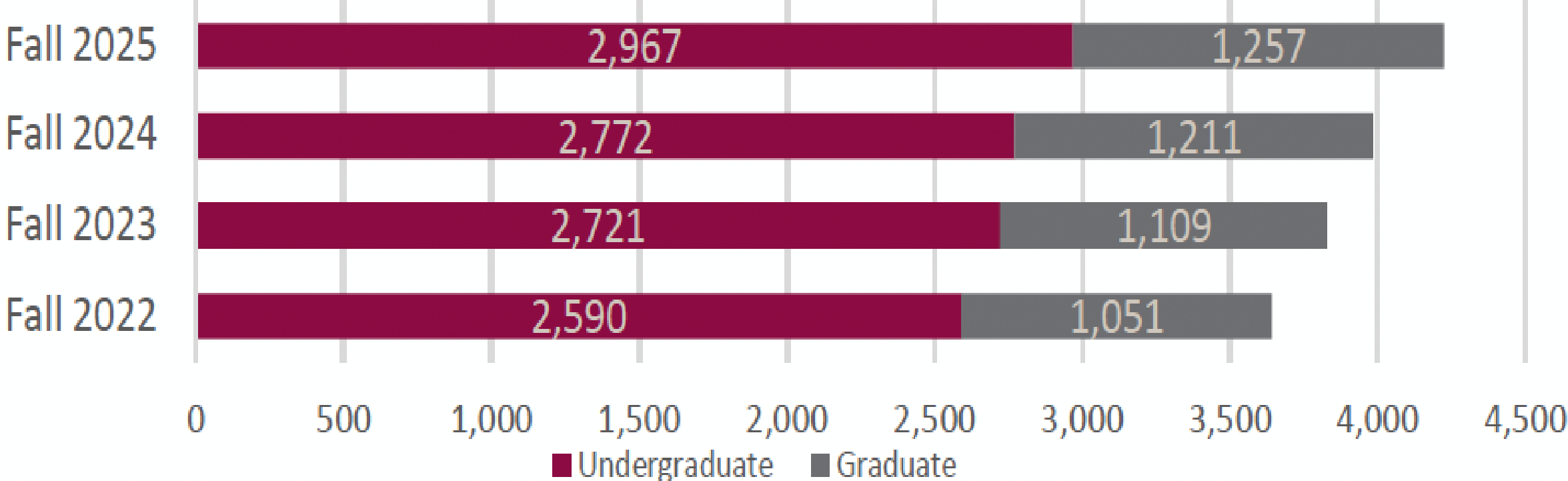
NMSU Enrollment Report - Health, Education and Social Transformation Headcount by Department

Fall 2025
CENSUS

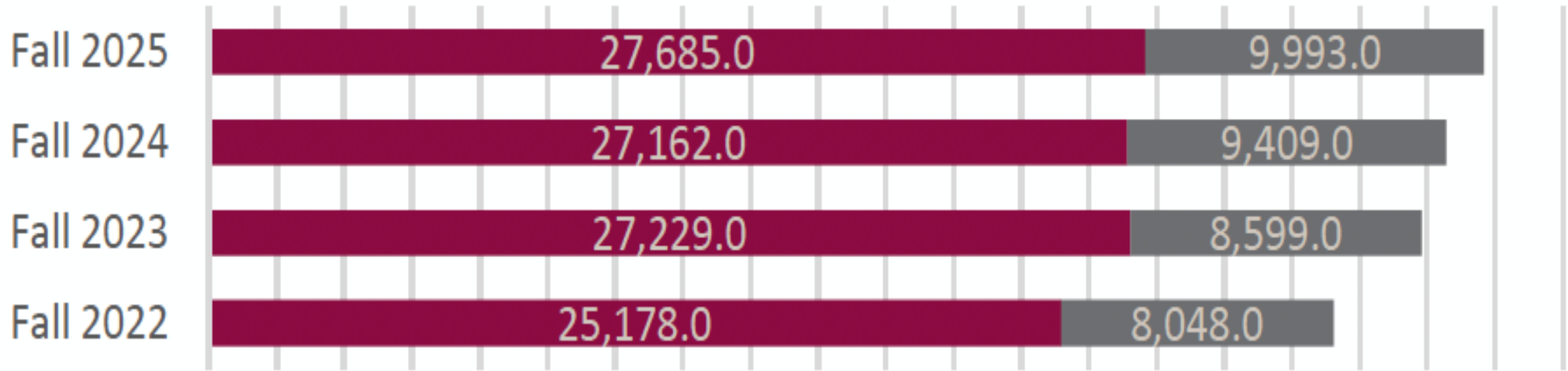


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Health, Education and Social Transformation Headcount



