

# University of Sioux Falls

## Commencement Ceremony

Ten o'clock in the morning  
Two-thirty in the afternoon  
Sioux Falls Convention Center  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota  
Sunday, the twenty-first day of May  
in the Year of Our Lord  
Two thousand and twenty-three



# Commencement Ceremony

**Processional** (Audience, please remain seated during processional.)

10:00 a.m. Ceremony

*Sine Nomine* ..... Ralph Vaughan Williams, arr. Jonathan Neiderhiser

USF Chamber Orchestra

Jonathan Neiderhiser, B.M., M.M., D.M.A.

Associate Professor of Music and Director of Instrumental Music

2:30 p.m. Ceremony

*Sine Nomine* ..... Ralph Vaughan Williams

Concert Chorale

David DeHoogh-Kliewer, B.A., M.M., D.M.A.

Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities

USF Wind Ensemble

Dr. Jonathan Neiderhiser

**Special Message** ..... University of Sioux Falls Faculty

**Welcome** ..... Brett Bradfield, B.S., M.S., Ed.D.

University of Sioux Falls President

**Invocation** ..... Dennis Thum, B.A., M.Div.

Dean of Chapel

**Hymn** (Audience, please stand if able.)

*Be Thou My Vision* ..... arr. Jonathan Neiderhiser

USF Chamber Orchestra (10:00 a.m. Ceremony)

USF Wind Ensemble (2:30 p.m. Ceremony)

Dr. Jonathan Neiderhiser

Nancy Wilcoxson, B.A. '85, M.M.

Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Vocal Music

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou Art;  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true Word;  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor vain human praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won.  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'ns Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, Whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

**Scripture**

Philippians 4:4-8 .....Rev. Dennis Thum

**Special Music**

*O Love That Will Not Let Me Go* ..... arr. Molly Ijames

Concert Chorale  
Dr. David DeHoogh-Kliewer

**Introduction of the Speaker** .....Dr. Brett Bradfield

**Commencement Address**

10:00 a.m. Ceremony .....Breanne Marie Lynch  
Education Specialist in Educational Administration/Principal

2:30 p.m. Ceremony .....Nayeli Aylin Salcido-Velasquez  
Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Criminal Justice

**Challenge to Servanthood** .....Rev. Dennis Thum

**Conferring of Degrees** .....Dr. Brett Bradfield

Joseph Obermueller B.A., M.F.A.  
Vice President for Academic Affairs

10:00 a.m. Ceremony  
Paul Eidsness, B.A. '66, M.B.A.  
University of Sioux Falls Board of Trustees

2:30 p.m. Ceremony  
Michael 'Mick' Woodden, B.A., '63  
University of Sioux Falls Board of Trustees

**Faculty Honor Award for Outstanding Senior** (2:30 Ceremony only)

Presenter .....Adam Sturlaugson, B.S. '07, Ph.D.  
Faculty Vice Chair, Associate Professor of Chemistry

**Benediction** (Audience, please stand if able.) .....Rev. Dennis Thum

**Recessional**

10:00 a.m. Ceremony  
*Rondo (from Eine Kleine Nachtmusik)* .....Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

USF Chamber Orchestra  
Dr. Jonathan Neiderhiser

2:30 p.m. Ceremony  
*Nearer My God to Thee* .....Luther Henderson, arr. Calvin Custer

USF Wind Ensemble  
Dr. Jonathan Neiderhiser

# Undergraduate Academic Honors

## Summa Cum Laude (3.90–4.00)

Annika Joy Aho  
Anna Marie Albrecht  
Rianna Christine Banik  
Grace Elizabeth Beck  
Summer Jean Blomgren  
Amber Marie Brey  
Moriah Kate Bullerman  
Gracie Carol Chance  
Logon John Clary  
Apolonia Marisol Davalos  
David Ecker  
Audrey Elizabeth Franklin  
Madelyn Pauline Hakinson

Sterling Michael Haphey  
Sarah Louise Harrington  
Allie Elizabeth Houseman  
Rylee Lynne Iott  
Madeline Elizabeth Johnston  
Brittany Lexine Kelso  
Laurynn Elizabeth Leonard  
Skylar James McCaulley  
Morgan Danielle McKellep  
Katalynn Elizabeth Mertens  
Cassidy Rose O'Meara  
Candace Lynnette Parish  
Megan Judith Parsons

Lindsey Nicole Petterson  
Megan Debra Rasmussen  
Rebecca Ann Salentiny  
Adrianna Elizabeth Smith  
Elizabeth Jo Spaans  
Kelsey Sutton  
Andrew Gordon Taylor  
Shaela Mae Van Wyk  
Joshua Jonathan Werre  
Kasha Jean Whisler  
Madelyn Rena Wilson Patterson

## Magna Cum Laude (3.80–3.89)

Katelyn Joy Albertz  
Carly Rae Beaner  
Jared Michael Berger  
Kelsey Randine Brenna  
Zoe Jean DeBoer  
Demi Lyn Erickson  
Joseph Michael Feiner  
Hannah Mae Fletcher  
Marita Angela Franco  
Kasia Epiphany Franklin  
Katelyn Therese Grangaard  
Autumn Jennifer Gray

Taylor Thomas Haight  
Trinity Margaret Harmelink  
Katie Jane Hayworth  
Tabitha Suzanne Heckmann  
Madisyn Elizabeth Jansen  
Jeannette Lynn Jensen  
Briana Kay Kannas  
Carrie JoBeth Ragan  
Jordan Charles Riley  
Peyton Marie Rymerson  
Joslyn Clara Schrank  
Kolby James Scott

Jackson Louis Snell  
Olivia Christine Sook  
Grace Vivien Stull  
Erica Lynn Sunde  
Claire Darlene Trautman  
Marisa Joy Weeks  
Ashley Kaylen Wells  
Kayleigh Jo Whipps  
Jaymeson Zachary Wolkow  
Benjamin Russell Wollmuth  
Kendra Joy Wynja

## Cum Laude (3.70–3.79)

Brock Allen Bangsund  
Megan Suzanne Brown  
Danielle Marie Burtis  
Esther Francis Carlson  
Kiersten Elizabeth Durrin  
Victoria Anne Eisenberg  
Kaetlyn Mae Engebretson  
Karissa LeAnn Harms  
Joshua L. Heitritter  
Brianna Leigh Holm  
Nathan Hulscher

Emma Anne Kenkel  
Mariah Katherine Leimer  
Rylie Grace Lenz  
Madyson Rae Molengraaf  
Adam James Mullen  
Sara Ranae Nieuwsma  
Brin Hallie Pennington  
Karleah Christine Pheifer  
Jordyn Elizabeth Reider  
Joselyn Lizeth Rodriguez-Argueta  
Brittany Marie Rogotzke

Madison Lou Rouse  
Nayeli Aylin Salcido-Velazquez  
Cole Samuel Schumacher  
Megan Nicole Sundvold  
Kennedy Simone Thomas  
John Michael Dahling Thompson  
Lauren Kayla Wells  
Georgia Lorraine Will

*Academic graduation honors are awarded on the basis of cumulative grade point averages.*

Purple honor cords are bestowed upon the above-listed students graduating with academic honors.

