



# THE IMPACT Newsletter August 2024

Greetings from Colorado State University Pueblo- Extended Studies!

We're thrilled to introduce our inaugural newsletter aimed at keeping our esteemed community partners in the loop regarding all the exciting happenings, news, and events within our division.

At CSU Pueblo, we believe in fostering strong partnerships to create mutually beneficial collaborations that enrich our shared goals. This newsletter is our way of keeping you informed about the latest developments, initiatives, and upcoming opportunities within our extended studies program. In each edition, you can expect:

- Feature Stories: Successful collaborations, additions to our programs, and inspiring stories within our extended studies community.
- Expert Insights: Learn about trends and innovations, best practices and research, and industry updates from our experts.
- Division Highlights: Highlights for each of our innovative programs.

- Student Resources: Resources, tools, and updates for students and our community partners.
- Upcoming Events & Important Dates: Keeping you updated on events and important dates for Extended Studies.

Your continued support and engagement are integral to the success of our shared endeavors, and we hope this newsletter will serve as a valuable resource for you.

Stay tuned for our upcoming editions, packed with insights and information that we're excited to share with you!

Visit Extended Studies



## The Dean's Dispatch

Welcome to The Impact, our newsletter aptly named in an attempt to highlight the important work CSU Pueblo Extended Studies does to truly make an impact in our students' lives. If you're receiving this newsletter, you've been a student, a partner, an acquaintance, a colleague, or a friend. Our goal is to use

this newsletter to update you on all that's new and exciting in Extended Studies. I hope you not only enjoy our updates but also pass them along to others that could use the information to take the next step in their lives. Our vision is to become the People's University of the Southwest by 2028. Our Division seeks to serve those who are often forgotten, offering flexible options to meet people where they are. We aim to help others extend their reach.

Go Pack!Kathryn Starkey, Ph.D.

## **KEY FEATURE**



#### Walsenburg Nursing Program

Serving our communities in southern Colorado is at the heart of our mission. With a shortage in nursing personnel throughout rural communities there came a need to find a creative solution to develop local talent to meet these needs. Through collaborative conversations between CSU Pueblo Extended Studies, CSU Pueblo Nursing, Huerfano County Economic Development, Spanish Peaks Regional Health Center, Huerfano School District, and WorkForce Development this unique program was created. Starting Fall 2024, the first cohort of students will begin their coursework in Walsenburg, Colorado working towards their Bachelor's of Science in Nursing!

Official Walsenburg Campus Ribbon Cutting Event Monday, August 12th @ 9:00am 201 E. 5th St., Walsenburg, CO 81089

### **DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS BY PROGRAM**



#### What is the Division of Extended Studies?

The primary goal of the Division of Extended Studies is to provide courses to

part-time students. A variety of educational methods – classroom instruction, correspondence, on-line courses, conferences, workshops and seminars – are utilized to expand educational access and meet the needs of students at convenient times and settings. Students may earn academic credit toward a degree, study for career advancement, or pursue cultural and vocational interests.

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#### Public Management: Emphasis on MBA

Get your master's and launch a career that makes a difference! In addition to the management training all MBA students receive, the specialized public management knowledge and skills provided by the Public Management emphasis are invaluable for a career in public service, or with any business making positive social impact. It can lead to positions in nonprofit leadership, city planning, fundraising and grant writing, program management, policy analysis, budgeting, and many other careers.

As part of the online MBA, it is designed to be able to be completed in one year. In addition, undergraduate students can start graduate coursework early by enrolling in the 3+2 program and get both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. Whether you majored, or are majoring, in political science, history, social work, communication, business, art, the humanities, or even the hard sciences, this program is for you. Get a career where you can do well by doing good!



# What is Independent Study?

The Independent Study (IS) Program offers over 120 courses and several bachelor's degree programs in both digital and print-based format to students, whether new, transfer, or non-degree seeking. Our degree programs include a **BSBA** in Business Management, a BA or BS in Criminology, a BS in Interdisciplinary Studies, and a BA or BS in Sociology. Starting in the Fall 2024 semester, we are excited to begin offering a BA or BS in Psychology.

Independent Study offers one solution to meet a growing need of adult students - highly flexible and affordable college courses. We serve a wide range of students, from campus students supplementing their in-person schedule with a self-paced digital course, to veteran and active-duty military students, to non-degree students who transfer credits earned through IS back to their home university. In addition, IS serves many students with limited access to

For more info or to enroll, contact Nik Lograsso at the QR code below.