Health, Education and Social Transformation SCH



■ Undergraduate ■ Graduate

HEST's Clinics, Experiential Learning, and Research & Outreach Centers

- Nursing Skills & Simulation Lab
- Mental Health Clinic for Clinical Psychology & School Psychology
- Papen-Aprendamos Autism Diagnostic Center
- Edgar R. Garret Speech & Hearing Center
- Glass Family Research Institute for Early Childhood Studies
- STEM Outreach Center
- Myrna's Children's Village and School for Young Children
- Doña Ana County Head Start & Early Head Start
- Internships in hospitals, health centers, community agencies, etc.
- Paid practica in schools, higher education campuses, communities, etc.
- Center for Latin American Studies & Border Studies
- Crimson Research
- Educators Rising
- Borderlands & Ethnic Studies Research Center



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Expansion & Renovation

Health & Human Services Expansion

- SON Skills & Simulation Center
- Operating Room Simulation Lab

O'Donnell Hall Expansion

- Edgar R. Garret Speech & Hearing Center
- Papen-Aprendamos Autism Diagnostic Center
- Communication Disorders Department
- Kinesiology Department



School of Teacher Preparation, Administration, & Leadership (TPAL)

Mission

As a School within a land-grant and Hispanic Serving Institution, we support and advocate for equitable education for all, especially historically marginalized and multicultural/multilingual communities and students with exceptionalities. We accomplish this through teaching, scholarship, public service, the preparation of teachers and leaders, and collaborations across the disciplines and with our constituents.



Educational Leadership
Administration



Special Education



Curriculum & Instruction



Teacher Education Program



NMSU's Educator Preparation Program (EPP)

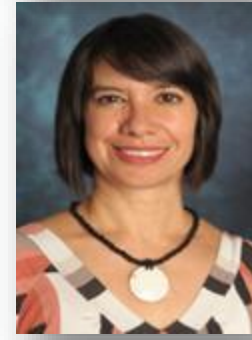
Our EPP is housed within the School of TPAL

- Initial Licensure Programs (UG & GR):
 - Early Childhood Education (PreK - 3rd)
 - Elementary Education (K-8th)
 - Secondary Education (6th-12th)
 - Special Education (PreK-12th)
 - Graduate Certificate - Alternative Licensure (all programs above)
- Endorsement program areas include:
 - Bilingual/TESOL Education
 - Reading
- Advanced Licensure Programs:
 - Principal Licensure (Master of Arts in Ed. & Graduate Certificate)
 - Visual Impairment (certification within the Master of Arts in SPED)

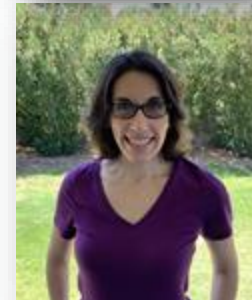
TPAL Leadership Team



Dr. Leanna Lucero
Interim Director
School of TPAL



Dr. Blanca Araujo
Interim Associate Director
School of TPAL



Dr. Rachel Boren
Assessment Program Manager
Director of SOAR



Teacher Education Program (TEP) Recruitment Efforts

TEP Applicant Growth Since Fall 2019												
	FA 2019	SP 2020	SM 2020	FA 2020	SP 2021	SM 2021	FA 2021	SP 2022	SM 2022	FA 2022	SP 2023	SM 2023
TEP applicants	26	23	34	68	24	31	61	33	45	64	53	37
School Year Totals	SY 2019 - 2020 = 83 Baseline data			SY 2020 - 2021 = 123 48% increase from 2019-2020			SY 2021 - 2022 = 139 67.5% increase from 2019-2020			SY 2022 - 2023 = 154 85.5% increase from 2019-2020		