# The University of Sioux Falls Honors Program

is pleased to celebrate the following graduates:

Anna Marie Albrecht—Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies & Theatre and English  
Honors Thesis: *Hidden History in America*

Carly Rae Beaner—Bachelor of Arts in Spanish  
Honors Thesis: *Un Estudio Exegético de Filipenses 3*

Megan Suzanne Brown—Bachelor of Science in Biology and Secondary Education  
Honors Thesis: *How Science Influences Education: A Historical Overview*

Megan Lee Burrows—Bachelor of Science in Nursing  
Honors Thesis: *Antibiotic Resistance and Treatment of Pediatric Urinary Tract Infections*

David Ecker—Bachelor of Science in Biology and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology  
Honors Thesis: *A Practical Assessment of Therapeutic Alliance as it Applies to Physical Therapy*

Allie Elizabeth Houseman—Bachelor of Arts in English and Secondary Education  
Honors Thesis: *Literary Freedom: Toni Morrison and Raced Language in American Fiction*

Emma Anne Kenkel—Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration and English  
Honors Thesis: *Storm Lake*

Jordyn Elizabeth Reider—Bachelor of Science in Biology and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Social Science  
Honors Thesis: *The Correlation Between Personality & Self-Stigma in College Students*

*The University of Sioux Falls Honors Program strives to encourage exceptional students to explore widely, to think creatively and critically, to study earnestly, to live enthusiastically, to serve sincerely—to engage wholeheartedly and with integrity the world of ideas, scholarship, culture and service. In so doing, the USF Honors Program seeks to further enhance the culture of scholarship and service at the University.*

Gold honor cords are bestowed upon the above-listed students graduating from the USF Honors Program.

# Our Speakers

## 10:00 a.m. Ceremony



### **Breanne Marie Lynch**

*Education Specialist in Educational Administration/Principal*

Breanne Lynch currently serves as the Career & Education Coordinator for the Harrisburg School District. She is a community connector, life-long learner and experiential learning advocate. Breanne is a member of the SD Association of Career & Technical Education (ACTE), actively involved in the work-based learning division, serves on the Board of Directors for the Harrisburg Economic Development Corporation and shares the importance of K-12 career development education in multiple formats from podcasts to workshops with business, industry and economic development organizations.

In addition to working with learners, Breanne most enjoys building business and industry partnerships for the school district. Post graduation, Breanne will continue in her role at Harrisburg and looks forward to the “duties as assigned” that come her way in education and business.

## 2:30 p.m. Ceremony



### **Nayeli Aylin Salcido-Velasquez**

*Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Criminal Justice*

Nayeli Salcido-Velasquez, a native of Mitchell, South Dakota, has been active in the academic and campus life communities during her time at USF. She is graduating with double majors in Sociology and Criminal Justice as well as a minor in Spanish. Nayeli currently serves as a Resident Assistant in Grand Island Hall and co-founded USF’s first Latinx organization called Latinos Unidos.

During her four years at USF, Nayeli has been listed in the Dean’s List every semester, participated in the USF Research Symposium and is graduating with Cum Laude honors.

After graduation, Nayeli plans to pursue a master’s degree and work as a Resident Hall Director at Augustana University.

# Candidates for Degrees

May 2023

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## Associate of Arts

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Priscilla Marie Ellens	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Karlie Jo Haas	Radiologic Technology	Yankton, SD
Abigail Mae Newman	Radiologic Technology	Yankton, SD
Rhiannon Marie Purcella	Radiologic Technology	Rapid City, SD
Abbigail Jean Schulte	Radiologic Technology	Montgomery, MN
Lucas Allan Steiger	Radiologic Technology	Rapid City, SD
Erica Lynn Sunde	Media Studies	Sioux Falls, SD
Doris Mae White Hat	Radiologic Technology	Rosebud, SD
Paige Christian Willett	Social Science	Sioux Falls, SD

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## Bachelor of Arts

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Sonia Agasaro	Criminal Justice	Sioux Falls, SD
Annika Joy Aho †	Media Studies	Menahga, MN
Katelyn Joy Albertz	Elementary Education	Ethan, SD
Anna Marie Albrecht	Communication Studies & Theatre and English	Atkinson, NE
Cameron Jordan Alfaro	Psychology and Social Science	Chico, CA
Jackson David Andersen	Criminal Justice and Sociology	Shorewood, MN
Julia Marie Andresen	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Niyogushima Asineta	Criminal Justice	Sioux Falls, SD
Chloe H. Aysta	Psychology and Social Science	Albert Lea, MN
Rianna Christine Banik	Media Studies	Canton, SD
Sandy Michelle Bautista	Art	Sioux Falls, SD
Carly Rae Beaner	Spanish	Aberdeen, SD
Tanner Isaac Beaton	Elementary Education and Special Education	Fargo, ND
Grace Elizabeth Beck	Social Work	Denver, IA
Morgan Leigh Becker	Business	Box Elder, SD
Peter William Berger	Business	La Crosse, WI
Samantha Marie Bergeson	Business Administration	Hartford, SD
Madison Rose Birnbaum	Psychology and Sociology	Ponca City, OK
Jack William Blogg	Criminal Justice and Psychology	Sioux Falls, SD
Summer Jean Blomgren	Art Education	Edgerton, MN
Isaac Daniel Bonner	Business Administration and Media Studies	Omaha, NE
Kelsey Randine Brenna	Elementary Education	Sioux Falls, SD
Parker David Brown	Media Studies	Elk River, MN
Tabitha Jo Bump	Accounting	Inwood, IA
Jace Burma	History and Secondary Education	Norris, SD
Danielle Marie Burtis	English	Sioux Falls, SD
Dale Cole Campbell	Media Studies	Geneva, IL
Terrell Donte Conner	Business Administration	Owatonna, MN
Jeb Earthman Cooper	Media Studies	Sioux Falls, SD

