



2025 *Distinguished* GRADUATE

JACYNDA LEACH | History

Jacynda Leach was born and raised in Texas and has long held a passion for history and education. Set to graduate in May with an associate degree in history, her academic journey has been shaped by years of exploration, service, and personal growth.

She began college in 2013 but took time off to attend dental assisting school and serve three AmeriCorps terms in Colorado. During that time, Jacynda worked with the Western Colorado Conservation Corps, serving first as a crew member, then assistant lead, and eventually crew lead. Her work focused on environmental stewardship in partnership with local governments, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and various nonprofits.

Through this work, she built trails, campgrounds, and fences, and contributed to water management and ecology projects across the western slope of Colorado. Her free time was often spent hiking and visiting nearly every national park within a seven-hour drive — an experience that deepened her love for nature, history, education, and service.

Upon returning to her studies, Jacynda has maintained a 3.5 GPA and has been recognized multiple times on the Dean's List. Inspired by her experiences and the support of mentors, she now plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in history with a teaching certification, followed by a master's in library and archival sciences.

Jacynda is driven by a deep respect for the past and a passion for sharing knowledge. Her goal is to teach, preserve, and protect history — ensuring that stories, places, and people are remembered for generations to come.

“As I get older, I realize **being wrong** isn't a bad thing like they teach you in school. It is an **opportunity to learn something.**”

— Jacynda Leach



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