

THE THIRTY-THIRD WINTER SESSION  
**COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES**  
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA



HELD IN THE DAKOTADOME ON THE  
UNIVERSITY CAMPUS, VERMILLION

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER THIRTEENTH**

TWO THOUSAND AND EIGHT

AT TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Professional photographs by Jolesch Photography will be available a week after the ceremony. To purchase photographs, please follow the link to their website at [www.usd.edu/registrar/commencement.cfm](http://www.usd.edu/registrar/commencement.cfm).

# Commencement Exercises

Processional - *Pomp and Circumstance*, by Elgar..... Dr. Larry B. Schou  
Professor of Music

*The Star-Spangled Banner*, arr. by Lloyd Pfautsch.....USD Chamber Singers  
directed by Dr. David Holdhusen  
The audience is invited to sing. Gentlemen, please remove your hats.

Welcome.....Professor Kaius Helenurm  
Chair, USD Faculty Senate  
President James W. Abbott

Commencement Address.....Mr. Charles E. Trimble  
"The Challenge Ahead: Rebuilding America"

*Salvation*, arr. by Pavel Tschesnokoff.....USD Chamber Singers  
directed by Dr. David Holdhusen

Conferring of Degrees.....Regent Dean Krogman  
President James W. Abbott

Honorary Degree.....President James W. Abbott  
Mr. Charles E. Trimble, Doctor of Humane Letters

Alumni Welcome.....Mr. Clayton Cudmore  
Alumni Association Representative

University Hymn, *Alma Mater*.....USD Chamber Singers  
directed by Dr. David Holdhusen  
The audience is invited to sing. Gentlemen, please remove your hats.

Recessional - *Grand Choeur*, by Salome..... Dr. Larry B. Schou

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## Alma Mater

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Words by Mabel Kingsley Richardson Music by Winfred R. Colton	Where the slant summer sunshine so lavishly spills Over prairie and pasture and grain.
South Dakota! How dear to thy children thy name, How daring the tales oft retold Of thy builders who first to thy wilderness came, Theirs a glory that never grows old. O the pine crested peaks of the storied Black Hills, The Missouri that ribbons thy plain.	Alma Mater, Dakota, we drink thee a health As we go from thy sheltering walls; Younger feet shall come trouping to gather thy wealth, Younger voices shall ring through thy halls. Keep us true to the type of the brave pioneer, No hardship e'er daunted his quest; Alma Mater, lead on to the untried frontier, We follow the trail to the west.

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## Stage Party

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James W. Abbott, President  
Dean Krogman, Board of Regents Representative  
Charles E. Trimble, Speaker  
Clayton Cudmore, Alumni Association Representative  
Kaius Helenurm, Chair, USD Faculty Senate  
Charles Staben, Provost & Vice President, Academic Affairs  
Barbara Yutzenka, Interim Dean, Graduate School  
Rodney R. Parry, Vice President, Health Affairs and Dean, Sanford School of Medicine  
Barry R. Vickrey, Dean, School of Law  
Christina Keller, Associate Dean, College of Arts & Sciences  
Michael J. Keller, Dean, Beacom School of Business  
Rick Melmer, Dean, School of Education  
Daniel G. Guyette, Dean, College of Fine Arts  
Brian Kaatz, Dean, School of Health Sciences  
Laurie J. Becvar, Dean, Division of Continuing Education  
Kirsten Compary, Acting Dean of Students  
Laura J. Jensi, Vice President, Research  
Thomas Sorensen, Associate Dean, School of Law  
Jenifer Jost, Acting University Registrar  
Ceason Hunter, Interpreter

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## Board of Regents

---

Terry Baloun  
Richard G. Belatti  
James O. Hansen  
Harvey C. Jewett, IV  
Kathryn Johnson  
Dean Krogman  
Randall K. Morris  
Carole Pagonis  
Melanie J. Satchell

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## Honorary Marshals

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Emeritus Professor Jack Noble  
Emeritus Professor Dean Spader

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## Lead Marshals

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Professor Leon Korte  
Professor Emily A. Haddad

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## Marshals

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Professor David Carr	Professor James Richardson
Professor Solveig Korte	Professor Lee Ann Roripaugh
Professor Kurt Hackemer	Professor Timothy Schorn
Professor Dave Moen	Professor Michelle Van Maanen
Professor Doug Peterson	Professor Gerald Yutzenka
Professor Kristine Reed	

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## Faculty in Attendance

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Professor Mejai Bola Avoseh  
Professor Mark Baron  
Professor Teri Bellis  
Professor Debra Boerner  
Professor Larry Bradley  
Professor Karen Card  
Professor Michael Card  
Professor Hee-sook Choi  
Professor Tom Davies  
Professor Marvin Gamble  
Professor Doreen Gosmire  
Professor Timothy Heaton  
Professor Gregory Huckabee  
Professor Moses Ikiugu  
Professor Gera Jacobs  
Professor Roberta Kaufman  
Professor Bruce Kelley  
Professor Dona Kennealley  
Professor Angie Koppang  
Professor James Korcuska  
Professor Clayton Lehmann  
Professor Yuhlong Lio  
Professor Cassandra McKeown  
Professor Timothy Mirtz

Professor Anthony Molina  
Professor Anne Moore  
Professor John Nichols  
Professor Wade Nilson  
Professor Alicia Paulson  
Professor Carolyn Prentice  
Professor Randy Quevillon  
Professor Kenneth Renner  
Professor Maurine Richardson  
Professor Raymond Ring  
Professor Christopher Roseman  
Professor William Schweinle  
Professor Amy Schweinle  
Professor Stacy Smallfield  
Professor William Sweeney  
Professor Joanne Van Osdel  
Professor Dan Van Peurse  
Professor Xiao-Tian Wang  
Professor Xuejun Wang  
Professor Robert Weber  
Professor Robert Wharton  
Professor Mandy Williams  
Professor Jean Yockey  
Professor Gary Zalud

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## Administration in Attendance

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Roberta S. Ambur, Vice President, Information Technology

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## Interpreter

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Ceason Hunter

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## Ushers

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Diane Orr, Lead Usher  
Laurie Miiller, Lead Usher  
Olivia Kastengren  
Dominique Lyon  
Lloyd Rowland  
Clarence Shoemaker  
Susan Wasley  
Deb Wiemers



