



EXTENDED STUDIES
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY PUEBLO



THE IMPACT

Newsletter

November 2025



The Dean's Dispatch

Welcome to the Fall 2025 edition of *The Impact*! As we settle into a new semester, I'm proud to share that CSU Pueblo is experiencing remarkable momentum. This fall, we welcomed the largest freshman class in recent history—a testament to the growing appeal of our academic programs and the strength of our community. Our online offerings

continue to expand, opening doors for learners across Colorado and

beyond.

At the heart of our mission is a commitment to meeting students where they are. That's why I'm especially excited to highlight the first cohort of our nursing program in Walsenburg, Colorado, at CSU Pueblo Spanish Peaks. This semester marks the beginning of a new chapter for healthcare education in Southern Colorado, with our first cohort of nursing students already making an impact.

As we continue to grow, our focus remains clear: creating new opportunities, expanding access, and supporting every student's journey. Thank you for being part of this vibrant community. Go Pack!

Kathryn Starkey, Ph.D.

KEY FEATURE



CSU Pueblo at Spanish Peaks Reaches Exciting Milestone

Our team has been hard at work building the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program at our CSU Pueblo at Spanish Peaks campus in Walsenburg — and we're proud to share an exciting milestone! This fall, our first students are transitioning from their prerequisite courses into

their nursing-specific coursework, which will be taught right here at our site in the historic Washington Street School.

This achievement represents years of collaboration and community support, and we are deeply grateful to everyone who has helped make it possible.

As we continue expanding our academic presence in Huerfano County, we are also seeking local community members with advanced degrees (master's level or higher) who may be interested in teaching as part of the CSU Pueblo team. We are looking for instructors in a wide range of subjects — including Art, Math, Music, History, and more.

If you know someone who might be a good fit, please help us spread the word by sharing our brief interest survey: [Spanish Peaks Survey](#)

For any questions or to learn more about opportunities with CSU Pueblo at Spanish Peaks, please don't hesitate to reach out. Thank you again for your continued partnership and support — together, we're building brighter futures for southern Colorado!

DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS BY PROGRAM



OUTREACH

Department of Corrections

CSU Pueblo Extended Studies is proud to partner with the Colorado Department of Corrections to bring in-person higher education opportunities into correctional facilities here in Pueblo. One of our standout collaborations takes place at the Youthful Offender Services facility, where we offer the **Health and Fitness Certificate program**.

This program provides students with foundational knowledge in fitness, health, and wellness, and prepares them to sit for their personal trainer certification upon release. It's an inspiring example of how education can open doors to meaningful careers and create positive momentum. We are incredibly proud of this partnership and the students who are working hard to build brighter futures through education.

[CONTACT US HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)



HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS



INDEPENDENT STUDY

Early College Momentum: Record Numbers and New Faces

CSU Pueblo is seeing record participation in early college opportunities. This fall, 265 students enrolled in campus classes through Concurrent Enrollment (CE), while over 1,200 students registered for Senior to Sophomore (STS) courses statewide. Both programs boast strong academic performance, with average GPAs above 3.1 since 2021.

We also welcome Caleb Bergman and Eutimio Trujillo as new Specialists in High School Programs. Caleb, a former CE student, now advises CE learners on campus and online. Eutimio oversees STS partnerships, including our newest district, Manitou Springs.

Spring 2026 advising is underway! For questions or more information, contact our High School Programs office.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Independent Study, On Your Terms

Balancing work, family, and personal goals isn't easy—but CSU Pueblo's Independent Study program makes it possible. With over 150 self-paced courses offered each semester, students can study when it works for them.

Choose from five bachelor's degrees, including our newest in Psychology. Interdisciplinary Studies is especially popular, with 40% of students opting to personalize their education by combining focus areas, learning formats, and transfer credits.

Not sure where to start? Our advisor can help you build a degree plan that fits your life. Or, begin with just one class and explore your options. We're here to support your goals—on your schedule.

[LEARN MORE](#)



ONLINE

Embracing Change, Growth, and Community

At CSU Pueblo Extended Studies, we're guided by the ever-changing rhythms of our community. This evolution fuels how we design programs, spark new ideas, and collaborate to make learning meaningful.



TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

TEP Turns 40: Celebrating Growth, Partnerships, and Progress

In 1985, CSU Pueblo (then the University of Southern Colorado) launched the Teacher Education Program

Online education continues to offer exciting opportunities for students seeking lower costs, flexible options, and a strong return on investment. We're exploring new certificates - each inspired by a simple question: How does this help students reach their goals?

Our team is also evolving. We recently welcomed a new Online Program Coordinator to help strengthen operations and bring fresh energy to our work. Change always brings challenges—but also opportunities to grow and reimagine what's possible.

As we move into winter and plan for spring, we're focused on making our programs even more impactful. Your ideas and feedback continue to shape what we do, helping us design pathways that meet real educational and career needs. As 2025 winds down, we're grateful for your continued support and partnership.

Here's to closing out the year strong and looking ahead to new opportunities in the year to come!

[LEARN MORE](#)

(TEP) to help educators convert professional development into graduate credit. What began with Pueblo School District 60 has grown into a nationwide network of nearly 50 provider partners, supporting thousands of educators across all 50 states.

This year, TEP also celebrates key milestones: a 20-year partnership with Siedow Teacher Education, which has supported over 76,000 enrollments since 2005, and 10-year collaborations with The Educator's Place, Credits for Teachers, TheraCourse, Teacher's Learning Center, and VESi.

To better serve educators and providers, TEP has launched a redesigned website featuring smarter search tools and streamlined navigation—making it easier than ever to find the right coursework.

[LEARN MORE](#)

STUDENT RESOURCES

Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)

Jeffrey Lange is a shining example of how Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) can transform real-

world experience into academic success. Through Credit by Portfolio, Jeffrey earned 3 college credits by demonstrating his expertise across three courses—CIS 311, CIS 350, and CIS 411—with just two portfolios. As a dedicated Sturm student, he's now well on his way to earning a Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems with a Cybersecurity emphasis and a minor in Data Analytics. His journey showcases the power of PLA to accelerate degree completion and recognize the value of professional knowledge.



"Credit by Portfolio is just a great opportunity for someone like me with a lot of experience that I can apply and move toward earning my degree faster."

[LEARN MORE](#)

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

Ready, Set, Enroll Dates
Thursday, November 13th 5-7PM

Saturday, December 6th 8-Noon
Saturday, January 17th 8-Noon

Concurrent Enrollment- Finals Session
Monday, December 8th Noon-2PM, LARC Lounge 2nd Floor

Past Newsletter Issues

ADMISSIONS

ACADEMICS

CAMPUS LIFE

ATHLETICS

2200 Bonforte Blvd
Pueblo, CO 81001-4901
719-549-2316



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
PUEBLO

If you know someone who would like to receive this newsletter and learn more about Extended Studies programs, please have them email rachel.jiron@csupueblo.edu and they will be added for the next issue!



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