

Fifty years ago, San Francisco State University students enrolled in the first ever Raza Journalism class and created this newspaper. El Tecolote started as a class project and soon became much more than that. The students who created the newspaper were moved by the spirit of the late 1960s and had no idea that El Tecolote would become the longest running Spanish/English bilingual newspaper in California. As you read the following statements from today's graduates, you'll see that they continue to be committed to the struggle for social justice.

We are incredibly proud of the Latina/Latino Studies Class of 2020 as we forge into this new decade and as they lead us into the next 50 years. ¡Felicidades y adelante!

— Dr. Katynka Martinez
Latina/Latino Studies Department Chair

Latina/Latino Studies Majors



Alexandro Aguilar

I plan on educating the youth and empowering Spanish-speaking communities to destroy the, “white-supremacist, imperialist, capitalist, patriarchy” (bell hooks) and create a new world. This civilization has been built on stolen land, by stolen labor, with stolen resources. It’s time to reclaim it all. LAND BACK!

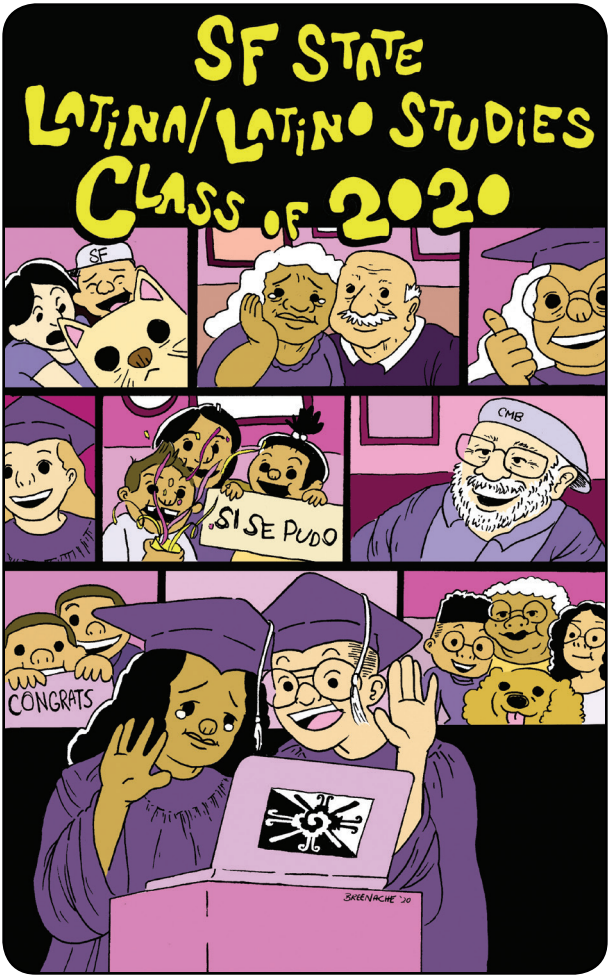


Illustration: Breena Nuñez

Hace cincuenta años, los estudiantes de la Universidad Estatal de San Francisco se inscribieron en la primera clase de Periodismo Latino y crearon este periódico. El Tecolote comenzó como un proyecto de una clase y pronto se convirtió en mucho más que eso. Los estudiantes que crearon el periódico se inspiraron y se unieron al espíritu de fines de la década de 1960 sin saber que El Tecolote se convertiría en el periódico bilingüe español/inglés más antiguo de California. Mientras lees las siguientes declaraciones de los graduados de hoy, verás que siguen dedicados a la lucha por la justicia social.

Estamos increíblemente orgullosos de la clase de 2020 a medida que avanzamos en esta nueva década y esta nueva generación nos lleva a los siguientes 50 años. ¡Felicidades y adelante!

—Dra. Katynka Martinez
Directora del Departamento de Estudios Latinas/Latinos



Diana Argueta

Earning my BA in LTNS, Race and Resistance Studies, and minor in Education, I look forward to serving the youth in my community. During my time at SFSU I gained Ethnic Studies experience that was missing in my previous education. With my degree I will go into the educational field where I can teach youth histories that are rarely represented in textbooks.



Elyssia Arreguin

I hope to work in a university setting increasing college retainment within the Latinx community.



Cesilia Baeza

Majoring in Latina/o Studies will be the guiding force of my work. Using my academic experience, I will work toward serving the community that raised me through the diligence to create change in the public sector of San Francisco.



Grethel Bermúdez

My time at SFSU has led me to explore the world of herbalism and ancestral medicine. I look forward to offering my community a space for healing through plants, food and movement. Tlazocomati!



Adriana Castillo

I will use the LTNS major to foster and reintroduce Latinx immigrant communities in the outdoor spaces, by providing inclusive multilingual programing that share the stories of Latinx folks.