Mariah Nicole Cosens	History	Springfield, MO
Hien Huu Vinh Dang	Health Administration	Ho Chi Minh City
Apolonia Marisol Davalos †	Media Studies	Fairbanks, AK
Chase Austin DeGroot	Business	Doon, IA
Jared Tyler Dexter	Social Science	Brentwood CA
Jayden Dean Dierenfeld	Business Administration	Spicer, MN
Caleb D. Ditmarson	Criminal Justice and Psychology	Willmar, MN
Sydney Ann Dixon	Criminal Justice and Sociology	Sioux Falls, SD
Michael Elliot Meierhenry Dosch	Business	Sioux Falls, SD
Hunter Lee Drew	Health Administration	Madison, SD
Trent Berggren Dreyer	Elementary Education	Montevideo, MN
Kiersten Elizabeth Durrin	Business Administration and Accounting	Winner, SD
Taylor Ryan Elder	Sports Marketing & Media	Burnsville, MN
Allison Rose Engel	Elementary Education	Sioux Falls, SD
Cale Jeffery Engelkes	Media Studies and Theatre Studies	Slayton, MN
Hannah Mae Fletcher †	Music Ministry	Dell Rapids, SD
Hayley Kay Fox	Business Administration	St. Paul, NE
Isaac Michael Frandsen	Business Administration	Monticello, MN
Audrey Elizabeth Franklin †	Social Work	Owatonna, MN
Kasia Epiphany Franklin	Business	Sioux Falls, SD
Desirae C. Gallagher	Elementary Education	Sioux Falls, SD
Jonathan Gallardo	Business Administration	Shakopee, MN
Katelyn Therese Grangaard	Elementary Education	Sioux Falls, SD
Autumn Jennifer Gray	Media Studies	River Falls, WI
Mackelle Renae Grevengoed	Social Work	Hull, IA
Amaurii Michael Ezra Grosskopf	Psychology	Beloit, WI
Madison Lea Hage	Elementary Education	Inwood, IA
Madelyn Pauline Hakinson	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Madalyn Rose Hanson	Business Administration and Entrepreneurial Studies	Lake Elmo, MN
Samuel James Hanson	Business	Hudson, SD
Sterling Michael Haphey †	Elementary Education	Moorhead, MN
Karissa LeAnn Harms	Elementary Education	Little Rock, IA
Carson Jay Hausmann	Theology & Youth Ministry	Norfolk, NE
Katie Jane Hayworth	Accounting	Tea, SD
Kendra Hemmelman	Psychology	Sioux Falls, SD
Ruth Bethel Hillman	Art Education	Alexandria, LA
Brianna Leigh Holm	Business Administration	Alexandria, MN
Edison Hopfenspirger	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Allie Elizabeth Houseman †	English and Secondary Education	Ames, IA
Taylor Lynn Houston	Elementary Education	Sioux Falls, SD
Nathan Hulscher	Business Administration	Florence, SD
Hannah Joy Huppler	Criminal Justice, Psychology, Social Science and Sociology	Florence, SD
Saharo Mahamud Ibrahim	Elementary Education	Sioux Falls, SD
Rylee Lynne Iott	Accounting and Business Administration	Flandreau, SD
Nicole Erin Jacobson	Business Administration and Sports Management	Dakota Dunes, SD
Josiah John Jansen	Theology & Biblical Studies	Orange City, IA
Madisyn Elizabeth Jansen	Social Work	Orange City, IA



Emily Claré Janzen	Psychology	Berlin, WI
Joel David Johnson	Sports Management	Le Mars, IA
Jaycey Jonnes	Elementary Education	Brandon, SD
Kaylie Lynn Jucht	Theology & Biblical Studies and Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Niyomungere Divine Kabura	Psychology	Sioux Falls, SD
Kennedi Lane Keller	Criminal Justice	Sioux Falls, SD
Emma Anne Kenkel	Business Administration and English	Storm Lake, IA
Connor Ryan King	Educational Studies	Rapid City, SD
Lindsey Anne Kitchen	Health Administration	Estelline, SD
Shawna Jo Klapperich	Business	Sturgis, SD
Jacob Jeffrey Knopf	Theology & Youth Ministry	Baltic, SD
Jacob Peter Koch	Psychology	Salem, SD
Megan Anne Ramona Koppen	Accounting	Sioux Falls, SD
Emily Rose Krause	Accounting	Sioux Falls, SD
Francis Elvis Kumi Jr	Psychology and Social Science	Mesa, AZ
Eric Thomas Larson	Business	Milbank, SD
Rylie Grace Lenz	Elementary Education	Inwood, IA
Johnathan Gene Lundblad	English and Secondary Education	Laramie, WY
Derek Allen Lundgren	Sports Management	Luverne, MN
Aweys Abdi Maalim	Social Science	Sioux Falls, SD
Nicole Marie Madison	Elementary Education	Fulda, MN
Tanner Alan Marotz	Business	Sioux Falls, SD
Tyler Gary Marotz	Business	Sioux Falls, SD
Abigail Marie Marti	Entrepreneurial Studies	Chaska, MN
Samuel Thomas Martin	Media Studies	Brewster, MN
David Anthony Martinez	Business Administration	Rancho Cucamonga, CA
Connor Joseph McGonigal	Elementary Education	Omaha, NE
John Ryan McInerney	Business	Sioux Falls, SD
Morgan Danielle McKellep †	English and Secondary Education	Brandon, SD
Ryan Jerome Meins	Business	Sioux Falls, SD
Katalynn Elizabeth Mertens †	Criminal Justice	Redwood Falls, MN
Steven John Miner	Art	Hayfield, MN
Mallory Marie Molstad	Educational Studies	Sioux Falls, SD
Everett Palmer Moran	Media Studies	Renner, SD
Isabella Noelle Morin	Communication Studies & Theatre and Secondary Education	Sioux Falls, SD
Adam James Mullen	Media Studies	Highlands Ranch, CO
Sara Ranae Nieuwsma	Business	Rock Valley, IA
Courtney Jean Nusbush	Elementary Education	Sioux Falls, SD
Kylen Jade Olson	Psychology and Theology & Biblical Studies	Waubay, SD
Cassidy Rose O'Meara †	Psychology and Exercise Science	Moorhead, MN
Sebastian Luis Pares	Media Studies	West Chicago, IL
Jasper Sonny Parks	Criminal Justice	Mesa, AZ
Sarah Lynn Pearce	Business	Sioux Falls, SD
Brooklyn Kay Peterson	Psychology, Criminal Justice and Social Science	Sioux Falls, SD
Lindsey Nicole Petterson †	Psychology and Social Science	Fergus Falls, MN
Karleah Christine Pheifer	Accounting and Business Administration	Platte, SD

