



20

JUNE 13, 2026

THE CLASS OF

UCLA ED&IS

26

UCLA SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & INFORMATION STUDIES

Commencement Ceremony

The School of Education & Information Studies at UCLA acknowledges the Gabrielino/Tongva peoples as the traditional land caretakers of Tovaangar (the Los Angeles basin and So. Channel Islands). As a land grant institution, we pay our respects to the Honuukvetam (Ancestors), 'Ahihirom (Elders) and 'Eyoohiinkem (our relatives/relations) past, present and emerging.

The School of Education & Information Studies at UCLA thanks the Mariachi Band of the Academy of Music and Performing Arts at Alexander Hamilton High School for their performance at today's ceremony.

PROCESSIONAL

School Faculty and Class of 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Christina A. Christie
Wasserman Dean

GRADUATION SPEAKERS

Victoria De Santiago, Department of Information Studies

Josemanuel Ortiz, Department of Education

DEAN'S WELCOME

Christina A. Christie
Wasserman Dean

**PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES
AND HOODING CEREMONY**

Robert Montoya
Chair, Department of Information Studies

Cecilia Rios-Aguilar
Chair, Department of Education

Faculty Sponsors

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Christina A. Christie
Wasserman Dean

ALMA MATER

Marcelo Almora Rios
Doctor of Philosophy, Education

RECESSIONAL

School Faculty and Class of 2026

Congratulations to the Class of 2026!

Today, we celebrate your extraordinary accomplishments and the journey that has led you to this moment. We also celebrate the loved ones, friends, teachers, mentors and coaches who helped you reach this milestone in your life.

Graduation marks both a culmination and a new beginning. It is a moment to reflect on your time at UCLA and the many ways you have grown — in mind, in creativity and in character. It also provides a chance to examine the path before you with renewed purpose.

Your graduation comes at a complex time in our history. Uncertainty can make it tempting to narrow your ambitions, even as the world needs you to expand them. I urge you to meet this moment with humanity. Your UCLA education has prepared you to navigate an evolving landscape and to turn uncertainty into opportunity.

The values you have cultivated here — kindness, integrity, curiosity, a commitment to service, and a respect for diverse perspectives — will serve as your foundation as you move forward to lead in your communities and professions. You now join a global network of more than 680,000 Bruins who are making a meaningful difference across every field and in every corner of the world. Stay connected to your classmates, and stay connected to this university.

You will always be a part of UCLA. And UCLA will always be a part of you.

On behalf of the entire UCLA family, I extend my warmest congratulations. We look forward to all you will accomplish and to the kindness you will bring to your communities in the years ahead.

We are One UCLA.



Julio Frenk
Chancellor

2026 Commencement Student Marshals

The 2026 SE&IS student marshals are **Vanessa Rivas**, Department of Education, and **Anna Robinson-Sweet**, Department of Information Studies. Student marshals are selected by department faculty not only for their academic excellence, but also for their service to the community.

Program includes Fall 2025 and Winter 2026 Graduates, Spring 2026 and Summer 2026 Candidates

Master of Library and Information Science

Candidate

Isabella Sara Aragon
Hilda Barraza
Sky Bassiry
Camilla Caldwell
Morgan Christie
Chloe Cipolla
Camille Suzanne Combrink
Greta Degner
Molly Lynn Haigh

Advisor

Michelle Caswell

Laura Dion

Johanna Drucker

Noah Charlie Brockman
Abigail Chapuis
Ashley Cole
Sydney Sata

Jonathan Furner

Jordan Cain
Wilde Davis
Jessica Dubrovner
Lorel Easterbrooks
Alice Fracchiolla
Gillian Rae Gee
Pedro Mariano Gonzalez
Elizabeth Georgia Gost
Jennifer Grahlman
David H. Herrero

Anne J. Gilliland



Master of Library and Information Science (cont.)

