

NEWS FROM THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

April 2022

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**From the Desk of Dr. Margie Yates
Dean of Research and Graduate Studies**

yates_helen@columbusstate.edu

Dear Graduate Students,

This edition of our Graduate School Newsletter is dedicated to our CSU Class of 2022 graduates. This spring has been much anticipated by our graduating students, who will be receiving their graduate degrees after years of hard work. Despite unimaginable challenges, they have responded to this unique and historic situation with resilience, persistence, determination, and optimism.

It is an honor to congratulate you and wish you the best in all your future endeavors. **The Class of 2022 is an inspiration to all!**

Best wishes,

Dr. Margie Yates



WHAT'S INSIDE...

Graduation Dates & Times

Pg. 3

Summer Class Session Dates

Pg. 16



Meet Some of the Graduates of the Class of 2022



| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|------|------|-----------------------------------|------|-------|
| Education Specialist | Pg. | 4 | Master of Science | Pg. | 11-12 |
| Master of Education | Pgs. | 5-7 | Master of Business Administration | Pgs. | 13-14 |
| Master of Arts in Teaching | Pg. | 8 | Master of Public Administration | Pgs. | 14-15 |
| Master of Science in Nursing | Pgs. | 8-11 | Master of Music | Pg. | 15 |



Go
CONFIDENTLY
IN THE DIRECTION OF YOUR
DREAMS
LIVE THE LIFE
YOU HAVE
imagined
- THOREAU



and so
the
Adventure
BEGINS

"Graduation is not the conclusion of an achievement but simply the ending of one chapter and the beginning of another chapter."

Thomas S. Monson

Graduation 2022

Below are the dates and times for Graduation, the Hooding ceremony and other graduation events. All events will be at CSU's Lumpkin Center unless otherwise noted. For those who cannot join the ceremonies in person, CSU will continue to live-stream these ceremonies so families, friends and Cougars everywhere can share in your special day.

Thursday, May 12, 2022



Graduate Hooding Ceremony
6 p.m. Lumpkin Center



Friday, May 13, 2022

Nursing Pinning Ceremony
10:00 a.m.
Cunningham Center

ROTC Commissioning Ceremony
10:30 a.m.
National Infantry Museum

Health Professions (COEHP)
2:00 p.m.

Education Degrees (COEHP)
5:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 14, 2022

College of the Arts
10:00 a.m.

Turner College of Business
1:00 p.m.

College of Letters & Sciences
4:00 p.m.



Education Specialist



Victoria Denise Edwards
Ed.S Middle Grades Education—Reading

My graduate studies at CSU have helped me by increasing my knowledge and skill set as an educator of reading. My graduate studies at CSU have also increased my confidence that I can become an effective leader in the world of reading education.



Mujeebuddin Mohamad
Ed.S. Secondary Education Science

The Professors at CSU are very knowledgeable and very friendly. This program empowered me with more advanced skills in curriculum development, educational technology, and program evaluation. I will use these skills and knowledge in my classrooms for my students to truly understand what they learn.



Jaketa Ligon Stiggers
Ed.S. Elementary Education

My graduate studies at CSU have helped me have a better outlook on teaching. My professors taught me how to make a non-biased literacy classroom, how to write a literature review, how to advocate, how to gain support and how to make a high-quality assessment. I plan to use this knowledge to become a better educator by using clear consistent communication to my students and parents and to make sure that not only myself but also my students are completing self-reflections.



Master of Education



Sherkeial Carithers

M.Ed Curriculum & Instruction in Accomplished Teaching

CSU has done a phenomenal job helping me prepare for my future career endeavors in many ways. Being a new teacher I have endured a lot of challenges but CSU has made me very knowledgeable of my profession. I now have a new found confidence in this world of education to take on more leadership roles at my school. I feel that I am more knowledgeable, confident and strategic in my profession. Thank you, CSU!



Jonathan A. Manning

M.Ed Curriculum & Instruction in Accomplished Teaching

My graduate studies at CSU have helped me grow into a better person and educator! The courses were well constructed and the professors went above and beyond to make sure you received guidance and assistance. I am proud to graduate as a CSU Cougar!



Harrison Moskowitz

M.Ed Curriculum & Instruction in Accomplished Teaching

My graduate program at CSU has molded me into a more effective educator who can better help my students to succeed. I hope to one day use the degree I have earned to help me enact state or national curriculum reform so that I can help every student improve in school.