Moriah J. Plastow	Communication Studies & Theatre	Mitchell, SD
Jerome Poor Bear	Psychology	Sioux Falls, SD
Matthew Noel Ramirez	Business	La Crescenta, CA
Amber Rose Ratigan	Psychology	Watertown, SD
Madyson Alexis Redday	Media Studies	Tea, SD
Hannah Jo Reynolds-Erickson	Art	Sioux Falls, SD
Joselyn Lizeth Rodriguez-Argueta	Social Work	Sioux Falls, SD
Madison LeeAnn Rokusek	Elementary Education	Sioux Falls, SD
Adam Joseph Root	Criminal Justice	Montevideo, MN
Mikayla Paige Roseth	Psychology and Social Science	Saint Michael, MN
Miranda "Mer" Leigh Ruesch	Media Studies	Sioux Falls, SD
Peyton Marie Rymerson	Elementary Education	Sioux Falls, SD
Carly Michelle Rysdon	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Nayeli Aylin Salcido-Velazquez	Sociology and Criminal Justice	Mitchell, SD
Rebecca Ann Salentiny	Psychology, Sociology and Social Science	Lakefield, MN
Akenga Sango	Accounting	Sioux Falls, SD
Sierra Dawn Schartz	Criminal Justice, Social Science and Sociology	Atkinson, NE
Noah Nicholas Schmitt	Psychology and Business Administration	Jordan, MN
Allessa Marie Scholten	History	Montrose, SD
Haley Elizabeth Schwarz	Business Administration	Cleghorn, IA
Karlee Raye Simmons	Sports Management	Hill City, SD
Adrianna Elizabeth Smith	Criminal Justice, Psychology and Social Science	Marquette, NE
Olivia Christine Sook	Criminal Justice, Psychology, Sociology and Social Science	Marshall, MN
Elizabeth Jo Spaans	Social Work, Spanish, Psychology, Sociology and Social Science	Brandon, SD
Grace Elaine Steensma	Psychology and Social Science	Luverne, MN
Amber Nicole Steigerwald	Criminal Justice and Psychology	Upper Arlington, OH
Allison J. Steingrabe	Elementary Education	Sioux Falls, SD
Grace Vivien Stull	Psychology and Social Science	Omaha, NE
Erica Lynn Sunde	Art	Sioux Falls, SD
Megan Nicole Sundvold	Music Education	Sioux Falls, SD
Kelsey Sutton †	Media Studies	Flandreau, SD
Noah Eugene Sykes	Business Administration	St. James, MN
Zachary Dean Taylor	Sociology and Criminal Justice	Harrisburg, SD
Koln Michael Thie	Business	Sioux Falls, SD
Kennedy Simone Thomas	Elementary Education	Urbandale, IA
John Michael Dahling Thompson	Business Administration	Eagan, MN
Claire Darlene Trautman	Accounting and Business Administration	Huron, SD
Ulises Trujillo Jr.	Criminal Justice, Sociology and Social Science	Miami, FL
Cade Daniel Van Nieuwenhuyzen	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Shaela Mae Van Wyk †	English and Secondary Education	Inwood, IA
Carle Jo Vanderhule	Accounting	Rosemount, MN
Ellen Katherine Voiss	Psychology	Elk River, MN
Nathan Michael Walter	Accounting and Business Administration	Sleepy Eye, MN
Ashley Kaylen Wells	Elementary Education	Brandon, SD
Joshua Jonathan Werre	Theatre Studies and Media Studies	Sioux Falls, SD
Makenna Nicole Wieland	Psychology and Social Science	Kerkhoven, MN

Katherine Marie Wieseman	Psychology, Social Science and Criminal Justice	Sioux Falls, SD
Georgia Lorraine Will	Criminal Justice and Sociology	Dawson, MN
Jaymeson Zachary Wolkow	Media Studies and Theology & Biblical Studies	Alexandria, MN
Benjamin Russell Wollmuth	English	Sibley, IA
Kennedi Grace Wright	Psychology and Social Science	Wheaton, MN
Kendra Joy Wynja	Entrepreneurial Studies	Orange City, IA
Sydney Marie Zabel	Social Science	Tea, SD
Cristian Zuniga Garcia	Psychology and Social Science	Sioux Falls, SD

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## Bachelor of Science

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Brooklynne Grace Albrecht	Biology and Applied Mathematics	Kihei, HI
Emily Arlene Baumgarn	Exercise Science	Sioux Falls, SD
Mackenzie Rose Bengtson	Exercise Science	Buffalo Center, IA
Grace Rieanna Boddicker	Radiologic Technology	Sioux Falls, SD
Megan Suzanne Brown	Biology and Secondary Education	Watertown, SD
Jenelee Helen Buehring	Paramedic Technology	Maple Grove, MN
Moriah Kate Bullerman †	Biology	Adrian, MN
Gracie Carol Chance	Radiologic Technology	Holstein, IA
Alejandro Cortina	Exercise Science	Sioux Falls, SD
Zoe Jean DeBoer	Computer Information Systems	Lynd, MN
Gavin Dean Dykstra	Exercise Science	Hull, IA
David Ecker †	Biology and Psychology	Eau Claire, WI
David Lee Edinger	Exercise Science	Sioux Falls, SD
Victoria Anne Eisenberg	Exercise Science	Sioux Falls, SD
Joseph Michael Feiner †	Exercise Science	Mitchell, SD
Peyton Elizabeth Forney	Biology	Pierre, SD
Landon A. Freeman	Exercise Science	Sioux Falls, SD
Dylann Nicole Grosdidier	Mathematics	Sioux Falls, SD
Jake Darold Haugen	Mathematics	Luverne, MN
Tabitha Suzanne Heckmann	Radiologic Technology	Canton, SD
Chelsey Nicole Heeg	Radiologic Technology	Sioux Falls, SD
Joshua L. Heitritter	Applied Mathematics	Hull, IA
Dallie Sue Hoskinson	Exercise Science	Hugoton, KS
Diego Ricardo Jaimes Molina	Mathematics and Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Cody Orion Jantzen	Exercise Science	St. Germain, WI
Alexandria Clarise Johnson	Biology	Sioux Falls, SD
Madeline Elizabeth Johnston	Radiologic Technology	Owatonna, MN
Jalen Dubois Jones	Exercise Science	Sioux Falls, SD
Bailey C. Kehrl	Exercise Science	Elkhorn, NE
Caleb Jeremiah Kennedy	Biology	Broomfield, CO
Makenzy Joy Kennedy	Chemistry and Biology	Ottawa, ON, Canada
Emily Kay Kerns	Exercise Science	Sioux Falls, SD
Brianna Rae Kirchberg	Radiologic Technology	Bellingham, MN
Danielle Renee Klenke	Exercise Science	Seward, NE
Holli Marie Knudsen	Exercise Science and Psychology	Omaha, NE
Valerie Marie Lind	Computer Science	Rapid City, SD
Parker Allen Marlow	Biology	Britton, SD

Skylar James McCaulley †	Biology	Sioux Falls, SD
Adriana Lynn McDonald	Radiologic Technology	Irene, SD
Brennan John Moran	Biology	Dakota Dunes, SD
Austin Russell Olson	Exercise Science	Murdo, SD
Nicholas David Parks	Mathematics and Secondary Education	Mitchell, SD
Chase Andrew Pearson	Exercise Science	Montevideo, MN
Alexis Marie Pladson	Biology	Ramsey, MN
Austin Lee Regimbal	Exercise Science	Sioux Falls, SD
Jordyn Elizabeth Reider	Biology, Psychology and Social Science	Wentworth, SD
Jordan Charles Riley	Biology	Milbank, SD
Riley Katherine Robbe	Biology	Bentonville, AR
Riley Glenn Robinson	Exercise Science	Crooks, SD
Brittany Marie Rogotzke	Exercise Science	Springfield, MN
Madison Lou Rouse	Radiologic Technology	Sanborn, IA
Joslyn Clara Schrank	Exercise Science and Psychology	Emery, SD
Cole Samuel Schumacher	Mathematics	Bennington, NE
Jackson Louis Snell	Biology	Montevideo, MN
Andrew Gordon Taylor †	Biology and Theatre Studies	Sioux City, IA
Tony Nathan Tysinger	Exercise Science	Lincoln, NE
Shodo L. Uddu	Exercise Science	Sioux Falls, SD
Aundria Marie Vargas	Exercise Science	Hayward, CA
Bronson Xavier Vasa	Biology and Chemistry	Sioux Falls, SD
Stephen M. Waltner	Chemistry	Freeman, SD
Madison Marie Wassink	Exercise Science	Sioux Falls, SD
Marisa Joy Weeks	Exercise Science	Spirit Lake, IA
Raymond Williams	Exercise Science	Lennox, SD
Tajae Elijah Wyatt	Exercise Science	Avon, OH
Jess Louis Ybarra	Exercise Science	Riverside, CA
Hannah Christine Yunker	Radiologic Technology	Omaha, NE