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# Candidates for Degree

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## GRADUATE SCHOOL

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### Doctor of Philosophy

---

- Eldon S. Clifford  
A.S., Casper College  
B.S.Ed., Black Hills State University  
M.S., South Dakota State University  
Dissertation: Visual-Spatial Processing and Mathematics Achievement: The Predictive Ability of the Visual-Spatial Measures of Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scales, Fifth Edition and the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children-Fourth Edition  
Counseling & Psychology in Education
- Amber Elizabeth Ehrlich, Indianapolis, IN  
B.A., Arizona State University  
M.A., The University of South Dakota  
Dissertation: Maternal Help-Seeking Predicted by Knowledge of Resources, Parental Stress, and Child's Feeding Difficulties  
Psychology
- Michael Fendt  
B.S., Wisconsin State University  
M.S.Ed., University of Wisconsin, River Falls  
Dissertation: Can the Five Domain Factors of the Revised NEO Personality Inventory Predict Short-Term Individual Psychotherapy Outcome for Depressed Subjects?  
Psychology
- Na Feng, Tian Jin, P.R. China  
B.S., Nankai University, P.R. China  
Dissertation: The Role of Corticosterone-Sensitive Organic Cation Transporters in Stress-Mediated Serotonergic Signaling in the Rat Medial Hypothalamus  
Biological Sciences
- Elizabeth McKay Freeburg, Naperville, IL/ Volin, SD  
B.S., University of Notre Dame  
M.A., The University of South Dakota  
Dissertation: Effect of Mifepristone Used Alone or with Cisplatin Chemotherapy on Human Ovarian Cancer Cell Growth  
Biomedical Sciences
- Marie-Jo Halaby, Beirut, Lebanon  
B.S., American University of Beirut  
M.S., The Lebanese American University  
Dissertation: Regulation of p53 Translation in Response to DNA Damage by the p53 Internal Ribosome Entry Site and its Trans-Activating Factors, TCP80 and RHA  
Biomedical Sciences
- Jie Li, Longkou, Shandong Province, China  
Bachelor of Medicine, Taishan Medical College  
Master of Medicine, Fudan University  
Dissertation: A Transgenic Mouse Model of Benign Enhancement of Cardiac Proteasomal Function  
Biomedical Sciences
- Brenda M. Lindsay Nour, Madison, SD  
B.A., University of Nebraska - Lincoln  
M.A., The University of South Dakota  
Dissertation: Predictors of Mental Health Care Use in Adult Primary Care Patients  
Psychology
- Noel Edward Schaeffer, Sioux Falls, SD  
B.S., M.A., M.S., The University of South Dakota  
Dissertation: Models of Risk Perception and Risky Choice: Theoretical Modeling and Empirical Testing in Hypothetical and Real-Life Situations  
Psychology

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### Doctor of Education

---

- Norene A. Bunt, Marcus, IA  
B.A., Morningside College  
M.A., Northwestern College  
Ed.S., Drake University  
Dissertation: Elementary Teachers' Perceptions Regarding Research-Based Components of Reading Instruction and Their Relationship to Classroom Practice  
Educational Administration
- Sally Marie Crowser, Lingle, WY  
B.A.A&S., M.A., South Dakota State University  
Dissertation: Rural Educators' Perceptions of the Qualities of Rural Schools  
Educational Administration
- James Francis Ghents, Rapid City, SD  
B.S.Ed., Black Hills State University  
M.Ed., South Dakota State University  
Dissertation: Teachers' Perceptions Regarding the Impact of Federal No Child Left Behind Legislation on High School Instruction as Catalyzed by a Professional Learning Community  
Educational Administration
- Jennifer Suzanne Heath, Sisseton, SD  
B.A., University of Minnesota, Morris  
M.A., The University of South Dakota  
Dissertation: Improving Oral Reading Fluency in Elementary Students of American Indian Heritage with Learning Disabilities using the Repeated Readings Method  
Curriculum & Instruction

Beth A. Johnsen, Friend, NE  
B.S., Dana College  
M.S.E., Drake University  
Ed.S., Wayne State College  
Dissertation: A Naturalistic Study of  
Experienced Female Superintendents in  
Nebraska  
Educational Administration  
Donna M. Johnson, Windom, MN  
B.A., Southwest Minnesota State University  
M.S., Minnesota State University Mankato  
Dissertation: The Effects of Substituting  
Retelling for Basal Reader Comprehension  
Instruction on Students in a Sixth Grade  
Reading Program  
Curriculum & Instruction  
Michelle Lee Johnson, Pierre, SD  
B.S., University of Central Oklahoma  
M.S., South Dakota State University  
Dissertation: Special Education Teachers' Intent  
to Remain in the Teaching Profession:  
Perceptions of Special Educators in  
South Dakota  
Educational Administration

Roy Thomas John Kammer, Bloomfield, NE  
B.S.AH., M.A., The University of  
South Dakota  
M.A., Mount Marty College  
Dissertation: Chief Student Affairs and  
Academic Affairs Officers' Perceptions of  
Counseling Centers' Value in Fulfilling  
Institutional Mission  
Educational Administration  
Scott Wayne Klungseth, Beresford, SD  
B.A., Augustana College  
M.S.Ed., Northern State University  
Dissertation: A Comparison Between Public  
Elementary Physical Education Programs in  
South Dakota and the STARS Criteria for  
High Quality Physical Education Programs  
Curriculum & Instruction  
Shannon D. Waysman  
B.S.Ed., M.A., Ed.S., The University  
of South Dakota  
Dissertation: The Effectiveness of a Group  
Discrimination Training Approach in Teaching  
Discrete Language Skills to Five-Year-Olds  
with Developmental Disabilities  
Curriculum & Instruction

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## SANFORD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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### Doctor of Medicine

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Hillary Lea Thronson, Watertown, SD  
B.A., Minnesota State University, Moorehead

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## SCHOOL OF LAW

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### Juris Doctor

---

Tucker Gary Hansen, Sioux Falls, SD  
B.A., Augustana College

Kristi Lyn Loose, Lamberton, MN  
B.A., Hamline University

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## GRADUATE SCHOOL

---

### Specialist in Education

---

Brian Alan Field, Beresford, SD  
B.S.Ed., The University of South Dakota  
M.Ed., South Dakota State University  
Educational Administration  
Maria A. Meyer, Aberdeen, SD  
B.S., M.S.Ed., Northern State University  
Counseling & Psychology in Education

Alexa M. Musto  
B.S.Ed., University of North Dakota  
M.Ed., Coppin State University  
Educational Administration  
Robert M. Wiersma  
B.A., Dordt College  
M.A.T., Morningside College  
Counseling & Psychology in Education