	FA 2023	SP 2024	SM 2024	FA 2024	SP 2025	SM 2025	FA 2025	SP 2026	SM 2026
TEP applicants	62	49	35	72	49	38	69	TBD	TBD
School Year Totals	SY 2023 – 2024 = 146 76% increase from 2019 - 2020			SY 2024 – 2025 = 159 92% increase from 2019 - 2020			TBD		

**Southwest Region
Teacher Vacancies**
2025: 35
2024: 51
2023: 64



Teacher Education Program Information

Current Total TEP Student Enrollment Demographics			
Minority	White	Women	Men
73%	27%	74%	26%

Current Total TEP Students (Fall 2025 – Spring 2026)	
Students in Practicum/Field-Based Experiences	141
Alternative Licensure Program (ALP) Students Completing FA25 or SP26	11
Fall 2025 TEP Student Teachers	51
Spring 2026 TEP Student Teachers	TBD
Fall 2025 – Spring 2026 TEP Teacher Residents	35
Current Total TEP Enrollment (only includes TEP majors who apply junior year & ALP)	238



Early Childhood Teacher Education Program

- Prepares candidates for PreK – 3rd grade classrooms
- Provides 100 practicum hours in K-3rd grade settings prior to student teaching/residency in on-site schools
- Content includes teaching methods in:
 - Literacy (Science of Reading)
 - Math
 - Science
 - Social Studies
 - Fine Arts
 - Movement



Elementary Education Program (K – 8th)

- Recipient of the 2024 Association of Teacher Educators Billy G. Dixon Distinguished Program in Teacher Education
- Recognized for exemplifying collaboration between local education agencies and NMSU in program development and administration
- Prepares candidates for K-8th grade classrooms
- All candidates graduate with the coursework required for Bilingual and/or TESOL endorsements
- Provides 300 practicum hours in K-8 classroom settings prior to student teaching/residency in on-site campuses
- Content includes methods in:
 - Literacy (Science of Reading)
 - Math
 - Science
 - Social Studies
 - Special Education
 - Bilingual Education



Secondary Teacher Education Program (6th – 12th)

- Prepares candidates for 6th - 12th grade classrooms
- Provides 140 practicum hours in 6th - 12th grade settings prior to student teaching/residency
- Content areas include:
 - English
 - Social Studies
 - Math
 - Science



Special Education Teacher Education Program

- Prepares candidates to work with students with exceptionalities in elementary and secondary settings
- Content follows either elementary or secondary with additional courses in Special Education
- Elementary path provides
 - 390 practicum hours in K-8th grade & SPED settings prior to student teaching/residency
 - Dual licensure in Special Education and Elementary Education
 - Courses required for Bilingual and/or TESOL endorsements
- Secondary path provides
 - 140 practicum hours in 6th-12th grade & SPED settings prior to student teaching/residency
 - Dual licensure in Special Education and Secondary Education Content Area



Alternative Licensure Program – Graduate Certificate

- Prepares candidates to work in
 - Early Childhood (K-3rd)
 - Elementary (K-8th)
 - Secondary (6th – 12th)
 - Special Education (PK-12)
- Teacher of Record Model
- Supports from district, campus, and university



Student Teaching and Residency Experiences Available to all Teacher Candidates as a Culminating Experience

Student Teaching - Provides 640 hours over one semester of field-based experiences in PK-3rd grade classrooms.

Teacher Residency - Provides 1,280 hours over one academic year of field-based experiences in PK-3rd grade classrooms.

**Partners with 20 districts
across New Mexico.**



Bilingual Education TESOL Pathways

Preparing Teachers to Serve New Mexico's Bi/Multilingual Learners

Undergraduate Courses

(Department/College Requirements)

- BLED 1110 – Introduction to Bilingual Education/ESL
- BLED 2110 – Bilingual Methods
- BLED 3130 – Language, Literacy, & Culture in the ESL Classroom
- BLED 3120 – Sheltered Instruction for the ESL Classroom
- BLED 3140 – Issues in Schooling for Bilingual Learners
- BLED 4110 – Second Language Acquisition

Why It Matters

- Equips educators to support English learners across NM schools.
- Meets state licensure requirements for bilingual and TESOL endorsements.
 - Expands the pathways of culturally and linguistically responsive teachers.