## ══════ **Bachelor of Science in Nursing** ══════

Emily Marie Attema	Nursing	Yutan, NE
Annie Nicole Balduzzi	Nursing	Onalaska, WI
Brock Allen Bangsund	Nursing	Montevideo, MN
Brenna Nicole Bauer	Nursing	Watertown, SD
Elizabeth Ann Benavente	Nursing	Hurley, SD
Jared Michael Berger	Nursing	La Crosse, WI
Alison June Bociek	Nursing	Omaha, NE
Amber Marie Brey †	Nursing	Watertown, SD
Irene Sarah Buhendwa	Nursing	Fargo, ND
Christian Charles Buhler	Nursing	Mitchell, SD
Jazmine D. Burns	Nursing	Milwaukee, WI
Megan Lee Burrows	Nursing	Eagle Lake, MN
Esther Francis Carlson	Nursing	Lagos, Nigeria
Brookly Gail Charrlin	Nursing	Canton, SD
Logon John Clary	Nursing	Sioux Falls, SD

Cole Ryan Diedrichsen	Nursing	Yankton, SD
Allison Alexis Eichacker	Nursing	Sioux Falls, SD
Cassy Anne Elg	Nursing	Sioux Falls, SD
Kaetlyn Mae Engebretson	Nursing	Platte, SD
Demi Lyn Erickson	Nursing	Renner, SD
Logun Joe Feistner	Nursing	Letcher, SD
Marita Angela Franco	Nursing	Albany, OR
Christine Marie Gillespie	Nursing	Carol Stream, IL
Taylor Thomas Haight	Nursing	Sioux Falls, SD
Trinity Margaret Harmelink	Nursing	Sioux Falls, SD
Sarah Louise Harrington †	Nursing	Sioux Falls, SD
Alixandrea R. Hood	Nursing	Flagstaff, AZ
Ashley Iona Horvath	Nursing	Dolton, SD
Jeannette Lynn Jensen	Nursing	Valley Springs, SD
Mallory Lynne Junso	Nursing	Sioux Falls, SD
Briana Kay Kannas	Nursing	Watertown, SD
Brittany Lexine Kelso	Nursing	Bend, OR
Katelyn Ann Kotas	Nursing	Emery, SD
Mariah Katherine Leimer	Nursing	Saint James, MN
Alexa Mae Lenz	Nursing	Belle Plaine, MN
Ali Morgan Leonard	Nursing	Spearfish, SD
Laurynn Elizabeth Leonard	Nursing	Mariposa, CA
Madysen Rae Molengraaf	Nursing and Psychology	Watertown, SD
Jerome Anthony Morris	Nursing	Boston, MA
Alexis May Naujokaitis	Nursing	Omaha, NE
Candace Lynnette Parish	Nursing	Brea, CA
Megan Judith Parsons	Nursing	Harrisburg, SD
Brin Hallie Pennington	Nursing	Sioux Falls, SD
Taryn Ann Pfeffer	Nursing	Sioux Falls, SD
Sierra Layne Price	Nursing	Faith, SD
Carrie JoBeth Ragan	Nursing	Sioux Falls, SD
Megan Debra Rasmussen †	Nursing and Psychology	Baltic, SD
Kolby James Scott	Nursing	Sioux Falls, SD
Abigail Marie Spawn	Nursing	Platte, SD
Alece Marie Swanger	Nursing	Omaha, NE
Jaydyn Leigh TeGantvoort	Nursing	Gary, SD
Behailu Eshetu Tekleab	Nursing	Sioux Falls, SD
Nathan Scott Varns	Nursing	Sioux Falls, SD
Brooklin Taylor Vinatieri	Nursing	Sioux Falls, SD
Brittany Anne Welch	Nursing	Simi Valley, CA
Lauren Kayla Wells	Nursing	Brandon, SD
Kayleigh Jo Whipps	Nursing	Kronenwetter, WI
Kasha Jean Whisler	Nursing	Sioux Falls, SD
Madelyn Rena Wilson Patterson	Nursing	Boulder, CO

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## Education Specialist

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Travis Wayne Ahrens	Educational Administration/Superintendent	Clark, SD
Kristina Marie Becker ‡	Educational Administration/Principal	Sioux Falls, SD
Scott Alan Binde	Educational Administration/Principal	Tea, SD
Brianna Marie Copley	Educational Administration/Principal	Syracuse, NE
Teddie Elizabeth Crevier	Educational Administration/Principal	Sioux Falls, SD
Darin Lee Dahle	Educational Administration/Superintendent	Sioux Falls, SD
Callie Anna Girodat	Educational Administration/Principal	Milnor, ND
Craig Alan Holbeck ‡	Educational Administration/Superintendent	Armour, SD
Mariah Sue Lockard	Educational Administration/Principal	Sioux Falls, SD
Breanne Marie Lynch	Educational Administration/Principal	Sioux Falls, SD
Thomas John Rice	Educational Administration/Superintendent	Gayville, SD
Bryce Michael Roth	Educational Administration/Superintendent	Delmont, SD
Nickolas David Skibsted	Educational Administration/Superintendent	Brandon, SD
Danielle L. Walking Eagle	Educational Administration/Superintendent	St Francis, SD