---

## Master of Arts

---

- Luralyn May Bailey, Upland, CA  
B.S., Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo  
Thesis: Teacher Effects on Motivation in Ability Grouped Fifth Grade Mathematics Classes  
Counseling & Psychology in Education
- Debra Rae Boerner, Winner, SD  
B.S.Ed., Black Hills State University  
Elementary Education
- Pamela Marie Bowen, River Falls, WI  
B.S., University of Wisconsin - River Falls  
Educational Administration
- Bev Brown  
B.A., The University of South Dakota  
Thesis: Terms of Exile, A Collection of Poetry  
English
- Kristin Lee Bruns, Spencer, SD  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Counseling & Psychology in Education
- Scott Robert Bruns, Spirit Lake, IA  
B.S., Wayne State College  
Thesis: Benjamin Franklin and the Social Influences of Religion  
History
- Julie M. Clifford  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Counseling & Psychology in Education
- Heather E. Dimitt  
B.E.S., University of Missouri, Columbia  
Educational Administration
- Mary Arlene Dodson, Spearfish, SD  
B.S.Ed., Northern State University  
English
- Jessica Rae Epp, Yankton, SD  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Counseling & Psychology in Education
- Timothy Eric Ferber, Rapid City, SD  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Speech-Language Pathology
- Kelene A. Fercho  
B.A., The University of South Dakota  
Thesis: Geographic Familiarity, Map Complexity, and Map Orientation Effects on Mental Rotation  
Psychology
- Beth Ann Fuhrman, Mobridge, SD  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Speech-Language Pathology
- Erica Christine Hall, Worland, WY  
B.S., University of Wyoming  
Speech-Language Pathology
- Christopher J. Hemmelman  
B.A., York College  
Thesis: Cult of Celebrity: Cultural and Political Ideology in Arthurian Legend  
English
- Mona Frances Henderson, Tyler, TX  
B.S., University of Southern Mississippi  
Educational Administration
- Zackary John Hood, Creston, IA  
B.G.S., University of Kansas  
Health, Physical Education & Recreation
- Sean Michael Johnson, Sioux Falls, SD  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Biology
- Linda S. Keech, Valentine, NE  
B.A., Simpson College  
Elementary Education
- Kyle Von Koeppen, Marion, IA  
B.S.S., Cornell College  
Educational Administration
- Kaye L. Lehmann, Mundelein, IL  
B.S., Northern Illinois University  
Speech-Language Pathology
- Linda M. Love, Omaha, NE  
B.S.Ed., University of Nebraska - Lincoln  
Educational Administration
- RoseMary Mooney, Magnolia, TX  
B.A., Our Lady of the Lake University  
Educational Administration
- Douglas F.R. Murano, Jr., Huron, SD  
B.A., The University of South Dakota  
Thesis: The Revolving Doors of Norah: Two Sons of the Same Earth (and other stories)  
English
- Troy D. Pederson  
B.S.B.A., The University of South Dakota  
Interdisciplinary Studies
- Joleen Louise Pietrzak, Yankton, SD  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Thesis: Canned Lives: Missionary Photography in South Africa  
Interdisciplinary Studies
- Berit Leigh Preston, Rapid City, SD  
B.A., Augustana College  
Thesis: Beauty, Comfort, and Enlightenment at Top Speed: Postmodern Parody in Kurt Vonnegut  
English
- Erin M. Seiner  
B.A., Minnesota State University - Moorhead  
Counseling & Psychology in Education
- Christina Elizabeth Stark, Utica, SD  
B.S.Ed., Northern State University  
Elementary Education
- Jamie Elizabeth Stech, Osmond, NE  
B.A., Wayne State College  
Communication Studies
- Ernest W. Valentine, Wagner, SD  
B.S.Ed., Valley City State University  
Educational Administration
- Anessa Marie Van Osdel, Yankton, SD  
B.S., Mount Marty College  
Educational Administration
- Mary Green Vickrey, Vermillion, SD  
B.A., Vanderbilt University  
Thesis: James Hook (1746-1827): The Early Life of a Preeminent Craftsman of Eighteenth-century English Popular Songs  
Interdisciplinary Studies

Sara Elizabeth Vollmer, Wing, ND  
B.S., North Dakota State University  
Educational Administration

Mingli Yang  
B.A., B.S., Jiangxi University of Finance &  
Economics, China  
M.B.A., The University of South Dakota  
Thesis: Visual, Vocal Cues and Verbal  
Framing Used in Risk Communication and  
Risky Choice  
Psychology

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## Master of Business Administration

---

Paul D. Barnes, Sioux City, IA  
B.S., Iowa State University  
Richard A. Bitterman, Parkston, SD  
B.B.A., The University of South Dakota  
Dereck Allen Budahl, Rapid City, SD  
B.S.B.A., The University of South Dakota  
Tory H. Haggerty, Sisseton, SD  
B.S., South Dakota State University  
Robyn L. Helland  
B.S., Milwaukee School of Engineering  
Jodi A. Jensen  
B.S.A&S., South Dakota State University  
Brandt C. Kreyger  
B.S., Metropolitan State University  
Mike Logue  
B.S.T., South Dakota State University  
Kristin Marie Munger, Milroy, MN  
B.A.A&S., South Dakota State University  
Jordan R. Murphy, Aberdeen, SD  
B.B.A., The University of South Dakota  
Emily Ann Neville-Nelson, Madison, SD  
B.B.A., Dakota State University  
Daniel J. Park, Luverne, MN  
B.A., Augustana College  
Rodney Duane Pierson, Dell Rapids, SD  
B.S.AE., South Dakota State University  
Crystal A. Preister, Humphrey, NE  
B.S.B.A., University of Nebraska - Omaha

Jessica K. Preister, Vermillion, SD  
B.A., Mount Marty College  
Daniel James Schiltz, Sioux Falls, SD  
B.S., South Dakota State University  
Lori K. Shaffer, Sioux City, IA  
B.S., Iowa State University  
Susan E. Simko  
B.B.A., The University of Iowa  
Bryan Gene Slaba, Mitchell, SD  
B.S.B.A., The University of South Dakota  
Joshua Axel Swanstrom, Beresford, SD  
B.B.A., The University of South Dakota  
Justin M. Tiffany  
B.A., Augustana College  
Van Tran, Vietnam  
Bachelor of Economics, Bant Tot Nghiep Dai  
Hoc, University of Foreign Trade, Vietnam  
Sheri R. Valdez, Sioux Falls, SD  
B.B.A., Dakota State University  
Russel D. Van Der Werff, Sioux Falls, SD  
B.S., South Dakota State University  
Jessica J. Weldon  
B.S.HA., The University of South Dakota  
Julie Lynn Williams, Sioux Falls, SD  
B.A., B.S., St. Cloud State University  
Yulia Willmore, Sioux Falls, SD  
B.S., Dakota State University