Master of Education



Alia Nicole Tullis

M.Ed Curriculum & Instruction in Accomplished Teaching

Throughout this program, I have learned that you have to commit to being a life-long learner as an educator. My professors have prepared my colleagues and me to meet the needs of our student and teacher learners. I feel more confident than ever to assume the role of being a teacher-leader! Thank you CSU!



April McNiff

M.Ed. Educational Leadership—Higher Ed. Administration

My graduate program has allowed for me to expand my knowledge in higher education, and I have already applied some of what I have learned with my current career.



Lindsay Tillman

M.Ed. Elementary Education

Attending CSU for my masters has been a great experience. I have learned so much and I can't wait to bring that knowledge to my classroom. Thank you CSU!



Master of Education



Christopher Patrick Stalling
M.Ed. Health & Physical Education

Columbus State University has made me into the man I am today. When I first came to CSU, I didn't know what the future held for me. However, after a Bachelor's Degree and now completing my Master's, I know that teaching is my calling. I just want to thank all my professors, mentors, and CSU for guiding me to this stage in my life.



Cameron Chapman
M.Ed. School Counseling

CSU has helped me to grow as a student, a professional, and as a person. I have made many wonderful and lifelong connections throughout my graduate studies, and I feel well prepared to embark on my career as a school counselor. Thank you, CSU!



Lekisa Blackmon Williams
M.ED. Special Education

My graduate studies at CSU have helped to create a bigger, brighter future for my career as an educator. The M.Ed. Special Education program has allowed me to grow and gain more knowledge and tools to utilize in my classroom in order to improve my students' academic achievement. This program has opened up leadership opportunities in my district and I am also able to earn a more competitive salary in my field.



Master of Arts in Teaching



Alioune Badara Beye
MAT - Secondary Education Mathematics

Just excited to be able to blend what I have learned into my everyday teaching and learning.



Master of Science in Nursing



Kimberly Lynn Golden
MSN Family Nurse Practitioner

Obtaining my Masters in Nursing and practicing as a Family Nurse Practitioner completes my journey that I started 29 years ago. I can continue my passion in nursing and give back to my community on a different level. During my entire program I worked in the emergency department during covid. I have a new appreciation for colleagues and a new confidence in myself. Time to celebrate me.



Jennifer Green
MSN Family Nurse Practitioner

CSU has helped "create me" into a Master of Science in Nursing graduate and soon-to-be Family Nurse Practitioner in my hometown. I am thankful that I was able to return to CSU for my graduate degree, and excited to continue my nursing career now as an advanced practice registered nurse! Thank you for this opportunity, CSU!



Master of Science in Nursing



Charanpreet Kaur
MSN Family Nurse Practitioner

I have gained knowledge, skills and experience to help me both in my career and life in general.



Aaron P. Mansfield
MSN Family Nurse Practitioner

As a registered nurse, I knew I had the capacity to help others. I felt as though I could do more to change the healthcare outcomes of the patients. This degree has elevated those capabilities and I will truly be able to make a difference for the greater good in my community.



Brian A. Pawlowski
MSN Family Nurse Practitioner

My graduate studies have helped me become a more well rounded professional. My FNP will allow me to serve my community, giving care to those in need.



Master of Science in Nursing



Edna Reid
MSN Family Nurse Practitioner

CSU has given me the opportunity to get my BSN and now MSN by having some great professors, and the convenience of online classes.



Shamauna Rena Peters
MSN Nursing Leadership

My nursing studies at CSU have helped to create a stronger leader that can formulate an effective problem-solving hypothesis that can help in tackling issues faced in healthcare today. I now have the ability to formulate, evaluate, educate, and communicate the expectations of excellence to my peers in a professional manner. I plan to use this knowledge in my future endeavors to continue to make a positive influence in healthcare that creates a safer, efficient, and cost effective patient care environment.



Ieshia O'leta Williams
MSN Nurse Educator

CSU has helped to create me by providing the knowledge and skills to become an effective nurse educator. I plan to utilize the knowledge gained to help new graduate nurses and seasoned nurses obtain the best evidence-based knowledge in our field.



Master of Science in Nursing



Samantha Bruffy
MSN Nursing Informatics

The Nursing Informatics Program at CSU has taught me valuable skills in project management and information technology that will serve as a solid foundation for my career in nursing informatics. I have finally found a career field that I am interested in and enjoy.