Candidate

Jacob Brown
Dolores Matilde Castillo *⊗
Dominique Abiba DjeDje
Katherine Drorbaugh ⊗
Yuan Feng
Mia Fierros
Kaylie Natsuko Harley
James Hellebuyck
Cassidy Higley
Tyonna Ja'sha Little
Ziying Zhao

Advisor

Gregory H. Leazer

Cheryl Acuña
Colette Calegari
Juniper Ducksworth
Bailey Hart
Lauren Marler
Emmett Shoemaker

Robert Montoya

Marcelo Martir
Jane Montanez
Lorell Perillat

Cindy Nguyen

Amelia Barbee
Britney Krystal Castillo
Victoria De Santiago
Louis William Boudreaux Heine
Zoe Hsien-Hwa Lee-DiVito
Ava Lohr
Molly Regan
Sarah Salisbury
Katelyn Wright

Miriam Posner

* MLIS Award for Advancement of the Profession recipient

⊗ MLIS-Latin American Studies Dual-Degree Candidate

“Archives are often described as records of the past. I have come to understand them as promises we make to the future.”

- Dominique Abiba DjeDje

“I never imagined an MLIS program like the one I attended here at UCLA. It wasn't what I expected, but it was what I needed. The opportunities, people, and instruction I encountered have forever changed my outlook on what it means to be a librarian. I will forever be a different person because of what I learned here and I couldn't be more excited to enter this field with the community I have experienced in our program.”

- Bailey Hart

Master of Library and Information Science (cont.)

Candidate

Andrew Pirijanian
Benjamin Pletcher
Marley Maya Saldivar-Lozano
Anthony Zavala

Advisor

Noopur A. Raval

Briana Gonzalez Hernandez
Tony Hernandez
Ryan Interrante
Chelo Ida Lages-Osuna
Sarah Noel Lancia
Qiqi Lin
Jenna Lyons

Ramesh Srinivasan

Estefania Gallo
Rosalía Iriye
Laila Jaffer
Michelle Morataya

Tonia Sutherland

Kyla Leilani Ortega
Anthony Posada
Sofia Tomanov
Emily Rebeca Torres
Thea Lisa Uresse
Sol Mascoli Werthan *
Helia Woo

Melissa Villa Nicholas

Zakary Quinn Ostrowski
Anya Ponomareva
Katherine Ridgewell
Aramis Sandoval
Claire Stephens
Elaine Carole Thut
Gabriel Adrian Vidal

Thuy Vo Dang



Master of Education in Principal Leadership

Faculty

Raul Alarcon	Cynthia Gonzalez
Kelly Barnes	Jo Ann Isken
Robert Cooper	Georgia Lazo
Minnie Ferguson	Jill Locke
Megan L. Franke	John S. Rogers
Louis M. Gomez	Kenya Williams

Candidates

Patricia Andrade	Ramon Antonio Palacios
Melissa Arellano	Daniel Pryor
Maribel Ceja	Vanessa Rivas
Claudia Garcia-Valles	Manuel A Sandoval
Daniel Miodrag Gavrilovic	Michael Ross Van Schoick
Cynthia V. Medrano	Isabel Vaqueiro

“Time as a SEIS student has taught me that leadership is not measured by titles, but by transformation. What began as a pursuit of knowledge became a journey of reflection, growth, and purpose. Through each course, conversation, and challenge, I learned that meaningful change takes time; just as belonging, healing, and justice require patience, courage, and persistence. As I leave UCLA, I carry forward not only new skills, but a deeper commitment to creating schools where every student is seen, valued, and empowered to thrive.” - Maribel Ceja

“PLI, where art and improvement science met, I found myself transformed. Creativity was sparked, passion was reignited, and a deeper sense of purpose emerged.” - Cynthia V. Medrano



Master of Education in Student Affairs

Candidate

Javier Francisco Garcia-Lopez
Carolina Machado
Jazmin Reyes

Advisor

Jessica C. Harris

Sandhya Andrews
Katrina Samantha Austria
Mia Fowler-Tanksley
Allison Michelle Gallardo-Avila
Brian Alexis Lovato

