

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

December 2025

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Allison Binnall Park River
Marley Herold Casselton
Daniel W. Knudson Fargo
Joann M. Larson * Valley City
Payton Packer Kindred
Miroslav Pavlic Munich
Jake Allen Risse Manitowoc, Wisconsin

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Jared Berntson* Jamestown
Theresa A. Erickson Milnor
Erin Jangula * Edgeley
Kelly Ann Johnson Luverne
Jessica Keith * Valley City
Louis Javier Leon Soledad, California
Don G. Reinertsen West Milford, New Jersey
Miriam S. Sundling * Manchester, New Hampshire

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Riley Anne Perryman * Cottage Grove, Minnesota

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Carson B. Amundson Moorhead, Minnesota
Brackin Keith Awender Oakes
Bailee Banet * Devils Lake
Haylee Barker Pine Island, Minnesota
Nila F. Bashqawi Villa Park, Illinois
Carla E. Bjornson Devils Lake
Ryan G. Boots Valley City
Elle K. Bruggeman Brainerd, Minnesota
Koreen Bryn Rugby
Kayle A. Buckholz Valley City
Alexis Ann Busch Barney
Justin B. Byers Oxbow, Saskatchewan
Arik Christianson Langdon
Natalee Cook Gillette, Wyoming
Tara Jo Dahl Hazelton
Kyle A. Gader Bismarck
Alexa Ann Gemmill Fordville
Madison P. Giesler Edgeley
Carter A. Gill Fargo
Sadie L. Hansen Valley City
Noah Andrew Hatch Torrington, Wyoming
Thomas D. Haught Lombard, Illinois

Annie E. Heil *	Andover, Minnesota
Bethany Anne Hellem	Evansville, Minnesota
Darcy Marie Henson	Cheyenne, Wyoming
Emma M. Heyen	Colfax
Kaitlyn L. Homola	Gackle
Emily Ann Horn	Tioga
Steven Matthew Jacobson *	Fargo
Brinklyn Mercedes Johnson *	Valley City
Jozy Lee Kadoun	Oakes
Jumainah K. Khan	Villa Park, Illinois
Grace N. Kroshus	Ada, Minnesota
Mary G. LaDue	Williston
Kyley Rae Lauf	Minot
Sina Lawson *	Milton
Gracie R. Lingle	Fargo
Patricia M. Lovell *	Clark, Wyoming
Eric C. Lyss	Colusa, California
Isabella M. McCabe	Rugby
Maria Medower	Watertown, Minnesota
Elizabeth Margaret Michael	Lombard, Illinois
Annie M. Michels	Dickinson
Tegan Minchow	Gillette, Wyoming
Hannah E. Nenow	Michigan
Stephanie M. Olson	Minot
Lelani P. Privratsky	South Heart
Grace E. Reep	Dawson, Minnesota
Taia M. Rude	Fargo
Sydney Jo Schill	Hillsboro
Cassidy M. Schmidt	Mandan
Ayriel T. Schultz	Lisbon
Eve M. Scott	Wilton
Kalyn M. Sherman	Becker, Minnesota
Taylor M. Skinner *	Rock Springs, Wyoming
Emily M. Solien Griffin	Wahpeton
Autumn S. Stanley	Fergus Falls, Minnesota
MaKenzee Alicen Klar Stone	Blaine, Minnesota
Anastasia Ethel Tibor	Dickinson
Kathleen A. Vetter	Linton
Cassandra A. Walker	Bismarck
Madison R. Walz *	Detroit Lakes, Minnesota
Kali R. Werner	Bismarck
Ellie J. Wilson	Gillette, Wyoming
Elizabeth K. Woodward	Bismarck

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Alec Kwo *	Los Angeles, California
Paula Reynolds *	Mount Shasta, California