Donna Cruz

I will use my major to support queer, trans, gender queer Latinx students as a future educator.



Guadalupe Diaz

As a first generation student, graduating college symbolizes a huge accomplishment for me. I plan to utilize my knowledge of Latina/o Studies to serve the community as a future healthcare provider. My goal is to utilize all of my skills to strengthen and empower the community that has always supported me.



Jacqueline Galicia

Estoy muy agradecida por el conocimiento que me a dado estar en este camino. Como siempre, para ayudar y crecer juntxs.



Maria Gavaldón Rojas

I will commit my time to going back to my community in the East Bay and fighting for the resources we deserve. My focus will be to advocate for my undocumented peers and facilitating students’ pathway to college.



Andrea Gil

I hope one day I could make an impact on the minds of the future critical thinkers. Cultivating a space that draws from our roots in Latin America and how we engage with resistance and radicalization.



Juliana Gomez

Desde pequeña mis padres me enseñaron que con ganas todo se puede. Gracias a los sacrificios de mi familia hoy celebro un gran triunfo. Usaré mis diplomas para trabajar con mi comunidad Latina. Esto es sólo el comienzo. Pronto obtendré mi maestría y seré la próxima Latina trabajando en el sector público.



Daniel Gonzalez Rivas

The political climate motivates me to give back to the East Bay Latinx community. The U.S. has caused Latin American populations to migrate seeking opportunity and/or refugee status. The resources you could provide these communities are endless and I will contribute my part to my people.



Malia Killebrew

Empowering our communities!



Carolina Loaisiga

I hope to use my LTNS major to become more culturally competent and aware as I want to help the Latino community destigmatize mental health and offer healing and power in community-based practices.



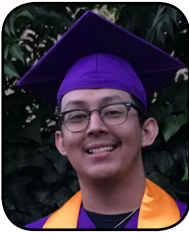
Belén López

I plan on being an advocate for my community by using my LTNS major to address systemic injustices that currently exist in my community. Using my multidisciplinary education, I will work on creating policies that are inclusive, equitable, and forward-thinking. Les doy gracias a mis padres por todo su apoyo.



Angelica Mendez

I am a Latina/o Studies Major and a Race and Resistance Minor. I want to teach my respective communities the importance of knowing our histories, our struggles, and our triumphs. All Power To The People.



Leonel Mercado

Change starts within our community. Education is used as a stepping stone to further allow our communities to thrive towards success. My primer título es para mi familia, my comunidad, y para los que se sienten que no tienen voz. Este título es para ti. El poder Latino para siempre.



Ray Molano

As a Latina/o Studies major, my commitment to the community will come from my actions as a resourceful advocate for underserved youth. My goal is to guide them into seeing themselves as tools of transformation that transcends their survival of social & political barriers, allowing them to thrive.



Amanda Navarrete

With this achievement of my B.A. in Latinx Studies, I hope to be involved in the healing of the community. I want to do this by helping Latinx youth who are victims of domestic abuse and/or violence. They will continue my education in life. “Yo no estudio para saber más, sino para ignorar menos” - Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz.



Mayra Ortiz

I plan to use my Bachelor’s Degree in Latina/o Studies & Psychology to be a learning bridge between the general folks & Latinx. Also, to expand my repertoire of skills to create a positive change in my community and be a great support in serving a mi gente and my cultura.



Lilibeth Paniagua

I am grateful for my family, friends and SF State for all they have given me, allowing me to get one step closer to reaching my ultimate goal. I plan on getting a Master’s in Education with the aim of bringing ethnic studies to my community.

¡FELICIDADES SENIORS!

Latina/Latino Studies Majors



Karla Pérez-García
I will begin working as a bilingual Spanish/English teacher in the fall!



Ada Reyes
I plan to use my major, to support and build relationships with Black and POC youth in my community.
A dream to create a space that ensures the preservation of their culture through the arts and supports them in becoming leaders of their community - La Cultura Cura.



Kayla Rodriguez
I will take my LTNS major into the community by making sure that when I am a teacher to include Latinx people in the curriculum. I will include people that look like my students and that have gone through the same experiences. I want to impact them to see themselves worthy of celebration.



Diana Rodriguez Calderon
I plan to use my LTNS major to service the community through social work. I want to be able to provide my help and resources for people who need it. I also plan to work with non-profit organizations and do some community organizing.



Monique Rojas
I plan to go to law school and become an immigration attorney. I hope to use my LTNS degree and education to help the immigrant community. Thanks mom and dad!



Jessica Sandoval-Silva
I plan to use the knowledge I've gained in Latina/o Studies to contribute to the education of children and their families in schools. Quiero apoyar a mi comunidad participando en la educación de estudiantes menores y sus familias dentro de las escuelas.