Ana Romero

Cristina Coronel
Darlene Luna Barahona
Evette Palacios

Linda J. Sax

Anthony Do
Juno Keisha Naranjo
Jacqueline Rodriguez Valadez

Suzanne Seplow

Johnny Julian Baeza
Julissa Real
Christina Velazquez Martinez

Christine Wilson

“Attending the UCLA School of Education & Information Studies changed my life, not only as a student facing professional, but as a person, too. I have become more precise, passionate, and confident to take on life’s challenges because of the incredible community of staff, faculty, colleagues and students who made up my experience at UCLA. I am the first person in my family’s history to obtain a Master’s degree and it’s a privilege I do not take lightly. This degree may be signed to my name, but it belongs to my nieces, nephews and cousins who now have the opportunity after me to pursue bigger dreams, and to my brothers, parents, and family who built the door for me to walk through. Felicidades Class of 2026!” - Jazmin Reyes

"Lo logré! As a first-generation Latina M.Ed. Student Affairs the names of my loved ones are also written on my degree. Para mi familia los quiero muchísimo y gracias por apoyarme mis sueños <3"
- Christina Velazquez Martinez

Master of Education in Teacher Education

Faculty

Rebecca Alber	Han Lee
Melissa Arias	Eduardo Lopez
Jackie Belloso	Tatevik Mamikonyan
Lily Chen-Hafteck	Ananda Marin
Falyn Cooper	Nicole Mirra
Megan L. Franke	Kim Mitchell
Johanna Gamboa-Kroesen	Imelda Nava-Landeros
Lorena I. Guillén	Bertie Navarro Pope
Emma Hipolito	Cristina Navarro-Aguirre
Tyrone C. Howard	Susan Oswald
Derek Hubbard	Jaime Park
Christopher Jadallah	Elisa Perez
Sara Kersey	F.H. Rafi
Jane Kim	Theodore Sagun
Leona Kwon	Lucrecia Santibañez
Darlene Lee	Jeff Share

Candidates

Paige Ackerman	Sarah Geltz
Yaribel Aguila Kumar ★	Jasmine Gomez ★
Angie Alvarado-Galvez	Jessica Vi Gomez
Dafne Arellano ★	Ana Guevara Landaverde ★
Karlan A. Arenas	Rachael Megan Harrison
Mariah Rosalie Armendariz	Nyyah Chanell Henry
Michael Bedolla ★	Jessenia Elizabeth Hernandez
Clarisa Carreon	Paulina Herrera ★
Brenda Castillo	Kyra Hoolihan
Valeria Chavez Nunez ★	Juan Carlos Ibarra ★
Saul Chimil Tizo ★	Briana Iniguez ★
Gerardo Cuellar	Chenge Jia
Lusila De La Rosa Diaz ★	Krystle Kae
Melissa Emily Dittrich	Sophie Kaviar
Citlaly Emigdio ★	Joyce Jeesung Kim
Aaliyah Farias	Ryan Kwok-Mun Lam
Karla Juliana Favela ★	Britney Lee
Haonan Feng	Izack Anthony Licata
Micah Forteza	Evelyn Andrea Macias
Brandon Martin Fujimoto	Theresa Marin ★
Deanna Gee	Adrian Martinez

Master of Education in Teacher Education (cont.)

Hannah Morning Star Martinez	Juan A. Rivera Garnica ★
Melody McNair	Emily Estella Rivera-Murillo ★
Kevin Medina	Fabian Rodriguez
Rachel Meilak	Yazmine Rodriguez ★
Isabella Mendoza	Karla Roman Valdez ★
Emmanuel Miranda-Bello ★	Catalina Ruiz ★
Ilya Tabitha Monroe	Destiny Ruiz
Samantha Monterroso ★	Adelle Amor Sarmiento
Daniel Morales ★	Alexander Sergeev
Emilio Mouriz ★	Claire Simon
Jasmine Murphy	Sarahi Soto Hernandez ★
Brandon Do Nguyen	Heather Storm
Chuong Ngoc Nguyen	Asher Titan
Theodore Nguyen	Malia Tu'itavuki
Josemanuel Ortiz ★	Lilli Josette Valtierra
Karina Ortiz ★	Michael Valtierra
Laura Padilla ★	Eduardo Vázquez
Amanda Pascual	Selena Jessica Vazquez ★
Karina Percastegui Campero ★	Sarina Jade Velsa
Clara Pierone	Lian Amargo Verdeflor
Deisy Yannara Ponce ★	LaToya Christine Wiginton
Olivia Press	Kenny Wong
Michelle Ramos Ramirez ★	Kade Xie
Dale Daniel Razi	Angeles Zavala ★
Miranda Reynoso	Meiqi Zhao