---

## Master of Music

---

Shannon K. Abels, Sioux Falls, SD  
B.A., Augustana College  
Music

Daniel Dean Duffield, Taylor Ridge, IL  
B.M., University of Iowa  
Music

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## Master of Professional Accountancy

---

Alex Cesar Arobba, Vermillion, SD  
Kyle Adam Bohms, Sioux Falls, SD  
Megan M. Dahle  
B.A., South Dakota State University  
Joseph Andrew Hegge, Watertown, SD  
Jerry Lee Kyte, Sioux Falls, SD

Darin Lee Palmer, Sioux Falls, SD  
B.S., Huron University  
Michael Lee Schelling, Brandon, SD  
Benjamin Odell Temple, Mt. Vernon, SD  
Mengfan Yan, Beijing, China  
B.A., University of Luton

---

## Master of Science

---

Kyle Cabot Bartz, Tyler, MN  
A.A., Riverland Community College  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Occupational Therapy

Nathan James Benn, Johnston, IA  
B.A., University of Iowa  
Physician Assistant

Andrea Katherine Benson, Sioux Falls, SD  
B.A., Concordia College, Moorhead  
Occupational Therapy

Kelly Jean Bierwerth, Shoreview, MN  
B.A., University of Minnesota - Morris  
Physician Assistant

Brooke Renee Bullerman, Adrian, MN  
B.S., Minnesota State University, Mankato  
Physician Assistant

Anthony Robert Burbach, Vermillion, SD  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Physician Assistant

Lori Lynn Burmeister, Rapid City, SD  
B.S., University of Nebraska at Kearney  
Administrative Studies

Beth A. Bury, Spearfish, SD  
B.S.Ed., Black Hills State University  
Technology for Education & Training

Abha J. Chalpe, Nagpur, India  
B.S., Shivaji Science College  
M.S., Sindhu Mahavidyalaya, Nagpur, India  
Thesis: Regulation of Cadherin Expression in the Chicken Neural Crest by the Wnt/B-catenin Signaling Pathway  
Biology

Michelle Ann Chaussee, Vermillion, SD  
B.S., Missouri Southern State University - Joplin  
Physician Assistant

Charity Lyn Condit, Whittier, IA  
B.A., Luther College, Decorah  
Occupational Therapy

David Ernest Erickson, Sioux Falls, SD  
B.S., South Dakota State University  
B.S., Sioux Falls College  
Administrative Studies

Dustin Michael Evans, Hartford, SD  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Occupational Therapy

Lindsey Marie Ferber, Pierre, SD  
B.S.A&S., South Dakota State University  
Occupational Therapy

Michelle Anne Frazee, Colorado Springs, CO  
B.S.Ed., University of Georgia  
Occupational Therapy

Kelley Renee Garrett, Colbert, GA  
B.S., Emmanuel College  
Technology for Education & Training

Sally R. Gruenhagen, North St. Paul, MN  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Occupational Therapy

Marla Jean Gustafson, Custer, SD  
B.S., Black Hills State University  
Occupational Therapy

Brandi S. Hansen, Correctionville, IA  
B.S.HA., The University of South Dakota  
Administrative Studies

Tabitha Marie Hass  
B.A., Minnesota State University - Moorhead  
Physician Assistant

Rachell Lynn Henning, Luverne, MN  
B.S., South Dakota State University  
Administrative Studies

Kee Her, Marshall, MN  
B.A., Gustavus Adolphus College  
Physician Assistant

Victoria Anne Hinek, Summerset, SD  
B.S., Black Hills State University  
Administrative Studies

Jacob C. Holm, Stockton, UT  
B.S., Southern Utah University  
Occupational Therapy

Megan J. Horacek, Hartford, SD  
B.S.Ed., Northern State University  
Occupational Therapy

Annette M. Johnson, Hawarden, IA  
B.A., Teikyo-Westmar University  
Administrative Studies

Dorothy B. Keller  
B.S.N., The University of Tulsa  
M.S., South Dakota State University  
Administrative Studies

Valissa Joy Kraft, Mobridge, SD  
B.S., South Dakota State University  
Occupational Therapy

Joshua John Lamers, Browns Valley, MN  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Occupational Therapy

Karen Marie Maier, Aberdeen, SD  
B.S., Presentation College  
Technology for Education & Training

Diane E. Manas, Utica, SD  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Occupational Therapy

Brenda Lee McGlynn, Rapid City, SD  
A.A.S., B.S.B.A., Oglala Lakota College  
Technology for Education & Training

Jessica J. McHugh, Inwood, IA  
B.A., University of Iowa  
Occupational Therapy

Amanda Lynn McMillin, Ottumwa, IA  
B.A., Cornell College  
Occupational Therapy

Lisa B. Mewshaw, Yankton, SD  
A.A., B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Occupational Therapy

Tiffany Jeanne Murtha, Bridgewater, SD  
B.A., Augustana College  
Occupational Therapy

Beth A. Nelson  
B.S.NUR., University of Wyoming  
Administrative Studies

Jeffrey Allen Norris, Rapid City, SD  
B.S., Black Hills State University  
Administrative Studies

Lyndsey Ann Ochsner, Aberdeen, SD  
B.S., North Dakota State University  
Physician Assistant

Kristine J. Pederson, Volin, SD  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Administrative Studies

Emily Michelle Pieper, Omaha, NE  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Physician Assistant

Kaushalkumar G. Purohit  
B.S., Shri J P Arts & Science College,  
Bharuch;  
M.S., Dept of Chemistry, Surat, South Gujarat  
University  
Thesis: Synthesis of Functionalized Bicyclic  
Quinones and their Conjugation with  
Photoelectron Donors  
Chemistry

Kyrstin Lee Reimann, Granite Falls, MN  
B.S., University of Minnesota - Twin Cities  
Physician Assistant

Heather Lynn Rennerfeldt, Rosholt, SD  
B.S., University of Sioux Falls  
Occupational Therapy

Joleen Varie Reule, Rapid City, SD  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Physician Assistant

Danette Rae Ronnfeldt, Redfield, SD  
B.S.A&S., South Dakota State University  
B.A., Augustana College  
Physician Assistant

Satya Sai Sadhu, Hyderabad, India  
Bachelor of Pharmacy, Osmania University,  
Hyderabad, India  
Thesis: Synthesis and Characterization of  
AL-MCM-48: Applications Towards the  
Immobilization of Cytochrome c  
Chemistry

Colleen Doyle Satyshur, Madison, WI  
B.S., Cornell University  
Thesis: Does Intraguild Predation Influence the  
Local Distribution of the Endangered Hine's  
Emerald Dragonfly (*Somatochlora hineana*)?  
Biology

Janell Scardino  
B.A., Clarke College  
Computer Science

Jennifer Marie Schaefer, Sioux Falls, SD  
B.S.FCS., South Dakota State University  
Administrative Studies