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technology or the internet through the print-based modality option. Justice-involved individuals from Alaska to Alabama, from North Carolina to California learn and earn accredited and transferable college credit through our program.

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# Empowering Educators Nationwide

CSU Pueblo's Teacher Education Program (TEP) partners with over 40 individuals, schools, and organizations across 15 states, to deliver high quality graduate level coursework for teachers and educational staff seeking ways to up-skill and grow professionally. This includes professionally development courses and coursework that can be utilized in multiple Master and Doctoral degrees. In 2023, over 7,000 teachers took courses with CSU Pueblo and its providers across the country! Recently, staff Skyler Gutierrez and Andy Fox attended national conferences. and are implementing new ideas into the program to increase its efficiency. New staff member Jason Falsetto is also working on digitizing internal processes so the program can help more teachers each year.



# Empowering High School Students

High School Programs had another successful academic year assisting over 1,700 students in their high school classrooms through Senior to Sophomore (STS) and over 180 students on the CSU Pueblo campuses or online through Concurrent Enrollment. HSP serves over ten districts and over twenty individual schools in Colorado from Highlands Ranch to Pagosa Springs to the north and south and Canon City to Rush to the west and east. STS students enrolled in over 200 individual course sections and Concurrent Enrollment students earned eleven college credits, on average, toward their bachelor's degree this year.

The HSP team looks forward to adding a Faculty Fellow to their ranks beginning in May to assist with accreditation of the STS program and to enhance working relationships between campus academic departments **LEARN MORE** 

and high school partners. The Fellow will also enhance efforts that began this spring with visits to rural schools in Hoehne, Lamar, Trinidad, Springfield, and Westcliffe, among others.

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#### **GED Testing**

GED Testing is now available at CSU Pueblo's Testing Center. This will afford our local community the convenience of taking the exam right here on campus. Registration information for the GED can be found through the following link: https://ged.com/about\_test/sche duling/. Information about the GED test, including accommodations, age waivers, transcripts, and diplomas, can be found at the Colorado State High School Equivalency Testing Program page, located through the following link: http://www.cde.state.co.us/posts econdary/hse\_testtakers#websit e. Click on the LEARN MORE link below for more information on GED testing at the Testing Center.

**LEARN MORE** 



# Building Bridges: Rural Outreach

Every community in Colorado is as unique as their geographical location. The goal of our Rural Outreach efforts is centered around partnering with local leaders to identify their goals for their community, and finding creative ways that CSU Pueblo can contribute towards that success. Whether that is working with high schools, businesses, community leaders, or libraries, there is no lack of creativity or desire to make a positive impact in these communities. We are very grateful for our partners around the state, and we are always excited to work with new communities!

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INFORMATION



#### Bringing Higher Education to Your Doorstep

One of the greatest benefits of CSU Pueblo's satellite campuses is students' ability to take CSU Pueblo courses without leaving their community. While our offerings vary across our satellite campuses, several of these are located with Community College partners enabling a smooth transition from a two-year to four-year credential.

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## STUDENT RESOURCES



#### PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT (PLA)

Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) is experienced-based learning outside of the college and university setting. PLA is about getting college credits for what you already know, which means you spend less in tuition and graduate faster! It includes learning from work and life experiences.

#### **Benefits include:**

• Save time. Students with 12 or more PLA credits save an

- estimated 9-14 months of time spent earning degrees.
- Save money. Depending on their sector, students save an estimated \$1,500 to \$10,200 through PLA.
- Combine skills. You may be able to get credit for work and life experience, professional skills and training, special knowledge, or past education.

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#### SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

We are excited to offer financial support options to our students. Please click the link below to discover these scholarship opportunities.

FIND SCHOLARSHIPS

## **WOLF TRACKS PODCAST**



View Our Wolf Tracks Podcast Here

A podcast brought to you by Extended Studies highlighting the people and projects that we get to work with every day!

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Monday, August 12th 9:00am Walsenburg Campus Ribbon Cutting 201 E. 5th St., Walsenburg, CO 81089 Saturday, August 3rd & 17th 8am - 4pm Enrollment Extravaganza & New Student Orientation

> Monday, August 19th Classes begin

Wednesday, August 21st 11am-2pm Student Employment and Involvement Festival

**ADMISSIONS** 

**ACADEMICS** 

CAMPUS LIFE

**ATHLETICS** 

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