



EXTENDED STUDIES
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY PUEBLO



THE IMPACT

Newsletter

August 2025



The Dean's Dispatch

Welcome to the Fall semester installment of the Impact – the newsletter for the Division of Extended Studies. For those of you receiving this for the first time – welcome! Our main goal is to help spread awareness of the plethora of opportunities that are available for folks to upskill, to pivot, or to continue their education they had once started. Our team aims to ensure there are

a variety of options whether that be online, through self-paced coursework in our independent study program, or in the evenings at our satellite campuses throughout the state for you to pursue the education you want at your pace. We are gearing up for the fall semester, and CSU Pueblo is excited to welcome its new freshman class to campus, and in Extended Studies, we're

looking forward to helping a new generation of adult learners pursue degree pathways or professional development opportunities to help them excel in the next stage of their careers.

Kathryn Starkey, Ph.D.

KEY FEATURE



Finding Purpose, Leading with Heart

Jevin first came to CSU Pueblo in 2015 on a football scholarship, ready to make an impact as a running back. But life changed quickly when he became a father, and he made the difficult decision to step away from school to support his growing family.

Nearly ten years later—and just after the birth of his second child—he made a bold move: it was time to return.

“I wanted to find my purpose—and I think I’ve found it,” he says.

Originally from Detroit and raised in Aurora as one of eight siblings, Jevin admits he was nervous about coming back. “I felt a little embarrassed returning after all that time,” he shares. “But there was no judgment from CSU Pueblo. They just said, ‘Take your time, you’ve got this.’”

Now graduating with a bachelor’s degree in psychology and a minor in

coaching, Jevin is a proud first-generation college graduate. He credits the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative (COSI) and his advisor, Lori, with helping him stay on track. His biggest motivators? His two young children. "I try my best to be a leader," he says. "Even if I fail at it sometimes, I will do my best."

Looking ahead, Jevin hopes to work in criminal justice or return to schools as a coach. "I just want to be there for kids who need someone in their corner—just like I once did."

"I'm just grateful and blessed," he says.

Read More COSI Student
Stories

DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS BY PROGRAM



Spanish for First Responders

At the end of June, Extended Studies' Career and Professional Enhancement team launched a brand new, 8-week, online course offering called Spanish for First Responders.

This course is designed to equip first responders with the linguistic and cultural skills necessary to communicate in Spanish during emergency situations. Our first cohort of students is working through the material now, and we can't wait to see the impact this course has on communities all around Colorado - and beyond! Our next section will begin on Monday, September 1st.

Please contact the Career and Professional Enhancement team at csup_cpe@csupueblo.edu if you are interested in taking the course or have questions about the course format or content.

CONTACT US HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION



Senior to Sophomore
updates:



Expanding Opportunities
for Justice-Involved

The High School Programs team is thrilled to welcome Eutimio Trujillo as our new Senior to Sophomore (STS) Specialist! Eutimio brings valuable experience from his previous role as a TRIO Upward Bound Coach, where he worked closely with students to support their academic success. His connection to the STS program runs deep—he participated as a high school student, earning college credit through the very program he now helps lead.

The STS program empowers high school students to earn college credit for 100- and 200-level courses right in their own classrooms, taught by qualified high school instructors. Most STS courses are part of the GT Pathways curriculum, ensuring they transfer seamlessly to any public 2- or 4-year college or university in Colorado.

We proudly partner with 15 high schools across Pueblo and southern Colorado, offering over 150 courses each academic year to help students jumpstart their college journey.

Fall STS registration begins the week of August 25th!

[LEARN MORE](#)

Students

The Independent Study team is committed to helping students leverage every available resource to successfully complete their degrees. We place a strong emphasis on connecting adult learners with our Adult Learning and Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Lead Specialist, ensuring they receive academic credit for the valuable knowledge and experience gained outside the traditional classroom.

Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) is available to all students, including those who are justice-involved and pursuing their education through correspondence in the Independent Study program. We're proud to share that one justice-involved student, currently residing in a correctional facility, recently completed a CPL portfolio and was awarded 3 upper-division Marketing credits following faculty review. Another student is actively progressing through the CPL process and may earn 3 or more credit hours in Spanish based on his language fluency.

CPL opportunities offer an additional benefit for justice-involved students in states like Colorado, where earning college credits can contribute to earned time—potentially reducing prison sentences. Extended Studies is honored to support these motivated students on their educational journeys. We've designed our processes to be flexible and accessible, especially for those with limited access to internet or technology.

[LEARN MORE](#)



New Cannabis Certificate Launches Fall 2025

Explore cannabis science, policy, and industry in a flexible online format.

Starting Fall 2025, CSU Pueblo Extended Studies and the Institute of Cannabis Research (ICR) will offer a new Certificate in Foundational Studies in Cannabis—a six-course, fully online program designed for professionals and curious learners alike.

Whether you're in healthcare, public policy, agriculture, or simply want to deepen your understanding, this certificate provides a strong introduction to the cannabis field. Topics include cannabinoid biology, cultivation, lab testing, regulatory policy, and more.

Courses include:

- ICR 101: Cannabis regulation and public health
- ICR 102: Physiology of cannabis in the body
- ICR 103: Extraction and analytical chemistry
- ICR 104: Cultivation and agricultural practices
- ICR 105: Hemp materials and industry use
- ICR 106: Interdisciplinary cannabis research

Take one course or complete the full certificate—your learning, your pace.

Learn more: [CSU Pueblo Cannabis Certificate](#)

Call 719-549-2200 to speak with an enrollment counselor.



TEP Expands National Reach Through Spring Outreach

This spring, the Teacher Education Program (TEP) launched a series of strategic marketing efforts to boost summer enrollment—when most TEP students, primarily K–12 educators, take courses during their break.

Highlights included:

- Weekly ads in [Chalkbeat](#), a national education newsletter with over 700,000 readers
- A mailer to 14,000 educators across nearby states promoting TEP courses
- Teacher Appreciation Week postcards sent to 2024–25 TEP students, with a giveaway for scholarships and Amazon classroom supply wish list fulfillments. Winners represented 10 states—from Hawaii to New York—reflecting TEP's national reach.

TEP also revamped its Provider webpage, improving design, provider visibility, and search features to help students find courses aligned with their goals.

And for the first time, TEP conducted a national student survey, collecting 500 responses from educators across 259 districts in 253 cities. The insights gained are helping guide program development and provider engagement moving forward.

[LEARN MORE](#)[LEARN MORE](#)

STUDENT RESOURCES

Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)

Sherece Alaniz graduated last spring after earning a marketing credit through PLA's Credit by Exam. She received a promotion at her job and is continuing on to earn her master's degree.

"The Credit by Exam was awesome. It made it really easy for me to do something in my spare time, and it gave me a lot of flexibility."

[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

****Event Time for All Dates is 8 a.m. - noon****

August 12, 2025

August 23, 2025

New Student Convocation- August 22

New Student Orientation- August 23

CSU Pueblo Campus

Register today!

Classes begin- August 25

Past Newsletter Issues

ADMISSIONS

ACADEMICS

CAMPUS LIFE

ATHLETICS

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



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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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