Jamie L. Schaeffer  
B.S., South Dakota State University  
Mathematics

Sara Louise Schneiders, Sioux City, IA  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Physician Assistant

Kathryn Therese Schwartz, Colome, SD  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Physician Assistant

Jean Ann Skonhovd  
A.A., The University of South Dakota  
B.S.N., Presentation College  
Administrative Studies

Kimberly Lynne Sowinski, Fayetteville, GA  
B.B.A., Mercer University  
Administrative Studies

Sadie Jean Stripling, Minneota, MN  
B.A., Southwest Minnesota State University  
Physician Assistant

Smitha Rani Sumangala Appukuttan, Hyderabad,  
India  
B.Tech., Jawaharlal Nehru  
Technological University  
Computer Science

Thanh Dac Tran, Sioux Falls, SD  
B.S.MT., The University of South Dakota  
Physician Assistant

Elizabeth Ann Van Bruggen, Sioux Center, IA  
B.A., Dordt College  
Occupational Therapy

Molly Brown Wagoner, Watertown, SD  
B.S., University of Mary  
Physician Assistant

Joni Anne Wipf, Howard, SD  
B.S., The University of South Dakota  
Physician Assistant

Catherine Ellen Zortman, Vermillion, SD  
B.A., South Dakota State University  
Technology for Education & Training

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## UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

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### University Scholar

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**The designation of University Scholar is a unique and significant honor granted to an undergraduate student by The University. In addition to high level scholarship, it requires participation in the University Honors Program culminating in successful completion of a substantial senior project.**

Lindsey Clara Davies  
Search Strategies On the Web, Across Age  
and Interface Conditions

Daniel Patrick Johnson, Jr.  
U.S. Farm Policy: A History Of Subsidizing  
Poor Health?

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## Thesis Scholar

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The designation of Thesis Scholar is an honor granted to undergraduate students by The University. As well as the successful completion of general education core and discipline requirements, it entails that the student complete two honors seminars and a substantial senior project.

Aleisha Ann Fuhrman  
Photographing Phobias

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## COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

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### Bachelor of Arts

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William Scott Albertson, Naples, FL Political Science	Jordan Cody Helming, Bellevue, NE Spanish, Sociology
Mollie Jeane Anderson, Sioux Falls, SD Contemporary Media and Journalism	Sarah Marie Hoffman, Brandon, SD English
Desiree Arbo, Sioux Falls, SD History	Daniel Patrick Johnson, Jr., Washington, DC Political Science, Economics <i>University Scholar, Magna Cum Laude</i>
Immanuel Bruce Bahlmann, Waseca, MN Contemporary Media and Journalism <i>Cum Laude</i>	Jessica Rose Jungers, Hospers, IA Psychology <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Corianne Marie Bazemore, Vermillion, SD Psychology <i>Cum Laude</i>	Garett Michael Lohff, Yankton, SD History
Trina Claire Borchardt, Sioux Falls, SD English <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Jordan B. McCaskill Criminal Justice
Douglas L. Bryenldson, Centerville, SD English	Megan Marie Moffitt, Emmetsburg, IA English
Lindsey Clara Davies, Vermillion, SD Psychology <i>University Scholar, Summa Cum Laude</i>	Ginger Lee Mudlin, Rapid City, SD Contemporary Media and Journalism
Emma K. Fikkert, Storm Lake, IA History <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Elizabeth Amelia Nelson, Watertown, SD Contemporary Media and Journalism
Alyssa Alexandra Floyd, Sioux Falls, SD Criminal Justice, Spanish	Jennifer Marie Newton, Dakota Dunes, SD Contemporary Media and Journalism
Kelsey Rae Freidel, Humboldt, SD/Vermillion, SD Contemporary Media and Journalism	Jack Joseph Nichols, Sioux Falls, SD History <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Emily J. Lord Garber, Sioux City, IA Political Science	Gerit P. Sjolie, Vermillion, SD History
Autumn Rose Hausman, Yankton, SD English	April K. Stiver Contemporary Media and Journalism
	Bridget A. Welch, Yankton, SD English, Spanish

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### Bachelor of Science

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Philip O. Akurienne, Sioux Falls, SD Psychology	Matthew James Brandsrud Biology
Janna Lynn Almeda-Carpenter Earth Science	Kyle Robert Brewer, Lennox, SD Biology <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Nicholas A. Anson Contemporary Media and Journalism	John Gregory Bucknell, Chester, SD Political Science
Nicholas Lee Baird, Sturgis, SD Criminal Justice	Walter William Byrne, Spearfish, SD Criminal Justice
Paul Henry Billion, Sioux Falls, SD History	Guthrie W Capossela History
Ben Boskey Political Science	

