

LCC's Morales wants CDL program to be the best



Luna's CDL Program Administrator Tracy Morales says America will always need truck drivers.

Luna Community College's CDL instructor Tracy Morales has had several goals throughout her career. Her goal today is a simple one—make Luna's CDL program the best in the state.

"My goal is to have the reputation of Luna students being the best in the entire state once they leave here," says Morales who has been with Luna for about 10 months. "I want to not only teach our students how to be a truck driver, but to be a good, safe truck driver. We take the time to prepare them properly to be safe, responsible and concerned drivers. I want our students ready to go in all facets once they leave Luna."

Morales has been in the truck driving business for over 20 years. She owned Rocky Mountain Truck Driving School from 1998 to 2017. She says that she is a novelty in the truck driving world.

"I am fairly sure I am the only female CDL instructor in the state," says Morales. "Truck driving is a tough job and women aren't supposed to know much about it."

Well, Morales does.

"I've never had much trouble with my students," says Morales. "They don't question me. Truck driving is one of those jobs that in the right situation you can go into a job making \$50,000 to 60,000 a year right after you earn your CDL. Truck driving is a profession that no matter where you live, there is always a need for a truck driver."

Right now, Morales is teaching the first three days of the week at Luna's main campus in Las Vegas and the other two days at the Springer Satellite.

"I really enjoy teaching at Luna," says Morales. "I get the support that I need."

Morales says that her instruction comes in two phases, the first is in the classroom and self study with the second being the hands-on driving aspect. The time frame from start to finish is about two to three months. The average hands-on training is about 30 hours.

"A lot of people like these types of jobs, because as a truck driver, you have a lot of freedom," says Morales. "Sure, there is paper work, but once you get done with that, it's you and the road."

Morales says truck driving is a growing profession.

"America will always have a need for truck drivers, how else are you going to get products delivered," says Morales.

For more information on Luna's CDL Program, contact Morales at 505-454-2533 or via email at tmo-sales@luna.edu.



Need a Meal? Free Frozen Meal Distribution

- ❖ Available for all Luna students and employees in need of a hot meal
- ❖ Bring your ID number
- ❖ Some microwaves will be available for heating
- ❖ Up to three meals/person

Monday – Friday

Nov 30 – Dec 16

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

LOCATIONS

Cafeteria

Admin Bldg

Tiendita Area

Special Pickup times available

Contact Carol Linder

clinder@luna.edu,

X1404 or 505 454-5387

*Feeding Rough Rider Success is funded by the
NM HED College Food Security Initiative*

<https://sites.google.com/luna.edu/lunastrong/housing-food>



Luna President Dr. Edward Martinez talks with students and employees during a Thanksgiving luncheon sponsored by the student senate on Wednesday, Nov. 16.

Mental Health Matters

Community Mental Health Training



WHEN: TUESDAY, DEC. 6TH

TIME: 1:00 PM-3:00 PM

WHERE: LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE MEDIA ARTS AUDITORIUM

LAS VEGAS, NM

HOSTED BY LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
&
THE SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS PROJECT



ANE ROMERO
MENTAL HEALTH TRAINER



Working together to meet the needs of our students



lunastrong@luna.edu

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

EMERGENCY: 911

Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: 988

LCC Campus security: 505-429-1159

LCC Student Support-Renee Maestas: 505-454-5355

NMHU After hours crisis line: 505-795-3605

El Centro NMHU Health Center: 505-454-3218



COME JOIN AND PARTICIPATE IN LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S ESPORTS TEAM!
PLAY COMPETITIVELY AGAINST OTHER NJCARE TEAMS.