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Ward F. Adams *	Kankakee, Illinois
Brandi Rose Aranda	Hitterdal, Minnesota
Elizabeth R. Auka	Kenmare
Maycielyn Bill	Middleton, Idaho
Tucker Brown	Sanborn
Fallon Nicole Bruns	Valley City
TaQuez L. Chatman	Bloomington, Minnesota
Ty L. Combs	Buffalo
Nicholas Deschamp	Dickinson
Alex Elwood *	Alexandria, Minnesota
Morgan Freije	Devils Lake
Macy Ann Fridgen	Bismarck
Kyler D. Haugen	West Fargo
Parker W. Heydt	Bismarck
Hannah G. Houle	Devils Lake
Loke Z.C. Iese	Pago Pago, American Samoa
Dylan S. Kibel	Cortez, Colorado
Dalton Madcke	Edgeley
Kailey Mae McKinnon	Fargo
Hannah Rae Miller	Valley City
Ousseynou Ngom	Brooklyn Park, Minnesota
Ka'ua Nishigaya	Waipahu, Hawaii
Hunter Phelps	Honolulu, Hawaii
Zachary William Rostvet	Langdon
Kelsey L. Schulz	Valley City
LaShad Smith	Luverne, Minnesota
Ryleigh J. Smith	Jamestown
Brie A. Storsved	New Salem
Tate R. Sufficool	Valley City
Julie Vargas *	Apopka, Florida
Morgan Jean Wangrud	Jamestown
Trista RaeAnne Weigelt	Gwinner

BACHELOR OF UNIVERSITY STUDIES

Tessa Brooke McMillion	Cheyenne, Wyoming
Damian Sosa	Hialeah, Florida
Isbet Sosa	Hialeah, Florida
Garrett L. Pemelton *	Montgomery, Texas
Ida E. Purkey	Williston
Patrick David Hohe	Wheaton, Illinois

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

Clarisse A. Ebsen *	Fargo
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* Completed requirements August 1, 2025

HONOR GRADUATES

December 2025

Undergraduate students whose overall grade point average, based on both grades earned in Valley City State University courses and transferred courses, is at least 3.50 or better can graduate with one of the following distinctions. These students are wearing a gold-colored cord in honor of their accomplishment.

Summa Cum Laude

(With highest honors 3.90 to 4.00)

Tara Jo Dahl	Grace N. Kroshus
Morgan Freije	Mary G. LaDue
Macy Ann Fridgen	Maria Medower
Madison P. Giesler	Elizabeth Margaret Michael
Sadie L. Hansen	Taia M. Rude
Thomas D. Haught	Kelsey L. Schulz
Bethany Anne Hellem	Trista RaeAnne Weigelt
Emma M. Heyen	Ellie J. Wilson
Patrick David Hohe	Elizabeth K. Woodward
Kaitlyn L. Homola	
Brinklyn Mercedes Johnson *	

Magna Cum Laude

(With high honors 3.75 to 3.89)

Bailee Banet *	Kailey Mae McKinnon
Haylee Barker	Hannah E. Nenow
Nila F. Bashqawi	Lelani P. Privratsky
Carla E. Bjornson	Grace E. Reep
Elle K. Bruggeman	Zachary William Rostvet
Natalee Cook	Sydney Jo Schill
Carter A. Gill	Eve M. Scott
Jozy Lee Kadoun	Autumn S. Stanley
Alec Kwo *	

Cum Laude

(With honors 3.50 to 3.74)

Elizabeth R. Auka	Tegan Minchow
Maycielyn Bill	Stephanie M. Olson
Ryan G. Boots	Ayriel T. Schultz
Alexis Ann Busch	Brie A. Storsved
Kyle A. Gader	Kathleen A. Vetter
Kyley Rae Lauf	Madison R. Walz *
Tessa Brooke McMillion	Kali R. Werner
Hannah Rae Miller	

THREE-YEAR HONOREES

The following completed their first bachelor's degree in less than four years. These students are wearing a cardinal-colored stole in honor of their accomplishment.