Rebecca May Chamberlin, Homer, NE  
 Communication Disorders  
 Summer Lynn Chambers, Sioux Falls, SD  
 Psychology  
 Wesley Peter Christensen, Vermillion, SD  
 Earth Science  
 Krystal Leslie Clark, Vermillion, SD  
 Psychology  
 Jessica Miriam Classen, Bellevue, NE  
 Criminal Justice, Psychology  
 Chad Clites, Centerville, SD  
 Computer Science  
*Cum Laude*  
 Eran James Collins, Sergeant Bluff, IA  
 History  
 Meghan Jo Cook, McCook Lake, SD  
 Biology  
 Erin Nicole Corner, Hope Mills, NC  
 Communication Disorders  
 Courtney Rashel Decker, Orange City, IA  
 Communication Disorders  
 Adam Lee DeZotell, Sioux Falls, SD  
 Biology  
 Sara Ann Dvorak, Pierre, SD  
 History  
*Cum Laude*  
 Paul L. Floren  
 Psychology  
 Kyle E. Freeman  
 Biology  
 Alisha Marie Fulker, Sioux Falls, SD  
 Psychology  
*Cum Laude*  
 Toby Gall  
 Psychology  
 Daniel Allen Gehlsen, Dell Rapids, SD  
 Philosophy, History  
 Gina Ann Gloede, North Sioux City, SD  
 Communication Disorders  
 Marissa Opal Gunderson, Sioux Falls, SD  
 Contemporary Media and Journalism  
 Ashley J. Halseth  
 Psychology  
 Sean Gayle Halverson, Scotland, SD  
 Mathematics  
 Abbigail Gabrielle Harbaugh, Newcastle, NE  
 Biology  
 Lyndsey Victoria Henning, Huron, SD  
 Psychology  
 Cleo E. Hilding  
 Psychology, Biology  
 Nathan Jaiharh Jamison, Sioux Falls, SD  
 Psychology  
 Sara Ashley Jares, Yankton, SD  
 Psychology  
 Jennifer L. Jensen, Fort Pierre, SD  
 Communication Disorders  
*Cum Laude*  
 Ellyn Kennedy  
 Political Science  
 Fares Khoury, Israel  
 Communication Disorders  
 Daniel Lee Knight, North Sioux City, SD  
 Psychology  
 Douglas R. Kokesh II, Yankton, SD  
 Psychology  
 Robert Adam Konrady, Los Angeles, CA  
 Psychology  
 Daniel Jay Kroeze, Sioux Falls, SD  
 Communication Disorders  
 Blair A. Lakner, Wessington, SD  
 Communication Disorders  
 Luke David Loving, Sioux Falls, SD  
 Psychology  
 Ryan John Lowe, Newcastle, NE  
 Criminal Justice  
 Katrina Lynn Meidinger  
 Computer Science, Music  
*Cum Laude*  
 Laura L. Meyer, McCook Lake, SD  
 Criminal Justice  
 Brittany A. Moore  
 Psychology  
 Andrea Nelson, Sioux Falls, SD  
 Psychology  
 Carl N Nelson  
 Political Science  
 Zachary R. Niemann, Rapid City, SD  
 Chemistry  
 Shelby Kristin Norton, Sioux Falls, SD  
 Contemporary Media and Journalism  
 Andrew John Paulsen, Beresford, SD  
 Criminal Justice  
 Andrea Ruth Petersen, Austin, MN  
 Psychology  
 Christopher Richard Phillips, Yankton, SD  
 Criminal Justice  
 Rebecca Marie Ryan, Correctionville, IA  
 Biology  
 Amy Elizabeth Smith, Akron, IA  
 Psychology  
*Cum Laude*  
 Ashley Elizabeth Smith, Milbank, SD  
 Contemporary Media and Journalism  
 Keith Smith, Omaha, NE  
 Criminal Justice  
 Jamie Lee Soukup, Wagner, SD  
 Political Science  
 Neysa Eden Thomas, Indiana, PA  
 Psychology  
 Nick Allen Gogue Thome, Rapid City, SD  
 Biology  
*Magna Cum Laude*  
 Mike Thomson  
 Psychology  
 Jeffrey Allen Tobey, Norfolk, NE  
 Anthropology, History  
 Jeff Tonkyn, Rapid City, SD  
 Psychology  
 Joseph Verdoorn  
 Criminal Justice  
 Amy L. Wellner, Springfield, MN  
 Contemporary Media and Journalism  
 Caleb Jon Wiegmann, Parkersburg, IA  
 Communication Disorders

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## Associate of Arts

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Julie Ann Fallan, Vermillion, SD  
Nicolette Jeanne Wellenstein, Yankton, SD

Jordan D. Wilson

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## BEACOM SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

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### Bachelor of Business Administration

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Alex Cesar Arobba, Vermillion, SD  
Accounting  
Amanda Jean Becvar, Sergeant Bluff, IA  
Marketing  
Erica K. Bjerrum, Mitchell, SD  
Accounting  
*Cum Laude*  
Kyle Adam Bohms, Sioux Falls, SD  
Accounting  
Brandon Patrick Bruder, Yankton, SD  
Economics  
*Cum Laude*  
Ashleigh Brooke Cook, Thief River Falls, MN  
Management  
Gregory Allen Cronin, Sergeant Bluff, IA  
Finance  
Brian Anthony Dewald, Yankton, SD  
Management  
Martin Alexander Farrell, Rapid City, SD  
Management  
Jessica Erin Ferguson, Heron Lake, MN  
Marketing  
*Magna Cum Laude*  
Michelle Lea Ferrin, Sioux Falls, SD  
Health Service Administration  
Claire V. Finn  
Accounting  
*Cum Laude*  
Christopher Gordon Fraser, Dakota Dunes, SD  
Finance  
Michael William Fuchs, Pierre, SD  
Health Services Administration  
Bryce Dominic Gillen, White Lake, SD  
Management  
Adam Richard Grote, Brandon, SD  
Finance  
Luke Lyndon Groth, Lawton, IA  
Management  
Christopher G. Hamze, Hartford, SD  
Management  
Nicholas N. Hamze, Hartford, SD  
Management  
Scott James Hargens, Sioux Falls, SD  
Marketing  
Lindsey J. Hauger, Viborg, SD  
Management  
Joseph A. Hegge  
Accounting  
Grant Henry Hoefert, Salem, SD  
Finance  
Jackie Marie Hoerner, Bowdle, SD  
Management

Jenna Marie Hoffman, Mitchell, SD  
Health Service Administration  
*Cum Laude*  
Eric James Horpedahl, St. Michael, MN  
Marketing  
Matthew David Huber, Mitchell, SD  
Management  
Danica DeAnn Johnsen, Sioux Falls, SD  
Marketing  
Abby Marie Johnson, Milbank, SD  
Marketing  
Brian Robert Kaiser, Sioux Falls, SD  
Health Service Administration  
Derrick Joseph Karsky, Sioux Falls, SD  
Health Service Administration  
Bryce William Kauer  
Marketing  
*Magna Cum Laude*  
Chad D. Ketcham, Lennox, SD  
Accounting  
John Kyle Kreber  
Marketing  
Brooke A. Kuhlmann  
Accounting  
Jerry Lee Kyte, Sioux Falls, SD  
Accounting  
*Cum Laude*  
Megan M. Lees, Brandon, SD  
Marketing  
Kenny G. Lipetzky  
Management  
Justin M. Lipp  
Management  
Alexander C. Lowry, Sioux Falls, SD  
Accounting  
Jeremy Maxfield, Missouri Valley, IA  
Accounting  
Tim Murman  
Management  
Troy John Noonan  
Economics  
Michael Olson, Mitchell, SD  
Finance  
Enoch Wesley Parry, III, Brandon, SD  
Management  
Nathan Charles Pease, Sioux Falls, SD  
Economics  
Nicholas J. Radigan, Sioux Falls, SD  
Finance  
*Magna Cum Laude*  
Bradley James Rezac, Avon, SD  
Management

Andrea Lea Rollins, Akron, IA  
Management  
Jenna Suzanne Sanchez, Sioux Falls, SD  
Management  
Michael Lee Schelling, Brandon, SD  
Accounting  
Melissa J. Sievert  
Marketing, Contemporary Media and  
Journalism  
*Cum Laude*  
Michelle Lynne Sparagon, Rapid City, SD  
Management  
Nicholas Shawn Stanek, Sioux City, IA  
Health Service Administration  
Andrew Michael Strandell, Watertown, SD  
Finance