Graduate-Level Certificate Options

Bilingual Education Certificate:

- BLED 5320 – Second Language Acquisition
- BLED 5420 – Pedagogy of TESOL
- BLED 5210 – Language & Literacy for Bilingual Learners
- BLED 5410 – Sociolingüística en la educación

TESOL Certificate:

- BLED 5320 – Second Language Acquisition
- BLED 5420 – Pedagogy of TESOL
- BLED 5330 – Assessment in Cultural & Linguistic Responsiveness
- BLED 5990 – TESOL Practicum



NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY

NMPED – Language and Cultural Division, provides financial support for Spanish Summer Immersion Institute.

All Elementary majors graduate eligible for BLED & TESL Endorsements

Current MOUs with LCPS & GISD: teachers are reimbursed tuition costs for earning BLED & TESL Graduate Certificate

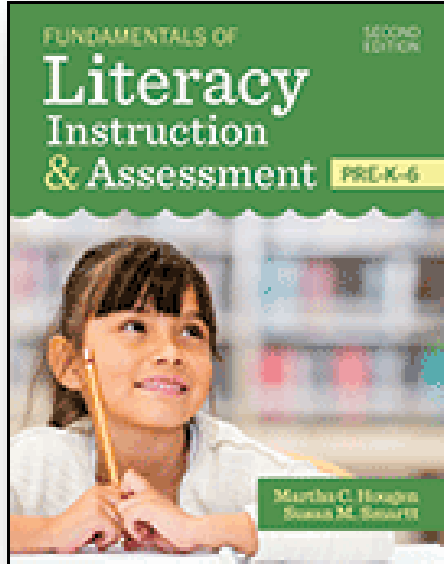


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Recent & Ongoing Literacy Initiatives

- SoR/SL required across all early childhood & elementary literacy methods courses since fall 2022
- "Studies in the Science of Reading" graduate course first offered in fall 2022
- SoR/SL partnership w/LCPS: 300+ NMSU pre-service teachers trained since spring 2023
- 2023-2024 collaboration with PED: 8 NMSU literacy instructors received LETRS Training
- Teacher Pipeline Reading Excellence Cohort: 35 master teachers in LCPS, GISD, & DPS
- Early Literacy Instructors: SW REC SL Coordinator & LETRS-trained phonics experts
- Glass Family Research Institute: Fall 2025 SOR/SL Educator Summit & Dyslexia Camp
- National Council on Teacher Quality B Grade in Reading Foundations for UG & GR
- Active participation of NMSU students & graduates w/ NM Summer Literacy Institute
- Over 100 NMSU pre-service teachers participated in America Reads since fall 2022
- NMSU faculty have contributed to the Las Cruces Literacy Festival & other events
- Second reading course being developed for secondary education degree program
- STEM Outreach Center: Accelerate Literacy Achievement, Literacy Launchpad, Story Explorations
- Alignment established between pre-service coursework, clinical experiences, district PD, & district instruction





Textbook for Literacy
Methods Courses

Block A – (Focus on K-3 Literacy)

1. Becoming an Effective Literacy Teacher
2. Critical Components of Teaching Structured Reading
3. Assessment Basics
4. Using Standards to Guide Instruction
5. Foundational Skills for Literacy: Social-Emotional Skills and Language Development
6. Oral Language and Listening Skill Development in Early Childhood
7. Phonological Awareness: A Critical Foundation for Beginning Reading
8. Basic Phonics
10. Beginning Handwriting, Spelling, and Composition Instruction
13. Comprehension Instruction: Grades K–3

Block B – (Focus on 4-8 Literacy)

2. Critical Components of Teaching Structured Reading (Review)
11. Fluency Instruction
9. Advanced Word Study
12. A Comprehensive Approach to Vocabulary Development
14. Reading Comprehension Instruction: Grades 4–6
15. Disciplinary Literacy
16. Strategic and Meaningful Writing Instruction
17. Literacy Instruction for English Learners
18. Technology for Elementary Literacy Instruction

Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS)

Certified in LETRS

Share with preservice teachers during seminar

- Read Alouds (Modules 5)
- Vocabulary (Module 5)
- Writing Frames (Module 8)



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TPAL - Recent & Ongoing Math Initiatives