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## Master of Education

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Isabel T. Baldwin	Educational Administration/Adult and Higher Education	Lockport, IL
Tyler David Michael Becker	Educational Leadership	Sioux Falls, SD
Erin Kathleen Bisbee ‡	Reading	Brandon, SD
Tracy Ann Chase ‡	Educational Leadership	Salem, SD
Nkaujzoo Angelina Vang Comer	Educational Administration/Adult and Higher Education	Merced, CA
Robert James Conrad	Technology and Personalized Learning	Sioux Falls, SD
Paige Joy Devlin	Educational Administration/Adult and Higher Education	Monroeville, PA
Amy C. Douglas ‡	Educational Administration/Adult and Higher Education	Sioux Falls, SD
Malik Anthony Dunn	Teaching	Sioux Falls, SD
Dayna J. Dyce	Educational Administration/Adult and Higher Education	Nemo, SD
Shannon Leigh Even	Reading	Rock Valley, IA
Vilisa Even	Teaching	Parker, SD
Shawn Michael Flanagan	Educational Leadership	Pendleton, OR
Deborah Michelle Garcia	Educational Administration/Adult and Higher Education	Sioux Falls, SD
Cassie Victoria Graff	Technology	Sioux Falls, SD
Gary Lee Graff	Teaching	Sioux Falls, SD
Christian James Gruschin	Technology and Personalized Learning	Sioux Falls, SD
Jakob Donald Hanna	Educational Administration/Adult and Higher Education	Centerville, SD
Riley A. Haug	Technology and Personalized Learning	Brandon, SD
Cathleen Delayne Jatou	Teaching	Omaha, NE
MacKenzie Marie Jensen	Educational Leadership	Hartford, SD
Brittany Anna Kool	Technology and Personalized Learning	Sioux Falls, SD
Jessica Nicole Lazzara ‡	Technology and Personalized Learning	Sioux Falls, SD
Taylor Ann Lindeman	Technology and Personalized Learning	St. Louis, MO
Susan Lynette Maier ‡	Educational Leadership	Sioux Falls, SD
Marissa Paige Meyer	Teaching	Sioux Falls, SD
Joan C. Mueller-Peters	Educational Leadership	Sioux Falls, SD
Aaron Scott Munce	Reading	Hartford, SD
	Teaching	Sioux Falls, SD

Anna Leigh Nelson	Educational Leadership	Valley Springs, SD
Taylor Ann Olson	Educational Leadership	Yankton, SD
Lacey Laurel Parsons	Teaching	Sioux Falls, SD
Kathryn Meghan Mulcahy Pope	Technology and Customized Learning	Sioux Falls, SD
Rosalyn Rae Rasmussen	Technology and Personalized Learning	Viborg, SD
Lisa Ellen Reinschmidt	Reading	Sioux Falls, SD
Rebecca Anne Roberts	Educational Leadership	Brandon, SD
Ethan Bradley Runzo	Educational Administration/Adult and Higher Education	Virginia Beach, VA
Kelly David Schroeder	Educational Leadership	Tea, SD
Tavian Jaren Tumbleson	Educational Administration/Adult and Higher Education	Mahtomedi, MN
Heather Dawn Van Wyhe	Technology and Personalized Learning	Rock Rapids, IA

## Master of Business Administration

Thomas James Babb	Business Administration	Tea, SD
Karen Ann Berntson	Business Administration	Fargo, ND
Alice Jo Beyer	Business Administration	Crooks, SD
Allan M. Beyer III	Business Administration	Crooks, SD
John Francis Boehnke ±	Business Administration	Henry, SD
Stephanie Ann Bohlen	Business Administration	Brookings, SD
Reghan Maureen Boldt	Business Administration	Marcell, MN
Bryce Ronald Couch	Business Administration	Hamilton, OH
Dereck James DeVries	Business Administration	Lennox, SD
Kassandra Marie Doty	Business Administration	Geddes, SD
Jusu David Dukuly	Business Administration	Yeadon, PA
Owen Richard Feser	Business Administration	Yankton, SD
Martha Elena Fonseca-Padilla	Business Administration	Worthington, MN
Matthew Bryce French	Business Administration	Camanche, IA
Kara Marie Gilbert	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Willard Gordon Griffin III	Business Administration	Aberdeen, SD
Chase Milton Grinde	Business Administration	Spring Grove, MN
Drew Jarrett Guebert	Business Administration	Apple Valley, MN
Jenna Elyse Harris	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Rylee Lynne Iott	Business Administration	Flandreau, SD
Peter R. Klein	Business Administration	Baltic, SD
Michael Stephen Koch	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Valarie Rae Kratochwill ±	Business Administration	Richland Center, WI
Timothy Ashley Law	Business Administration	Harrisburg, SD
Bree Ivona LeBrun	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Brenna Mae Lee Casanova ±	Business Administration	Lyons, CO
Andrew J. Leonard	Business Administration	Missoula, MT
Erica Trisha Lorens	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Robert Mackay Jr	Business Administration	Pequannock, NJ
Genesis Natali Martinez	Business Administration	Worthington, MN
Jasmine McMaster	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Natalie Rose Meyers	Business Administration	Kansas City, MO
Solomon Birhanu Negussie	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Madisyn Jane Nelson	Business Administration	Langford, SD

Charles David Owens	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Jefferey Louis Pratt	Business Administration	Monticello, MN
Giovanni Joseph Abbinante Purpura	Business Administration	McHenry, IL
Jeffrey James Rath	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Thuro Dane Reisdorfer	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Andrew James Renke	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Alexander Jon Renner	Business Administration	Brandon, SD
Kimberly Ann Riedmann	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Devin Richard Rippe	Business Administration	Brookings, SD
Tracy Anne Saathoff ±	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Lauren Sanders	Business Administration	Omaha, NE
Amy Rachelle Skoglund	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Alexis JoAnn Swift	Business Administration	Omaha, NE
Kami Rae Trainer	Business Administration	Sioux Falls, SD
Vanessa Lee Tschetter	Business Administration	Huron, SD
Colton Joseph Van Cleave	Business Administration	Cape May, NJ
Kaitlyn Deanne Van Der Zwaag	Business Administration	Hull, IA
Jennifer Ann Van Middendorp	Business Administration	Hull, IA
Aaron Timothy Voigt	Business Administration	Gregory, SD
Tianna Marie Voigt	Business Administration	Pelican Rapids, MN
Andrew Joseph Wieting	Business Administration	Wauwatosa, WI
Ethan Chase Wittenburg	Business Administration	Franklin, WI
Jackson Matthew Wright	Business Administration	Sergeant Bluff, IA

This listing of degree candidates is for ceremonial purposes only and is not conclusive evidence of graduation. The official University of Sioux Falls transcript, sealed and signed by the Registrar, is conclusive testimony of a student's academic record and possession of degree(s) awarded by this institution.

### **Alpha Chi National College Honor Society**

† Alpha Chi is a national coeducational academic honor with the purpose of promoting academic excellence and exemplary character among university students and honoring those who achieve such distinction. Inductees are nominated by the faculty and invited to join the society during their junior or senior year because of their scholarship, character and dedication to worthy goals. Graduating Alpha Chi members are awarded medallions that bear the seal of this prestigious national honor society.

### **Fredrikson School of Education Servant Leadership Award**

‡ The Fredrikson School of Education Servant Leadership Award recognizes graduate students who demonstrate a commitment to lifelong learning and growth, integration of ethics, servant leadership and personal faith, in addition to inspiring action and effective performance among learning peers while fostering a positive spirit of teamwork and collaboration.

### **MBA Excellence in Academics Award**

± The MBA Excellence in Academics Award recognizes graduate students with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.8 and who demonstrate a commitment to lifelong learning and growth, as well as the integration of ethics, leadership and personal faith. In addition to inspiring action and effective performance among learning peers, these individuals foster a positive spirit of teamwork and collaboration among their learning peers.