★ BASP (Bilingual Authorization, Spanish Program) Emphasis

“UCLA inspired me to champion equitable change via education, embracing a teaching praxis that serves as a catalyst to empower students, elevate communities, and nurture a future grounded in social justice.” - Kevin Medina

“As a student in the Teacher Education Program, it has transformed me into an educator I never would have expected myself to become. I am now a proud social justice educator who empowers my students and their community to critically analyze and fight against power, inequities, and oppression.” - Brandon Do Nguyen

“As I reach the end of my M.Ed. program, I've found myself reflecting on what brought me back to UCLA for graduate school. It's much more than the academics. There is something truly special about this beautiful campus and its community. I knew I wanted to continue shaping my pedagogy in a place surrounded by educators who are not only deeply knowledgeable in their craft, but who also genuinely care about young people and their growth. Looking back, I'm so grateful I made that choice.” - Miranda Alyssa Reynoso

Master of Education in Transformative Coaching and Leadership

Faculty

Arif Amlani	Robert A. Mechikoff
Mariana De La Garza Luviano	Christina Munger-Rivera
Kenny Donaldson	Tonikiaa Orange
Sue Enquist	Julia Pelikhova
Annamarie Francois	Erin Powers
Karen Givvin	Linda J. Sax
Valorie Kondos Field	

Candidates

Joshua Alger	Sydney Johnson
Hamdi Ali Abakar Ali	Graeme Anders Jorden
Madison Blevins	Gianna Kneepkens
Michael Bongiorno	Charlisse Trinity Leger-Walker
Bennett Rece Booth-Genthe	Hongrui Lu
Robert Baxter Brown	Zayna Alexa Kimiko Meyer
Jayla Castro	Kevin Mobley
Todd Centeio	Kamryn Hope Monster
Gavin Lawrence LaVell Champ	Brooklyn Moors
Kenny Churchwell	Fanni Muzsnay
Jessica Lynn Clements	Anthony Peoples, Jr.
Diego Feliciano Cruz	Savannah Pola
Garrett Anthony DiGiorgio	Maya Katelyn Rush
Trey Doty	Rosario Nataly Sanchez-Shannon
Angela Dugalić	Jose Ariel Sosa
Madison Sinclair Fleming	Devin Jessica Waddell
Anthony Frias II	Caleb Walker
Ayrton Garcia-Jurado	Bella Witt

“Stand for what you believe in, even if that means standing alone.”

- Gavin Lawrence LaVell Champ

“TCL has taught me leadership starts long before anyone gives you the title.”

- Caleb Walker

Master of Arts in Education

Candidate

Andrea Avila

Minxuan Yang

Simarpreet Kaur
Kranesh Ravi Kumar *

Keita Okuma

Monique Blackwell
Jessenia J. Zelaya

Nathalie Jimenez

Wenqi Zhang

Antonio Estrella Vega

Taihong Li

Fernando Jose Mora Covos
Chuting Wang
Luyi Wang

Amy Ruby Cabral

Sable Ramos

Jerusalen Davila

Sean Darrin Pattison

Aundre Gabat

Hayoung Ahn *
Virginia Jean Chambers
Chen Chi

Advisor

Alison L. Bailey

Li Cai

Christina A. Christie

Richard Desjardins

M. Kevin Eagan Jr.

David G. Garcia / Sylvia Hurtado

Mark P. Hansen

Ozan Jaquette

Minjeong Jeon

José-Felipe Martinez / Jordan Rickles

Edith Mukudi Omwami

Cinthya Salazar

Linda J. Sax

Robert T. Teranishi

Jin Wang

* MD-MA Dual-Degree Candidate

“Community and justice are at the heart of the Department of Education. The most valuable aspect of my time as a student has been developing a friendship with my cohort. Though we are from different walks of life, we share a common goal of transforming education for the good of our communities.” - Jessenia J. Zelaya