Benjamin Odell Temple, Mount Vernon, SD  
Accounting  
Gabrielle Marie Totton, Chamberlain, SD  
Health Service Administration  
Gavin Lee Van Zee, Highmore, SD  
Management  
Patrick Kelly Vaughan, Sioux City, IA  
Management  
Amy L. Wellner, Springfield, MN  
Management  
Chad Richard Wilde, Huron, SD  
Management  
Sarah Fay Zautke, Yankton, SD  
Management  
*Magna Cum Laude*

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## SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

---

### Bachelor of Science in Education

---

Derek A. Alarie  
Spanish Education  
Hannah Renae Baily, Dell Rapids, SD  
Elementary Education, Special Education  
Randi J. Barge, Wakefield, NE  
Physical Education  
Kimberly Grace Bartholomaeus, Pipestone, MN  
Elementary Education  
Jevon N. Bowman, Rapid City, SD  
Physical Education  
*Cum Laude*  
Andrea Sharon Broderson, Volin, SD  
Elementary Education  
*Summa Cum Laude*  
Caitlin Elizabeth Brusseau, Pierre, SD  
Elementary Education  
*Magna Cum Laude*  
Kristina Anne Charlson, Brookings, SD  
Elementary Education  
Shannon L. Daly  
Elementary Education  
Nicole Anna Lynne Daniel, Norfolk, NE  
English Education  
Zachary T. DeShazer, Huron, SD  
Physical Education  
Kenneth Michael Doyle, Sioux Falls, SD  
History Education  
Richard A. Fisher, Parkersburg, IA  
Elementary Education, Special Education  
Jessica Ann Gebel, Mitchell, SD  
Elementary Education  
Ashley Jenae Gross, Norfolk, NE  
Elementary Education, Special Education  
*Cum Laude*  
Steven Allan Hale, Tripp, SD  
Elementary Education  
Jordan Robert Hamman, Sioux City, IA  
Biology Education  
Thomasine Lindsey Herrmann, Sioux Falls, SD  
Math Education

Benjamin Robert Jacobs, Sioux Falls, SD  
History Education  
Zachary James Johnson  
Elementary Education  
Rachel Kay Kludt, Huron, SD  
Biology Education  
Heather Marie Lander, Sergeant Bluff, IA  
Math Education  
Abby Danielle Meyer, Watertown, SD  
English Education  
Bart Robert Miller, Vermillion, SD  
Physical Education  
Ashley Ann Robinette, South Sioux City, NE  
Physical Education  
*Cum Laude*  
Leita Ashley Rolfe, Newcastle, WY  
English Education  
Amber Marie Ross, South Sioux City, NE  
Elementary Education  
Tia Michelle Schuster, Sioux Falls, SD  
Elementary Education  
Deanna Sue Smith, Primghar, IA  
Elementary Education  
Lauren Anne Swann, Sioux Falls, SD  
Elementary Education  
*Cum Laude*  
Paige Elizabeth Thompson, Sioux Falls, SD  
Elementary Education, Special Education  
Nicholas Dale Walters, Parkersburg, IA  
Physical Education  
Sarah Jane Watts, Worthing, SD  
Elementary Education  
David John White, Omaha, NE  
English Education  
William Paul Yost, Beresford, SD  
English Education  
*Cum Laude*

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## Bachelor of Science in Recreation

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Sara Vanessa Eiler, Ponca, NE  
Joel G. Gentile  
Charlotte Nichole Henning, Saint Cloud, MN  
*Magna Cum Laude*

Blake Alan Hojer, DeSmet, SD  
Timothy John Rust, Luverne, MN  
Brittany Elizabeth Sand, Vermillion, SD  
Michael Tobin, Sioux Falls, SD

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## COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

---

### Bachelor of Fine Arts

---

Marcie Elizabeth Brenden, Sioux Falls, SD  
Theatre  
*Cum Laude*

Desirae F. Carson, Yankton, SD  
Art

Aleisha Ann Fuhrman, Norfolk, NE  
Art  
*Thesis Scholar, Cum Laude*

Nicholas Lee Hruby, Marion, SD  
Art

Cristina A. Kauffman  
Art

Debra Ann Kindelspire, Sioux Falls, SD  
Art

Monica Noelle Mayer, Bloomington, MN  
Art

Tony Millette  
Art

Eli M. Show, Sioux Falls, SD  
Art

Lindsey Nicole Straw, Ralston, NE  
Theatre

Kathryn M. Vermillion, Northfield, MA  
Art

Masahiro Wadayama, Osaka-sayama City,  
Osaka, Japan  
Art

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### Bachelor of Music

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Suzannah R. Bryan  
Music Education  
*Cum Laude*

Kristi Elizabeth Linn, Spencer, IA  
Music Education  
*Magna Cum Laude*

Rebecca Lynn McDowell, Middletown, RI  
Music Education  
*Cum Laude*

Deborah Diane Passick, Peterson, IA  
Music Education  
*Cum Laude*

Lee Nicole Schneider, Sheldon, IA  
Music Education  
*Cum Laude*

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## SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

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### Bachelor of Science

---

Lesley Margaret Andringa, Sheldon, IA  
Dental Hygiene  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Melanie Faye Bartow, Wilton, ND  
Dental Hygiene

Mischa' Beth Brown, Vermillion, SD  
Alcohol & Drug Studies, Psychology  
*Cum Laude*

Angela Dawn Brownfield  
Alcohol & Drug Studies

Jodi Jeanette Bruegman, Bloomfield, NE  
Social Work  
*Magna Cum Laude*

Agnes C. Clement, Mitchell, SD  
Alcohol & Drug Studies, Social Work

Elisha Jolene Daum, Yankton, SD  
Social Work

Jacquelyn Marie Flaugh, South Sioux City, NE  
Alcohol & Drug Studies

Tasha Lorraine Eva Hoeltzner, Aberdeen, SD  
Social Work

Melanie Louise Kettler, Norfolk, NE  
Social Work

Emily Jo Logue, Wakonda, SD  
Dental Hygiene  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Crystal Marie Lubben, LeMars, IA  
Dental Hygiene  
*Cum Laude*

Jacey LaRay Mohr, Watertown, SD  
Social Work

Nicole Elizabeth Post, Sioux Falls, SD  
Alcohol & Drug Studies

Brooke Ann Riedemann, Sutherland, IA  
Alcohol & Drug Studies  
Kendal Marie Schuurmans, Tyndall, SD  
Social Work  
Amy Elizabeth Smith, Akron, IA  
Alcohol & Drug Studies  
*Cum Laude*

Heather Lynn Swensen, Vermillion, SD  
Social Work  
Chris Turbak  
Alcohol & Drug Studies, Psychology