# University of Sioux Falls Leadership Team

Dr. Brett Bradfield	President
Karen Bangasser	Director of Presidential and Board Operations
William Bartell	Vice President for Information Technology/Chief Information Officer
Dr. Jason Douma	Associate Vice President for Institutional Research and Professor of Mathematics
Dr. Julie Dunlop Gednalske	Vice President for Human Resources, Security and Facilities
Pam Gohl	Director of Intercollegiate Athletics
Todd Knutson	Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Joseph Obermueller	Vice President for Academic Affairs
Rev. Dennis Thum	Dean of Chapel, Instructor of Religious Studies, Ex Officio
Aimee Vander Feen	Vice President for Enrollment Management
Michael Van Surksun	Vice President for Business and Finance

## Area Chairs and Academic Program Directors

Dr. Jessica Cherenegar	Director and Area Chair of USF School of Nursing
Dr. David DeHoogh-Kliwer	Area Chair of Visual and Performing Arts
Dr. Michelle Fryer Hanson	Area Chair of Fredrikson School of Education
Dr. John Hiigel	Area Chair of Humanities
Steven Horan	Director of MBA Program
Dr. Kama Konda-Varilek	Senior Director of Graduate and Continuing Studies
Stacy Meadors	Director of Center for Professional Development
Elisabeth O'Toole	Area Chair of Social Sciences
Dr. William Soeffing	Area Chair of Natural Sciences
Dr. Brad VanKalsbeek	Area Chair of Vucurevich School of Business

## University of Sioux Falls Full-time Faculty

Dr. Jenny Bangsund	Associate Professor of English
Richard Bartling	Assistant Professor of Exercise Science
Dr. Andrew Beck	Assistant Professor of Psychology
Dr. Jared Berg	Assistant Professor of Education
Dr. Shawn Chiappetta	Associate Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science
Dr. Kevin Cole	Professor of English
Dr. Patricia Cole	Associate Professor of Business Administration
Ceca Cooper	Associate Professor of Art
Dr. David DeHoogh-Kliwer	Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities
Dr. Jason Douma	Professor of Mathematics and Associate Vice President for Institutional Research
Dr. Greg Dyer	Associate Professor of English
Dr. James J. S. Foster	Associate Professor of Theology and Philosophy and Director of Honors Program
Dr. Brian Gregg	Professor of Biblical Studies
Dr. Mike C. Grevlos	Professor of Psychology
Lorri A. Halverson	Assistant Professor of Business Administration
Dr. Michelle Fryer Hanson	Associate Professor of Education
Dr. John L. Hiigel	Professor of Biblical Studies
Dr. Christina S. Hitchcock	Professor of Theology

Dr. Gretchen Hoffman	Associate Professor of Psychology
Steven Horan	Assistant Professor of Business Administration and Director of MBA Program
Dr. Stephen Jackson	Associate Professor of History
Alecia Juelfs	Assistant Professor of Theatre
Jamie Juhl	Assistant Professor of Special Education
Dr. Cheri Kovalenko	Associate Professor of Family and Pediatric Nursing
Dr. Victor Larsen	Assistant Professor of Mathematics
Dr. Brent Lerseth	Assistant Professor of Social Science
Dr. Joy Lind	Associate Professor of Business Administration and Accreditation Director
Dr. Rachele Loven	Professor of Education
Dr. Bradley Lowery	Assistant Professor of Applied Mathematics
Brian Lowery	Assistant Professor of Biology
Dr. Brooke Murphy	Assistant Professor of Education
Dr. George Mwangi	Associate Professor of Chemistry
Dr. Jonathan Neiderhiser	Associate Professor of Music and Director of Instrumental Music
Dr. Randy Nelson	Professor of Education and Director of International Education
Elisabeth O'Toole, J.D.	Professor of Criminal Justice
Jill Pitz	Assistant Professor of Adult Health Nursing
Dr. Nick Poppens	Assistant Professor of Media Studies
Lisa Riddle	Assistant Professor of Education
Matthew Rieck	Instructor of Mathematics and Computer Science
Kurtiss Riggs	Instructor of Sociology and Exercise Science
Dr. Eric Sazama	Assistant Professor of Biology
Joseph Schaeffer	Assistant Professor of Graphic Design and Art Gallery Director
Dr. Rebecca Schultz	Professor of Exercise Science
Dr. Sarah Sinnott	Associate Professor of Spanish
Dr. William Soeffing	Professor of Biology
Dr. Adam Sturlaugson	Associate Professor of Chemistry
Nancy Sutton	Assistant Professor of Media Studies
Dr. Melynda Thelen	Assistant Professor of Nursing
Brennan Thompson	Assistant Professor of Social Work and Director of Social Work
Michael Thompson, J.D.	Associate Professor of Criminal Justice
Dr. Brad VanKalsbeek	Associate Professor of Accounting
Dr. Bruce Watley	Associate Professor of Business Administration and Director of Lillibridge Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership and Innovation
Bryan Wermers	Assistant Professor of Nursing
Jill E. Whitley	Associate Professor of Accounting
Nancy Wilcoxson	Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Vocal Music
Dr. Judy Zimbelman	Associate Professor of Social Work and Director of Field

## Faculty Emeriti

Dr. Sharon Cool	Dr. Beth Jernberg	Keith Perkins III
Dr. Sherry Halleen	Dr. Waldemar F. Klawiter	Dr. Arlys E. Peterson
Dr. Edgar S. Harvey, Jr.	Dr. L. Cliff Lewis	Dr. Gerry Schlenker
Dr. Charles Herman	Dr. Nathan S. Nassif	Dr. Harriet Scott
Dr. Allen Herrboldt	Nancy Olive	

# Academic Regalia

The tradition of academic dress has its origins in the medieval European universities. Gowns and hoods were used to distinguish academic persons from other parts of the population and to provide warmth to the scholars in their unheated buildings. The gowns probably represent an adaptation of clerical dress since many scholars of that period were also members of the clergy.

Each of the three academic degrees—bachelor's, master's and doctorate's—has its own distinctive gown and hood. The bachelor's gown is traditionally black and has pointed sleeves. The master's gown is distinguished by its oblong, closed sleeves, while the doctor's gown has bell-shaped sleeves. The opening of the doctor's gown is faced with wide velvet bands. The velvet trim may be black or a color indicating the wearer's general field of study. The cap or "mortar board" is uniform for all degrees except doctors, which is sometimes the beret style.

The length of the hood and width of the velvet borders on the hood indicate the degree. The doctorate's is the largest of the hoods and the bachelor's is the smallest. The bachelor's hood is often omitted. The color of the border indicates the field of study. The colorful hood lining represents the official colors of the college or university conferring the degree.