Doctor of Education in Leadership

Candidate	Dissertation Chair(s)
Karla Leticia Breen <i>Governance Configuration and Financial Decision-Making in a Public Research University</i>	Christina A. Christie
William Renner <i>Policy, Identity, and Action: How Contentious Contexts Shape Organizational Behavior of Teachers' Union Members</i>	Robert Cooper
Yazmin Yamel Gonzalez <i>Beyond One-Size-Fits-All: Effective Mentorship Practices for Latinas in Engineering Doctoral Programs</i>	M. Kevin Eagan Jr.
Brandie Yainea Kirkpatrick <i>The Weight of Invisible Labor: How Black Women Faculty Navigate Invisible Labor in the Academy</i>	M. Kevin Eagan Jr.
Anyssa Llerena-Tobin <i>Beyond the Game: The Lived Identity Journeys of Black Male College Athletes in Revenue-Driven Sports</i>	M. Kevin Eagan Jr.
Karina Moreno Corgan <i>Culturally Responsive Social Emotional Learning: Examining Educators' Approaches to Teaching Social Emotional Learning for Low-Income Students of Color</i>	Marjorie Elaine
Ian Michael Carroll <i>How Artificial Intelligence is Affecting the Teaching of Teaching: Examining the Changing Practices of Teacher Education Program Faculty</i>	Megan L. Franke
Rose Drmandjian <i>Touchy-Feely: An Exploratory Study on What Early Childhood Teachers Think About Rewarding and Shepherding Touch in a Transitional Routine Scenario</i>	Megan L. Franke
Virginia Frine Smith <i>The Preparedness of K-12 Charter School Principals</i>	Megan L. Franke
Kaitlyn Swan <i>Student Voices in the Equation: Using Empathy Interviews to Transform Math Education</i>	Megan L. Franke
Jonathan Arriarán * <i>Belonging Through the Middle School Transition: A Youth Participatory Action Research Study of Black and Latinx Students in a Predominantly White Independent School</i>	Kimberley Gomez
Christopher Lopez <i>Design Teams as Professional Learning: Supporting Equitable Assessment Practices in Elementary Mathematics for Multilingual Learners</i>	Kimberley Gomez

* Outstanding Ed.D. Dissertation Award recipient

Doctor of Education in Leadership (cont.)

Candidate	Dissertation Chair(s)
Kristine Yvonne Oliveira <i>Inquiry as Catalytic Interruption: Distributed Leadership and Organizational Learning in a Research Practice Partnership Between a California Community College and the University of California</i>	Louis M. Gomez
Kendall Shoemake <i>Reflective Autonomy Within Team-Based Structures: Sustaining Teacher Motivation through Integrated Curriculum Design</i>	Louis M. Gomez
Stephanie M. Barnes <i>Swing Like a Girl: Teachers' Beliefs about Gender and their Impact on Special Education Referrals</i>	Jennie K. Grammer / Diane Durkin
Eduardo Luis Miranda <i>Latino Males and Charter High Schools</i>	Jennie K. Grammer / Kristen L. Rohanna
Lauren Dorst <i>What Transfers? Gendered Violence and Narrative Meaning-Making Across the Community College Transfer Pathway</i>	Jessica C. Harris
Lily Rachel Bryant <i>Towards Transformative Professional Learning: Teacher-Led and Asset-Oriented PLCs</i>	Tyrone C. Howard / Kristen L. Rohanna
Jorge Alberto Padilla, Jr. <i>Lived Experiences and Professional Socialization of First-Generation Students of Color in Urban Planning Master's Programs in Southern California</i>	Christopher Jadallah
Abigail Rotwein * <i>Anti-Blackness and Conditional Belonging: Black and Afro-Latiné Student Experiences in Predominantly Latiné Elementary Schools</i>	Julissa Muñoz
Shani Munirah Foster <i>What Stories are Being Told? A Thematic Exploration into the Narratives of Black and Latinx College Applicants</i>	Lori Patton-Davis
Eena Singh <i>Navigating Crises in Higher Education as Staff of Color</i>	Lori Patton-Davis

"We graduate into a critical crossroads where the voices of our most vulnerable are too often treated as remainders to be rounded down. But we are here to prove that progress isn't about moving fast and leaving people behind; it is about regrouping our collective power so that no community is erased from the equation. As we step into leadership, let us never work in silos. When the work is heavy, look to your left and right, and carry each other."