Master of Science



Kenecia Streeter
MS Applied Computer Science

My graduate studies at CSU has allowed me to extend and be confident in my technical knowledge. This program will allow me to use this knowledge in consulting and providing solutions to non-technical and business partners.



Shakiatra Jackson
MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling

My graduate studies at CSU has aided in building my foundation of becoming an effective Clinical Mental Health Counselor. It allowed me the space and opportunity to build onto who I identify as a Counselor and being my authentic self in the role as well as with my clients. I do plan to further my studies by pursuing advanced studies in Counseling Psychology and to continue to advance my skills in the future and as I continue my journey as a Mental Health Counselor.



Master of Science



Alyssa Bergdoll
MS Exercise Science

Coming to CSU has helped to mold me into a better student, colleague, and person. In my short year and a half here I have finally discovered my passion in life and decided a career choice and I have CSU and my professors to thank for this.



Terrence Nicole Darden
MS Organizational Leadership—Servant Leadership

My graduate studies at CSU have added and uncovered unique layers to reveal and create the visionary leader that is me! My purpose and enjoyment is helping others find and live out the best version of themselves, and now I've been equipped and fueled to continue on this path full speed ahead!



Kasey Morris
MS Organizational Leadership—Leader Development

My graduate studies at CSU have helped me to create myself by guiding me in enhancing my leadership and management skills; building meaningful relationships with other students, faculty, and staff; and contributing to the world of academic research. I am excited to apply what I have learned in my graduate studies as I explore various opportunities, pursue unique experiences, and progress in my personal and professional journeys!



Master of Business Administration



Ann Marie Brink

MBA—Business Administration

My graduate studies has provided me more opportunities to advance in my career as well as spend more time with my family.



Beatriz Lopez

MBA—Business Administration

I will always be thankful to CSU for the opportunity they gave me to pursue my college career. The reasons to pursue graduate studies is to enhance your job prospects, get experience and have more knowledge. Certain jobs require a graduate degree and thus even qualifying for these positions requires you to obtain a master's degree. I am really excited and ready about the future and the opportunities that I have ahead.



Brianna Rowe-Lee

MBA—Business Administration

My time at CSU has helped me grow as a more resilient and driven individual. I was able to accomplish and achieve things I didn't think I was capable of. I also scored numerous fantastic tools being used in both my professional and personal lives.



Master of Business Administration



Raven Snipes **MBA—Business Administration**

Through this journey, I have gained a family, many friends, and cohorts who understand the struggle of juggling daily life while being a graduate student. My journey was delayed by 10 years but to finally be able to step into the pathway that I dreamed of so long ago and create a pathway for my daughter to follow is absolutely the greatest joy of receiving this degree! CSU helped me “create me “ by providing me with substantial materials and resources to go into the world and strive among the fiercest of the sharks in the ocean.



Master of Public Administration



Corieane Geneva Campfield **MPA Criminal Justice Track**

My graduate studies has prepared me to further my studies as an aspiring lawyer. I’ve experienced working with great professors at CSU that have made a major impact on my life & future career.



Tracine M Kempfer **MPA Criminal Justice Track**

I have enjoyed my time at CSU tremendously. From the professors to my fellow classmates to every employee I've had to reach out to over the years, thank you for your part in my academic journey. I will cherish many moments at CSU. I am proud to be a Cougar and I look forward to the next chapter!



Master of Public Administration



Michael F. Lee
MPA Government Administration Track

I recently retired from public safety after 45 years and this degree will help prepare me to teach part-time in the future to public safety agencies. It was also a goal of mine to finish this degree when I was able to and retirement allowed me to do this.



Tacionia Nash
MPA Criminal Justice Track

As a graduate, I will forever remain grateful to my school, a place where I learned how to think without the box, dream without borders and imagine without boundaries. Best wishes to me for the future ahead.



Master of Music



Rósborg Halldórsdóttir
M.M. Music Performance

CSU has both prepared me for the professional world as a music educator and helped me find my own voice as a musician through individual instruction and ensemble and class participation.

IMPORTANT DATES



Mark your calendar!

Summer 2022 Class Session Dates

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Summer—Maymester | May 16—June 6 |
| Summer—10-week Session | May 16—July 26 |
| Summer—Mini I Session | May 16—June 20 |
| Summer—7-week Session | June 8—July 26 |
| Summer—Mini II Session | June 22—July 27 |

Fall Classes Begin
August 15