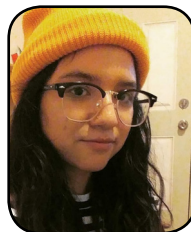


Karina Saucedo
Cómo latina del Valle de San Fernando, a través de la educación superior encontré mi propósito. Mi lucha no termina aquí, apenas comienza. Ahora es mi responsabilidad enseñar, capacitar a mi comunidad para que se escuche su propia voz y se solidarice. Exija una vida mejor. ! Si se Puede!

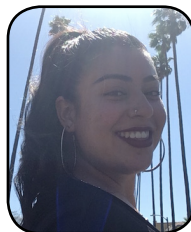


Jasmin Vargas
I plan to use my education to service the Latina/o/x community in San Francisco by working with nonprofit organizations that focus on youth and immigrants. My greater goal is to attend law school and become an immigration lawyer to help immigrant families assert their rights and fight against unjust policies.

Latina/Latino Studies Minors



Giselle Aguayo
I plan on using my minor to get involved with local Latinx organizations as well as to share everything I've learned with friends and family.



Adriana Alvarenga-Hernandez
Me voy sabiendo que el aprendizaje continúa y que sirve como instrumento para mejorar las vidas y oportunidades de mis padres, de mi misma, y de los que me rodean—de manera en que muchos lo han hecho por mi. Si se puede, se pudo, y seguirá siendo posible. Pa'lante!



Cindy Bejarano
Gracias a mi mama, aprendi a luchar. As a first-generation student I thank my mom for teaching me to be resilient in furthering my education. With this Minor I hope to get accepted into the Migration Grad Program at USF. My goal is to have an impact on immigration legislation.



Mirella Calvillo-Ojeda
With my LTNS Minor I am able to understand the complexities that minorities experience not only in my community, but around the world. As a future nurse I will try my best to be considerate under the U.S. health system.



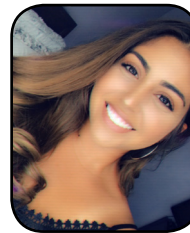
Jasmine Carmona
I plan to give back to my community by building cultural competence in marginalized communities. I want to become a teacher and teach my students their own histories by going against colonial ways of teaching.



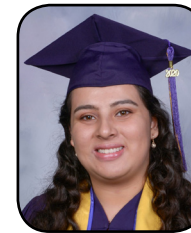
Leslie De Leon
As a Broadcast and Electronic Communication Arts Major with a Latinx Minor, I plan to work towards the proper representation of the Latinx community in the media. I think it is important to represent those that do not have a voice in order to uplift the community as a whole.



Johana Espinoza Fuentes
I plan on implementing the tools I've learned through shared knowledge gifted by my professors, to serve my community positively. Understanding them & working with them to grow as individuals & as a collective. To permit trust in our community, rather than relying on institutions that don't serve them highly.



Allison Gomez
I hope to use my Minor to advocate for social justice in underserved communities of color.



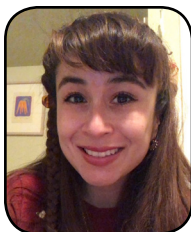
Yesenia Gomez
With my degree in Social Work and Latina/o Studies I plan to be able to continue working with the Latino community by providing essential social services.
Con mi licenciatura de trabajadora social y estudios latinos, planeo poder seguir trabajando con la comunidad latina proporcionando servicios esenciales.



Elva Jimenez
Being that it's a predominately working-class and Spanish-speaking neighborhood, I will use my LTNS minor to give back to my community in Boyle Heights, Los Angeles, by becoming involved in community work that allows me to assist the families and youth around me.



Ashley Navidad
In conjunction with my degree in marketing, I plan to use my minor in Latinx Studies to provide knowledge and resources in consumer-media literacy to help our community make informed decisions about the products and services we are supporting.



Carolina Palacio
I would like to use my LTNS minor to mainly work in non-profit organizations that help with the Latino/a community. Places that help undocumented people find places to work and to feel safe in the community. I want to be able to guide people, to give them a helping hand as best as I can.



Chris Ramirez
I plan to use my minor to enable me to give greater context to populations that normally wouldn't know about Latinx people, history, and their legacy within the U.S. Pair this with my pursuit of a medical degree and I become a walking, talking advocate for Latinx gente, wherever I go.



Maria Alex Ruiz Garcia
Latinx Studies has prepared me to help advocate for parents and students who often do not have a voice in the special ed programs within public education. I will do so by becoming a Doctor in Occupational Therapy with a focus on changing policies. For you brother, my inspiration.

Thank you Gabriela Segovia-McGahan, Breena Nuñez, and Stacey Chavez!