- Shani Munirah Foster

Doctor of Education in Leadership (cont.)

Candidate

Ayesha Zia

How Dual Enrollment Shapes College Readiness: Student Reflections from California's College and Career Access Pathways Program

Dissertation Chair(s)

Jordan Rickles / Mark P. Hansen

Hai Hoang

Testing a Practical Early Assessment of Student Success in California Community College Baccalaureate Programs

Cecilia Rios-Aguilar

Jessica Camacho

Examining the Influence of Institutional Agents on Unprotected, Undocumented Students' College Choice and College Transition in Southern California

Cinthya Salazar

Paola Pérez

Examining How Summer Bridge Programs Influence the Long-Term Sense of Belonging of First-Generation, Low-Income, Black, Indigenous, Students of Color (FGLIBISOC)

Cinthya Salazar

Artnelson Odoño Concordia

From Community to Classroom: Principled Ethnic Studies in the Central Coast

Daniel G. Solórzano



Doctor of Philosophy – Education

Candidate

Kiana Billot-Vasquez ❖

“Ooo... where are you from?”: Foreign-Born Faculty’s Understandings of Racialization and Academic Practice Across Contexts

Dissertation Chair(s)

Walter Allen / Sobukwe Okpara Odinga

Edwin Zamora

Psychometric Analysis of the Approaches to Learning Scale

Alison L. Bailey

Dominique Callahan

A Qualitative Exploration of Parental Ethnic-Racial Socialization Among Black Parents and Their Biological Biracial Black-White Adolescents

Alison L. Bailey / Sandra H. Graham

Tianying (Teanna) Feng

Integrating Multiple Sources of Validity Evidence Using Cross-Classified Item Response Theory Modeling

Li Cai

Yun Kyung Kim

Quantifying the Complexity of Multilevel Confirmatory Factor Analysis Models

Li Cai

Gabriel Le Espiritu

Diversity Courses Requirements: Initiation, Institutionalization, and Implementation

Mitchell Chang

Phillip Edwards

Student Voice in Higher Education Decision-Making Processes: Intersections of Student Identity, Motivations, Modalities and Perceptions of Campus Climate

Richard Desjardins

Carlos M. Ayon

Transfer by Design: Associate Degrees for Transfer and Student Success in California Community Colleges

M. Kevin Eagan Jr.

Xiong Her

Cultivating Community Cultural Wealth and Pathways to the Professoriate: Mentoring Relationships Between Faculty of Color and Graduate Students of Color

M. Kevin Eagan Jr.

London McCall Williams

A Type of Symbiosis: A Critical Qualitative Case Study Uncovering Mutualistic Relationships Existing Within A Science Intervention Program Utilizing Tree Wisdom

M. Kevin Eagan Jr.

Johnnie Yang

“What Are We Doing About the Student Wellness Crisis?” Conceptualizing Holistic Wellbeing, Measuring It, and Cultivating It Through a Yoga-Based Seminar in Higher Education

M. Kevin Eagan Jr.

❖ Outstanding Ph.D. Dissertation Award recipient

“I will be the first in eight generations of my family to earn a Ph.D. My parents came to this country as refugees nearly 30 years ago from Laos, carrying a little more than hope for a better future. Their resilience, survival, and sacrifice made this moment possible.” - Johnnie Yang

Doctor of Philosophy – Education (cont.)