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## Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology

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Matthew J. Sees

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## Associate of Science

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Noelle M. Bouavichith  
Nursing  
Christine Jennifer Carey, Bismark, ND  
Nursing  
Michelle Jo Cazer, Hot Springs, SD  
Nursing  
Russ Christensen  
Nursing  
Kelly Dawn DeGrote, Montevideo, MN  
Nursing  
Dawn Marie Doud, Midland, SD/Pierre, SD  
Nursing  
Kerianna K. Fettig, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing  
Rebecca L. Fossen, Pierre, SD  
Nursing  
Jennifer Garro, Rapid City, SD  
Nursing  
Tyler Joseph Geitz, Rapid City, SD  
Nursing  
Christine M. George  
Nursing  
Jeffrey Jon Gilchrist, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing  
Michelle L. Gray, Rapid City, SD  
Nursing  
Jennifer Catharina Hamilton, Canton, SD  
Nursing  
Elisabeth Ann Harding, Rapid City, SD  
Nursing  
Tricia Ann Henning, Brookings, SD  
Nursing  
*With Honor*  
Janelle Marie Kittelson, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing  
Andy Kline  
Nursing  
Luke L. Kretschmar  
Nursing  
Kristin Jean Leader, Crofton, NE  
Nursing  
Carla Renita Lindsey, Fieldale, VA  
Nursing  
Lori Ann Lubben, Dell Rapids, SD  
Nursing  
Joseph Michael Marquardt, Grand Forks, ND  
Nursing

Michelle L. McAuliffe  
Nursing  
Katie Ahrends Millar, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing  
*With Honor*  
Lisa Osborne  
Nursing  
Stacey Lynn Paradise, Flat Rock, MI  
Nursing  
Emilie Perkins, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing  
Cozette L. Petersen, Gering, NE  
Nursing  
Calista Ann Peterson, Rapid City, SD  
Nursing  
Tracy A. Pick, Edgerton, MN  
Nursing  
Hannah Christine Plucker, Sioux Falls, SD  
Nursing  
Melissa Marie Poppen, Clear Lake, SD  
Nursing  
Kristin Noel Rozeboom, Luverne, MN  
Nursing  
Jodi K. Salzman  
Nursing  
Melanie L. Sargeant, Rapid City, SD  
Nursing  
Elizabeth Rachel Sivertsen, Huron, SD  
Nursing  
Shawna Linsley Tagler, Rapid City, SD  
Nursing  
Rudi Lee Thomas, Rapid City, SD  
Nursing  
Julie J. Vikhorev  
Nursing  
*With High Honor*  
Danielle D. Vis, Beaver Creek, MN  
Nursing  
Jessica Ann Wagner, Rapid City, SD  
Nursing  
Julie Anne Watson, Montrose, SD  
Nursing  
Andrea Rose Williams, Saint Onge, SD  
Nursing  
Angela Marie Wilson, Valley Springs, SD  
Nursing

To earn an honors designation at graduation, the baccalaureate-level graduate must have completed at least 64 hours of USD credit and must meet the following USD and cumulative grade point averages:

Summa Cum Laude	equal to or greater than 3.9
Magna Cum Laude	equal to or greater than 3.7
Cum Laude	equal to or greater than 3.5

To earn an honors designation at graduation, the associate-level graduate must have completed at least 32 hours of USD credit and must meet the following USD and cumulative grade point averages:

With Highest Honor	equal to or greater than 3.9
With High Honor	equal to or greater than 3.7
With Honor	equal to or greater than 3.5



An academics and research leader in South Dakota and the region since 1862, The U. is the state's flagship liberal arts institution.

This document is available in alternative formats upon request. For assistance, call Disability Services at The U. at: 605-677-6389 or E-mail [dservice@usd.edu](mailto:dservice@usd.edu).

The University of South Dakota is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution committed to increasing the diversity of its faculty, staff and students.



The commencement program is a list of candidates for degree.  
It is not an official listing of degrees conferred.

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## ACADEMIC DRESS

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The tradition of academic costume has a history of nearly eight centuries. In medieval Europe, all townsmen wore long flowing robes or gowns. The materials and colors varied greatly, according to wealth and rank of the individual, and were governed by royal decree. Gradually there developed distinctive gowns for the various professions, trades and guilds. They survive today in the gowns of religious orders, the judiciary and the academic regalia.

The gowns worn by the recipients of the various degrees vary somewhat in design. The sleeves of the gown worn by recipients of the baccalaureate degree are long and pointed, while the sleeves of the gown worn by the master's degree recipients are square at one end with a slit at the elbow. The doctor's gown has flowing sleeves with three bars of velvet and facing of velvet down the front of the gown.

Most distinctive of the academic regalia is the hood, which serves as identification of the graduate degree and the institution where the degree was awarded. The hood is lined with silk in the official colors of the institution. Thus, the hood of The University of South Dakota is lined in red. The trim is velvet, three inches wide for the master's degree and five inches wide for the doctor's degree. The color of the velvet border indicates the degree.

The academic cap was developed in the fifteenth century. Some caps were stiff, some soft, some square, some round, with a tuft in the center. The tassel used today is an elaboration of the tuft. While some institutions still use the round caps, most institutions have adopted the "mortar board" style which comes from Oxford. The tassel for graduate degrees may be black, except that a gold bullion tassel may be worn by recipients of the doctorate. The tassel's color indicates the discipline in which the degree has been earned. The tassel colors are shown below:

Arts and Sciences.....	White
Business.....	Sapphire Blue
Education.....	Light Blue
Fine Arts (Art and Theatre).....	Brown
Fine Arts (Music).....	Pink
Health Sciences.....	Green
Law.....	Purple
Medicine.....	Green

Honors societies wear specially designed stoles, cords or medallions. The designations are listed below.

Beta Gamma Sigma.....	Blue ribbon with medallion
Chi Sigma Iota.....	Blue & white honor cords
Golden Key International Honour Society.....	Blue & gold honor cords
Mortar Board.....	Gold & silver interlaced honor cords
Omicron Delta Kappa.....	White, black & blue twisted cords
Order of Omega.....	White & gold double cords
Phi Beta Kappa Society.....	Light blue & light pink honor cords
Psi-Chi Psychology Club.....	Double gold cord with blue & gold tassels
University Honors Program.....	Gold stole

Faculty wearing medals with a red ribbon are recipients of a Belbas-Larson Award, given as the university's highest honor for teaching excellence; faculty wearing a red/white ribbon are recipients of Richard and Sharon Cutler Awards, given by the College of Arts and Sciences for promoting liberal arts education through teaching and research.