White	Arts, Letters & Humanities	Lemon	Library Science
Maize	Agriculture	Green	Medicine
Drab	Business Administration	Pink	Music
Lilac	Dentistry	Apricot	Nursing
Copper	Economics	Dark Blue	Philosophy
Light Blue	Education	Olive	Pharmacy
Orange	Engineering	Sage Green	Physical Education
Brown	Fine Arts, Architecture	Golden Yellow	Science
Crimson	Journalism	Citron	Social Work
Purple	Law	Scarlet	Theology or Divinity

## Mission Statement

The University of Sioux Falls, a Christian University in the liberal arts tradition, educates students in the humanities, sciences and professions. The traditional motto of the University is Culture for Service; that is, we seek to foster academic excellence and the development of mature Christian persons for service to God and humankind in the world.

Through programs in the humanities, sciences and professions, the University helps persons grow intellectually, discern truth and develop a Christian worldview. As a Christian institution, the University of Sioux Falls fosters in all members of its community the development of emotional maturity, physical well-being, interpersonal skills and values which reflect the character and teaching of Christ.

The University of Sioux Falls is committed to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and to the integration of biblical faith and learning; it affirms that Christians are called to share their faith with others through lives of service. The University is affiliated with the American Baptist Churches, U.S.A., and welcomes students of any faith or denomination.

# 2022-23 Fast Facts

## Enrollment

Undergraduate Total	1325	Graduate Total	269
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## Classifications

Freshman	378	Accelerated Nursing	32
Sophomore	268		
Junior	244	M.B.A.	106
Senior	300	M.Ed.	184
Special/Unclassified	31	Education Specialist	24
Degree Completion Program	60	Doctorate in Leadership	42

## Denominations

Lutheran	16%	Christian Reformed	3%
Catholic	9%	Presbyterian	1%
Baptist	7%	Wesleyan	1%
Methodist	3%	Assemblies of God	1%
Non-Denominational	4%	Other/Unknown	55%

## Employees

Full-time Staff	103	Full-time Faculty	56
Student-to-faculty ratio	17:1		

## Athletic Program

Mascot	Cougars
Colors	Purple and White

The University of Sioux Falls is a member of the NCAA Division II and competes in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC).

## 2022-2023 Cougar Athletics

Men's Teams: Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Golf and Track & Field

Women's Teams: Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Track & Field and Volleyball

## Opportunities and Outcomes

<b>99%</b>	of USF graduates were employed or pursuing a graduate degree within six months of graduation	<b>2,500+</b>	Number of positions posted each year in USF's job and internship database
<b>57</b>	Number of students enrolled in the USF Honors Program	<b>100+</b>	Number of student clubs, activities and organizations
<b>90+</b>	Academic programs, including majors, pre-professional programs, minors and specializations and adult and graduate offerings in business, education and nursing, as well as the Center for Professional Development		

# History of the University of Sioux Falls

On June 5, 1872, pastors and delegates from nine Baptist churches in the Dakota Territory met in Vermillion for the first meeting of the Baptist Association. They adopted the following resolution: "Be it resolved that we take immediate steps for the establishment of an institution among us and that we devote a suitable portion of time at each annual meeting to the consideration of this important subject and give our individual and associated influence to encourage a more general and complete education of our youth under distinctively Christian influence."

Under the name Dakota Collegiate Institute, secondary and collegiate programs began on September 8, 1883. The institution's name changed to Sioux Falls University in 1885, with the secondary program called the Academy and the collegiate department branded Sioux Falls College. Although the college grew, the Academy's enrollment declined, forcing it to close in 1925.

Between 1929 and 1931, Sioux Falls College acquired four Baptist schools that had ceased to operate: Des Moines University, Grand Island College, Cedar Valley Seminary and Parker College. With the 1931 merger of Grand Island College with what was still legally Sioux Falls University, the institution's official name became Sioux Falls College.

During the Second World War, the College lost its accreditation and offered 200 students, mainly women, two-year degrees. Enrollment surged when the veterans returned home, only to lapse to meager numbers two years later. Financially, the school was in dire straits. However, not unlike the young men and women who served our nation during WWII, ordinary people accomplished extraordinary things during those lean years to ensure the institution's survival.

Reuben P. Jeschke, president from 1953-1970, helped regain full, regional accreditation in 1958, and under his leadership enrollment grew from 378 in 1958 to 1,006 in 1968—a 166 percent increase. The institution's endowment, although modest, also grew, and what Jeschke described as a "near miracle" happened—a history of balanced budgets.

The most visible change during this time was the campus. Jeschke oversaw the building of Mears Library, Salsbury Student Union, Salsbury Science Center, Jeschke Fine Arts Center and three residence halls. In fact, Time magazine featured the College's growth in 1967. The caption read: "Seven Buildings in Seven Years." The sub-title added: "But our stature comes from people." By the end of Jeschke's tenure, Sioux Falls College was well-positioned for the steady, academic success of the 70s and 80s.

The 90s ushered in a new era of excellence. In order to better reflect the Board of Trustees' desire to "name the future," one with growth in student body, expansion of academic programs, improvement in facilities and enhancement of the institution's reputation, Sioux Falls College became the University of Sioux Falls, effective January 1995.

USF's longest-serving president, Dr. Mark Benedetto, led USF for nearly two decades, from 1997, across the turn of the century. During this time the University's enrollment in both the traditional and non-traditional programs increased significantly and several academic programs, including the USF School of Nursing, were added to the curriculum. A notable expansion of athletic facilities during this time was the University's purchase of approximately 100 acres of land near 69th Street and Cliff Avenue. During this time the University also successfully transitioned its athletic programs from the NAIA to the NCAA Division II and Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.

In February 2017, a proven and innovative leader in Christian higher education and a familiar figure at University of Sioux Falls was selected to lead the University into the future. Dr. Brett Bradfield became president of the University in February 2017. One of his first initiatives as president was to reset USF's undergraduate tuition price by \$10,000 for the 2018-19 academic year. This bold step allows USF to confidently tell families

that everything the University offers is within financial reach. With strength of vision as a distinctively Christian institution, the University continues to help students grow as they gain the necessary technical and critical thinking skills for today's careers.

On September 8, 2022, the University of Sioux Falls celebrated its 139th-year anniversary with the unveiling of a new visual brand that celebrates the institution's rich Christian Liberal Arts history. USF's new look visually reflects how the institution's current academic programs are continually being adapted and revised for relevance; how new programs such as USF's Doctorate in Leadership and even associates degrees are being created to be on the front edge of change making; and how delivery formats are evolving to reach today's learners where they are at.

As the landscape of higher education is rapidly changing, the new look reflects a modern approach to upholding the 139-year-old institution's long-standing mission, vision and traditional motto of Culture for Service, that is, to seek and foster academic excellence and the development of mature Christian persons for service to God and humankind in the world.



“Divine Servant” ®

By Max Greiner, Jr. ©

Jesus Christ washing the feet of Peter.

John 13:5

After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet,  
drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

The mission of the University of Sioux Falls is expressed in the motto Culture for Service. Each graduate will receive a towel today as they receive their diploma. The towel, a symbol of service, is a gift from Campus Ministries. May it be a reminder to the graduates that with an education comes a commission to serve. We are grateful to the Tromsness family for making the gift of towels available to each graduate.