Candidate	Dissertation Chair(s)
Maxx Fehrenbach Pereyra <i>Advancing Quantitative Critical Race Theory (QuantCrit) through Applied Bayesian Inference</i>	M. Kevin Eagan Jr. / Jessica C. Harris
Ngoc Tran <i>"SURVIVAL IS NOT AN ACADEMIC SKILL" – The Role of Race and Racism in First-Generation Graduate Students of Color's Experiences with Imposter Phenomenon</i>	M. Kevin Eagan Jr. / Jessica C. Harris
Janene Elizabeth Ashford Ward <i>Leveraging Professional Development to Challenge Traditional Structures of Schooling and Support Teacher Learning</i>	Megan L. Franke
Wei Wei <i>Exploring Minoritized Students' Critical Computer Science Engagement: A Longitudinal Study from High School Classrooms to Post-Secondary Experiences</i>	Kimberley Gomez
Shantell Missouri <i>"Always Ask What If?": Political Imagination and Critical Hope as Praxis in Black Youth Organizing Against Carceral Systems</i>	Sandra H. Graham
Tatev Sarkissyan * <i>Beyond the IEP: Pre-Service Teachers Perceptions of and Accommodation for Students with Emotional Disturbance</i>	Sandra H. Graham / Anna Osipova
Karla Aguilar Marquez <i>Centroamericana Healing Genealogies: Centering the Healing Experiences of U.S. Centroamericana Student Survivors in Higher Education</i>	Jessica C. Harris
Eugene Frederick McAdoo III <i>Prison Break: Black-Male-Centered Educational Spaces and the Pursuit of Gender Self-Determination</i>	Tyrone C. Howard
Tae Thompson <i>Indictment on the System: Black Males Reshaping Resilience from Foster Care and High School</i>	Tyrone C. Howard
Marcelo Almora Rios <i>Mathematics Policy for Human Flourishing: A Case Study of Entry-Level Placement into College Calculus at an Elite Research University</i>	Sylvia Hurtado
Amanda Carrasco <i>Exploring Chicana/Latina Educational Pathways from Community College to Master's Programs</i>	Sylvia Hurtado

* Joint Doctor of Philosophy in Special Education, CSULA-UCLA

"In these last few years, I have deepened my commitment to my community, sharpened my intellectual tools for dismantling oppression, and expanded my imagination for a future where we are all free."
- Shantell Missouri

Doctor of Philosophy – Education (cont.)

Candidate	Dissertation Chair(s)
N. Angie Jaimez Noel <i>"They Are Not Going to Want to Talk to You:" Mapping Post-Secondary Philanthropic Board Governance to (Re)Conceptions of Racial</i>	Sylvia Hurtado
Jinwen Luo <i>A Generalized Latent Space Modeling Framework for Item Response Data</i>	Minjeong Jeon
Eunice Kunyoung Kim * <i>Postschool Engagement Outcomes and Predictors for High School Leavers with Disabilities</i>	Connie L. Kasari
Veronica Pedroza * <i>Dyslexia Model Implementation: A Retrospective Examination of the Experiences of School-Based Personnel and University Researchers</i>	Connie L. Kasari
Katherine Byrne <i>A Longitudinal Analysis of Expressive Language Trajectories in Autistic Individuals, and the Role of Receptive Language</i>	Catherine Lord Morrison
Dena Gohari <i>Pathways to Self: Identity Development in Gender-Diverse Autistic People</i>	Catherine Lord Morrison
Carolyn Terese Rodriguez <i>Future Indigenous Scientists: Tribal-university Partnerships for Building an Amah Mutsun Science Curriculum</i>	Ananda M. Marin / Teresa McCarty
Felicia Christine Graham <i>Digital Media Messaging and Youth Civic Engagement: How Stories of Violence Inform Youth Notions of Collective Responsibility</i>	Teresa McCarty / Edith Mukudi Omwami
Elizabeth FastHorse <i>A Study of Language and Culture through Storytelling as told by Tribal Members of the Rincon, Pauma, and LaJolla Bands of Luiséó Indians as a way of Learning</i>	Teresa McCarty / Daniel G. Solórzano
Lauren Ann Kinnard <i>"We Have a Responsibility as White People": The Development of White Youth's Critical Race Consciousness During Late Adolescence</i>	Rashmita S. Mistry / Laura Wray-Lake
Darek M. Ciszek <i>A Case Study Examining Social Emotional Learning Through LGBTQ-Inclusive Education: Lessons in Practice from Scotland's Experience with Representative Curriculum and Instruction</i>	Edith Mukudi Omwami

“The task of a human life may simply be this: to face its fleetingness and still create meaning and beauty anyway. I’m grateful this became part of mine.”
- Dena Gohari

Doctor of Philosophy – Education (cont.)