Elizabeth R. Auka
Maycielyn Bill
Natalee Cook
Morgan Freije
Macy Ann Fridgen
Madison P. Giesler
Noah Andrew Hatch
Emma M. Heyen
Kaitlyn L. Homola
Grace N. Kroshus
Kailey Mae McKinnon

Elizabeth Margaret Michael
Tegan Minchow
Hannah E. Nenow
Lelani P. Privratsky
Zachary William Rostvet
Sydney Jo. Schill
Ayriel T. Schultz
Kelsey L. Schulz
Kathleen A. Vetter
Elizabeth K. Woodward

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HONOR SOCIETIES AT VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY

Alpha Lambda Delta this honor society for students who have achieved a 3.5 GPA or higher during their first year or term of higher education. Students receive maroon and gold honor cords.

First Generation honor cords are worn by students who are the first generation to graduate with an Undergraduate degree. Honor cords are red and royal blue.

DECA Honor cords are blue and white with a DECA Diamond pendant and are given to students who have a proficient score at or above at the state competition and has participated in DECA guiding principles on the local level.

DECA honor stole of White with Blue DECA logo (blue or gold ones also available but VCSU students picked white ones with blue logo) are for students who scored proficient or above at the International Career and Development Conference and Competition (ICDC).

Blue represents sincerity and influence

White represents loyalty and expertise

The DECA Diamond is a symbol of the guiding principles, and it represents the unique learning methods, creative solutions, business partnerships, and Competition.

Kappa Delta Pi – is an international honor society that recognizes and supports excellence in education. The organization's mission is to inspire teachers to prepare students for future challenges. Students are given jade green and violet honor cords.

National Society for Leadership & Success is an organization that provides a life-changing leadership program that helps students achieve personal growth, career success, and empowers them to have a positive impact in their community. Students are given a white and black honor cord.

Phi Alpha Theta, is the history honor society that recognizes high academic achievement for undergraduate and graduate students. Students wear red and blue honor cords or a red stole.

Psi Chi is a college student honor society in psychology with international outreach. Students received a platinum and dark blue honor cords.

Sigma Tau Delta is a US-based, international honor society for students of English at four-year colleges and universities who are within the top 30% of their class and have a 3.5 GPA or higher. Students are given cardinal and black honor cords.

VCSU Student Senate – Members are given a red and navy honor cord who have been a part of Student Senate for five semesters or more.

VCSU Viking Campus Activities Board – Members who have been a part of VCAB for three years receive a yellow, red, and navy honor cord.

Viking Athletic – students participating in collegiate sports at VCSU wear a red lanyard with the Viking Head.

THE ACADEMIC COSTUME

The academic costume originated in the university of the Middle Ages, when a warm gown and hood were useful to the scholar and cleric in unheated buildings.

The mortarboard cap, which replaced the skullcap, is the representative headdress of the members of the academic community. The tassel of the cap is black or the color appropriate to the subject, except that the doctor's cap may have a tassel of gold bullion.

The hood gives color and meaning to the costume. The colored lining of the inside of the hood is the official color or colors of the institution conferring the degree. The color of the velvet trimming of the hood is distinctive of the subject to which the degree pertains. The colors of some of the subjects are:

- Arts, Letters, Humanities—white
- Education—light blue
- Fine Arts—brown
- Law—purple
- Library Science—lemon
- Music—pink
- Nursing—apricot
- Philosophy—dark blue
- Physical Education—sage green
- Science—golden yellow
- Theology—scarlet

The bachelor wears no hood, only the black cap and gown. The gown has long pointed sleeves and is worn closed. The master wears a hood and a gown with sleeves that are open at either the elbow or the wrist and are oblong in shape. The gown may be worn open or closed. The doctor wears a hood and gown that are larger than the others. The gown is trimmed with black velvet panels from the hem to neck and back. The bell-shaped sleeves are trimmed with three horizontal bars of black velvet, indicating the third and highest degree. The trim may be the color of the subject area instead of black. The gown is worn open or closed.