

HONORING LATINA/LATINO STUDIES GRADUATES

UN HOMENAJE A LAS GRADUADAS Y LOS GRADUADOS DE ESTUDIOS LATINOS

Dear 2023 Grads,

Felicidades! What you have accomplished is no small feat. Our department and our community celebrate you for your tenacity, courage, and genius. You are bright shining lights and we have been honored and grateful that you chose to share some of that light with us during your time here at San Francisco State. As you transition to the next phase of your life, I want to encourage you to remember the mission and vision of the College of Ethnic Studies. The degrees that you are receiving come with the wings of your elders and ancestors. These wings are there for you to carry forward knowledge that has been shared with you into all aspects of your life with an eye toward community actualization and cultural perpetuity. We celebrate you and all that you will bring to this world.

— Jeff Duncan-Andrade, PhD
Professor and Chair
Latina/Latino Studies Department
San Francisco State University/Latina/Latino Studies Department Chair

Estimados graduados de 2023,

Felicidades! Lo que han logrado no es poca cosa. Nuestro departamento y nuestra comunidad les celebran su tenacidad, coraje y genio. Ustedes son luces brillantes y nos sentimos honrados y agradecidos de que hayan elegido compartir algo de esa luz con nosotros durante su tiempo aquí en la Universidad Estatal de San Francisco. Mientras hacen la transición a la siguiente fase de su vida, quiero recordarles la misión y la visión de la Facultad de Estudios Étnicos. Los títulos que están recibiendo vienen con las alas de tus mayores y ancestros. Esta alas son para que puedas llevar adelante el conocimiento que se ha compartido contigo en todos los aspectos de tu vida con miras a la actualización comunitaria y la perpetuidad cultural. ¡Les celebramos a ustedes y todo lo que traerán a este mundo!

—Jeff Duncan-Andrade, Ph.D.
Catedrático y Director
Departamento de Estudios Latinos
Universidad Estatal de San Francisco



Adrian Aguilar
LTNS Major
Cinema Minor

Con mi licenciatura en Estudios Latina/os, quiero servir a mi comunidad. Quiero continuar con mis estudios, seguir mi maestría en Educación y obtener mi credencial de enseñanza. Quiero regresar a mi escuela secundaria y ser maestro de Ciencias Sociales y Estudios Étnicos.



Gladys Aguilar Vital
LTNS Major

I'm excited to return back to my community, and start organizing my people. I did this for the liberation of community, and to be able to further support them by investing and putting in the work to further expand my knowledge, so that I'm able to heal my community.



Karen Albarran Paz
LTNS Major
Cinema Major

With both my Cinema and LTNS degrees I want to make more opportunities for Latinos within the film industry. I want to do everything I can for our stories to be told.



Susan Chavez
LTNS Major

As I navigate the oppressive systems we mobilize under, I am driven to use my degree to prioritize and amplify Queer and Ethnic experiences in academe. I am currently preparing to apply for graduate programs to pursue a Ph.D. in Ethnic Studies.



Nidia Escobar
LTNS Minor

I have learned in my LTNS minor courses the importance of having a voice and being visible as a Latinx. I will share all the struggles and victories I have learned about the Latinx diaspora in the US wherever I can.



Cris Godinez Lustre
LTNS Major

I plan to one day become a healthcare physician that provides care to the Latinx Community.



Laura Estela Gonzalez
LTNS Minor

I aspire to be a culturally conscious psychologist who works with communities that lack access to mental health services. I want to bridge the existing gap between mental health and Latine families and be a safe space for my community. ¡Gracias a mi mami, a mi hermanito Snyder y mi abuelita por apoyarme en todo lo que hecho!



Monserrat Lagos
LTNS Minor

It has been an honor to learn and grow with my community. It has been transformative. I love being able to incorporate Latinx community in areas where we aren't wanted or seen. I will bring Latinx people into the conversation and make their presence known.



Daniella Llamas
LTNS Minor

I plan to use my knowledge, voice, and actions to build a community that can come together and fight back against social inequalities that affect the most marginalized folks! In order to change the narrative and stop the criminalization of BIPOC.



Itahi Mendez
LTNS Minor

I'm passionate about immigration, I would like to go to law school and help my community and help families.



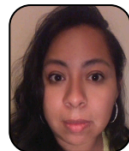
Naiseth Ojeda
LTNS Minor

I plan to use my minor to advocate for first-generation students and to educate my community about the importance of a higher education and the power that comes with knowing your communities' stories. ¡Este diploma es para mi gente, para que vean que si se pudo!



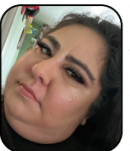
Yamile Palomares-Villalobos
LTNS Minor

I plan to help my community with both My Psychology B.A and Minor in Latina/o Studies as our communities are often not represented. I want to help and spread more awareness of mental health as it isn't always taken seriously!



Nohemi Romero Mercado
LTNS Minor

Regresé a la escuela porque tenía el corazón para ayudar, pero necesitaba las herramientas para abogar. La Sociología y los Estudios Latinos han ampliado mi conocimiento e inspirado estrategias. ¡Gracias Familia y Amigos, pero, sobre todo, a mis amores Ari y Aeson!



Veronica Solis
LTNS Major

I would like to work in a school as a teacher or a high school counselor.



Jennifer Vorrath
LTNS Major

The LTNS major has given me a significant understanding of how my community has advocated for justice and continues to challenge the system. I plan to use my degree to empower those around me and serve as a role model for younger generations.

Latina/Latino Studies Majors

Adrian Alexander Aguilar
Gladys Maritza Aguilar Vital
Karen Albarran
Katherine Yamilet Ayala
Cynthia Ivania Bautista Guardado
Jorge William Bermudez
Misael Carrero Jr.

Pablo Enrique Cazessus-Martinez
Susan E Chavez
Juni Cisneros
Cesar Cruz
Cristal Godinez Lustre
Jose A Gonzalez
Monserrat Guevara-Ledezma

Brianna Lopez
Michelle Elizabeth Monge Davila
Alex Ortiz
Ramon Salinas Juarez
Karen Paola Sanchez
Veronica Solis
Jennifer Maria Vorrath Belli

Latina/Latino Studies Minors

Melissa Acevedo
Destiny Danyel Andrade
Bryanna Juliana Arce
Frances Sophia Armas
Kathy Natalie Campos
Cristal Carabez
Crystalee Connelly
Nidia Lorena Escobar

Diana Garcia
Laura Estela Gonzalez
Monserrat Lagos
Daniella Llamas
Stephanie Georgina Martinez Siles
Diana Mayorga
Itahi Lizeth Mendez
Tizoc Cuauhtlixiuh Mendez

Lisa Marie Moreno
Diana Elizabeth Navarette
Naiseth Ojeda
Yamile Palomares-Villalobos
Viviana Razo-Gomez
Nohemi Romero Mercado
Kay Ruiz
Lila Zermeno