Candidate	Dissertation Chair(s)
Karen Magaña Montoya <i>Exploring Previously Left-behind Central American Immigrant and Refugee Students' Perceptions of Parent-Child Relationships and Academic Experiences during the Separation and Upon Reunification</i>	Edith Mukudi Omwami
Hughlin Boyd ★ <i>Post-Secondary Aspiration, Expectation, and Associated Socio-Economic Factors for Undocumented Immigrant Community College Students in Los Angeles</i>	Edith Mukudi Omwami / Robert T. Teranishi
Menelik Almando Young Tafari <i>Repairing Dignity Violations in High-Tech Medicine Through Relational Medicine Education</i>	Federica Raia
Fernando Garcia <i>The Unsung Actors: Articulation Officers and their Role in Supporting the Transfer Function for Community College Students</i>	Cecilia Rios-Aguilar
Trevor Queen <i>Looking Beyond the Rearview Mirror: An Exploration of College Support, Experiences, and Redefining Success for First-Generation Black Male Students and Professionals</i>	Cecilia Rios-Aguilar
Rogelio Salazar <i>Advancing Racial Equity Possibilities in Dual Enrollment: A Multiple Case Study of California's High Enrolled Black and Latinx Dual Enrollment Programs</i>	Cecilia Rios-Aguilar
Davis Vo <i>Revising Roles, Transforming Trajectories?: Community College Bachelor's Degree Programs and Educational Access, Success, and Equity</i>	Cecilia Rios-Aguilar
Brianna Wright <i>Labor Histories as Education: Teaching and Learning Through Funds of Labor Knowledge in STEM Higher Education</i>	Cecilia Rios-Aguilar
Leah Ann Raphael <i>Designing for Justice: Toward an Emergent Theory of Restorative Leadership</i>	John S. Rogers / Lorena I. Guillén
Brian Le <i>Broadening Participation in Computing: Unpacking Computing Identity by Examining Predictors of Performance/Competence, Recognition, and Interest Among Diverse Undergraduate Students</i>	Linda J. Sax
Michaela Lee Ensweiler <i>The (Eco)Pedagogy of Convivium: Nurturing Roots of Food Pedagogy for Sustainable Socio-Ecological Relationships</i>	Carlos A. Torres

★ Awarded posthumously

Doctor of Philosophy – Education (cont.)

Candidate

Chung Min Yoon

"We Are Joined, But We Are Not Blend": Non-Western International Students' Construction of Global Citizenship and Heritage Values in a Western-Oriented GCED Context

Dissertation Chair(s)

Carlos A. Torres

Jolie Alison Straus

Understanding Empathy Through the Lived Experiences of Autistic Women

Jeffrey J. Wood

Hind Alajlan *

Exploring the Factors That Influence the Retention and Attrition of Special Education Teachers of Students with Emotional Disturbance (ED)

Jeffrey J. Wood / Anna Osipova

Doctor of Philosophy – Information Studies

Candidate

Anna Robinson-Sweet

Abolitionist Archival Imaginaries: The World Building Praxis of Memory Work on Incarceration

Dissertation Chair(s)

Michelle Caswell

jaime ding

How to Become a Librarian: A Historical Approach

Sarah T. Roberts



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Hail to the Hills of Westwood

Hail to the hills of Westwood
To the mighty sea below,

Hail to our alma mater,
She will conquer every foe.

For we're loyal to the southland,
Her honor we'll uphold;

We'll gladly give our heart to Thee
To the blue and to the gold.

For we're loyal to the southland,
Her honor we'll uphold;

We'll gladly give our heart to Thee
To the blue and to the gold.

Saturday, June Thirteenth
Two Thousand Twenty-Six



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Commencement Ceremony

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