- **Math for All – Grant Collaboration between NMSU, Bank Street College and Education Development Center**
 - Our focus is currently on K-8 classrooms in LCPS and GISD
 - Making math accessible to all students
 - Provides professional development to schools in implementing high-quality, standards-based math instruction
 - Helps build collaboration among general and special education teachers
 - Implemented with Early Childhood and Elementary Preservice Teachers
 - Build local capacity in districts/schools
- **Elementary Math & Science Specialist Master of Arts in Education: Third cohort began in 2025**
- **EMSS courses are taught by math & science experts among TPAL and STEM Outreach Faculty**



Building Capacity for Quality Math Instruction

Elementary Math and Science Specialist Masters Program (2-year program)

- Leads to Elementary Math Specialist (EMS) Endorsement
- 60 graduates, 16 current
- Goal: EMS in every elementary school to support math intervention, mentoring, and high-quality math instruction
- 30% of graduates serving in leadership / coaching positions
- Cost per teacher: \$12,500
- **NEED: Funding for Scholarships**

NUMeROS

K-5 Math Micro-Credentials PED Partnership

Grades K-2 Pathways

- *Number Talks*
- *Operations and Algebraic Thinking*
- *Representations and Unit Construction*
- *Number & Operations in Base 10*

Grades 3-5 Pathways

- *Whole Number Operations and Algebraic Thinking*
- *Models for Multiplication and Division*
- *Fraction Understanding*
- *Foundations in Ratios*
- Flexible Virtual and In-Person options
- 200 teachers currently participating bi-weekly
- 12-15 hours per course
- Plan for expansion in 2026-2027

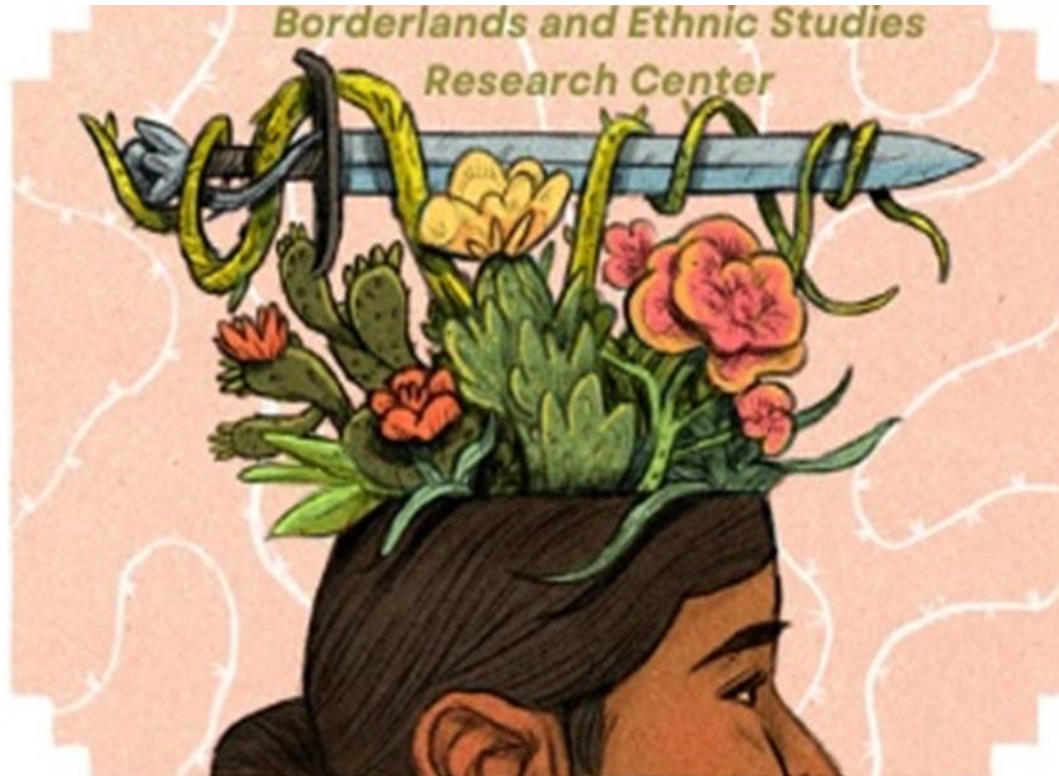
High Dosage Math Tutoring

District Partnerships in GISD, Santa Fe, and Farmington

- Game-based Math Intervention
- Can be implemented in-school or in OST programs
- Targeted Intention based on math fluency screener
- Builds professional knowledge for teacher on foundational math concepts and psychology of math learning
- Targeted intervention that leads to a deep conceptual understanding of number and flexibility in problem-solving
- Builds student confidence in math understanding
- **Need: Funding to support teacher professional learning and OST intervention**



Borderlands and Ethnic Studies Research Center, College of HEST



Faculty and research staff working to:

- Remedy 2018 Martinez/Yazzie legal ruling by developing new curriculum and PD
- Support 2022 Social Studies standard, “Ethnic, Cultural, and Identity Studies” (ECI)
- Offer high-quality college courses in Ethnic Studies for pre-service educators at NMSU
- Pilot curriculum projects in southern NM schools
- Research efficacy of new curriculum

Curriculum Projects

(funded by federal, state, local, and private funds)

- *Units and Lessons*
- *Film series*
- *Traveling exhibition*
- *Public murals as curriculum*



K-12 Educational Materials Website: Healing. Education. And. Learning (HEAL) NM features curriculum that centers the previously untold histories of marginalized peoples, communities, and realities. This repository addresses key tenets of the Martinez/Yazzie legal ruling of 2018 that was renewed in 2025.

The Units/Lessons include critical questions, learning outcomes, and links to primary documents accessible to all teachers. Visit: <https://healborderlands.org>



Peoples of New Mexico Film Series: These educational films aim to engage and shift the dominant narrative of NM and US history by uplifting previously omitted and/or sanitized histories of marginalized peoples, communities, and realities.

Watch the films here: <https://healborderlands.org/curricula>



Traveling Museum Exhibition: Pasos Ajenos is a 12-installation bilingual art and cultural exhibit that aims to gather and engage diverse groups in one space, creating a conversation for a substantive narrative change on issues of power, race, gender, labor, (im)migration, border health, poverty, and other topics.

Visit: <https://pasosajenos.org>



New Mexico/Borderlands Murals Project: The BEST Murals place art in highly visible campus locations to re-represent Borderlands Peoples and their histories and cultures, and to respond to the community's wishes to see themselves reflected in campus art.

An ongoing project, murals are in Garcia Center, Astronomy, and O'Donnell Hall. Check out the mural booklet:

[View the BEST Mural Booklet \(PDF\)](#)



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Curriculum Projects

(funded by federal, state, local, and private funds)

- *Classroom game kits*
- *Mobile education pod*
- *Primary document archive*
- *Podcast/Oral histories*

See healborderlands.org



Think Inside the Box (Micro): Colorful, locally-designed, and fabricated classroom kits are resources for teachers to implement meaningful lessons in the classroom that align with the NMPED Social Studies standard **Ethnic and Cultural Identities**. The kit contains games, activities, and posters to spark creative inquiry about place-based learning and cultivate critical thinking skills that foster deep conversations about social understanding.



Think Inside the Box (Macro): Mobile museum offers students and teachers opportunities to explore thematic content and place-based learning, interpretive planning, and exhibit design as a novel approach to curriculum co-development. The 40-foot custom-built shipping container will be displayed on NMSU's campus in Preciado Park as a pilot to build and understand the impact of culturally and linguistically sustaining curriculum. The mobile museum will serve as a space for professional development.



Cordova Sisters Archival Project: Collection recognizes, validates, and preserves the efforts of the Cordova sisters, Nadine and Patsy, in their work to teach Chicano history in ways that affirm and foster pride and resilience in New Mexican communities. The Cordova sisters taught in rural Vaughn, NM in the 1990's. This project represents the struggle for inclusive and culturally responsive teaching and underscores the importance of archiving material related to marginalized voices in education.

Visit: <https://healborderlands.org/cordova-sisters>



Borderlands Oral History Project: Federally funded podcast, *Jaggie Sounds*, amplifies voices from the Borderlands to supplement K-College curriculum that is place-based within a broader global context. Youth from our community partner, Learning Action Buffet, feature prominently as interviewees on this podcast.



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Thank You!



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