GAME TITLES:

Rocket League	Hearthstone
Rainbow 6: Siege	Call of Duty: Vanguard
Super Smash Brothers	Call of Duty: Cold War
Ultimate Valorant	League of Legends

Requirements for LCC Esports Team:

- Full-time LCC Degree Seeking Student
- 2.0 GPA
- Game Access and Equipment

Intramural Competition is also available!
Anyone can participate –
(Staff, Faculty, Students)

CONTACT: NICHOLE COLLINS AT ncollins@luna.edu OR (505) 454-5371



LCC
Creating Opportunities For You!



Luna barbering student Joel Moreno gives a high fade hair cut to STEM faculty Geno Castillo. To set up an appointment with a Luna cosmetology or barbering student, please call 505-454-5344.

The person behind the title

Dr. John Thompson has had an interesting life

Luna's Career and Technical Education Director Dr. John Thompson says he has had a very interesting life.

And he sure has.

Dr. Thompson has been the CTE director at Luna for two years. Thompson oversees automotive technology, collision repair technology, barbering, cosmetology and welding.

"While I have been here we have revised all of our curriculum, created new assessment processes and broadened our student population with the hopes of increasing enrollment" said Dr. Thompson. "We have also expanded job opportunities for students."

During his tenure at Luna, Dr. Thompson has also brought in nearly \$600,000 in grant funding.

Among his plethora of occupations, Dr. Thompson has been a dean of a college, an associate minister of education at a Methodist Church and at one point was a chicken farmer and owned 192,000 chicks that were eventually sold to Pilgrims Pride.

He's earned a masters and doctoral degree and is quite the philosopher.

"I was always interested more in how I was being taught than what I was being taught," says Dr. Thompson. "My high school teachers would ask my opinion in how they were teaching. I knew you could make a difference at all levels in higher education."

With all the notoriety Dr. Thompson has earned over his illustrious career, recently he took on the task of designing and developing the Luna float that was entered in the City of Las Vegas' Light Parade.

Over the years, Luna has always had a group of people assist on a daily basis on a parade float. So what made Dr. Thompson lead the way this year?

"One, it's fun," says Dr. Thompson. "When I was in the ministry, I was a project manager for a 3,000 member church and every week have to come up with some type of support project. "It was different from the day-to-day routine. I felt it needed to be done. Luna has to be a presence at these type of events. We have to be involved in the community and in our service area throughout northern New Mexico. That's going to be hard, time and distance are against us."

Over the last couple of weeks, Thompson has received accolades for both his design and presentation of the float.

Is Dr. Thompson surprised with all the attention?

"Yes and no," says Dr. Thompson. "Many have told me that because of the presents of all the different programs on the float, I gave an opportunity for all of us to contribute. That makes people feel good about themselves—when they get some



Dr. John Thompson designed and led the development of the Luna float that participated in the City of Las Vegas' Electric Light Parade.

kind of recognition. The little tidbits of creativity caught people's eyes."

Thompson says he will be 76 in May.

"I've retired three times and had so many careers," says Dr. Thompson. "I've been asked to do so many things in life."

Most of those things he shared with his wife Beth, who died a few years ago.

"We were married for 40 years," says Dr. Thompson. "She was the love of my life. We had an unwritten agreement that I accepted her as she was and she accepted me as I was. After she died, my friend told me that the whole two years that my wife was battling cancer what amazed her is that I made her feel normal."

"When we traveled I would tell her you pick the place you want to go and I will take care of the details," says Dr. Thompson. "We were a team. I miss her and think about her every day. I even set my personal email to read JohnBethThompson."

If Dr. Thompson had 10 minutes to meet with his wife, what would he tell her?

"I would tell her all about the adventures I have had and most importantly tell her I still love her," says Dr. Thompson. "She was the best investment I ever made."

For more information on Luna's CTE programs, contact Dr. Thompson at 505-454-2522 or via email at jthompson@luna.edu.

luna.edu

HAVE YOU
ENROLLED FOR
SPRING
2023?



Enroll Now!

Spring classes start
Tuesday
Jan. 17

Last day to register is
Friday, January 27



Luna
Community
College

OFFICE HOURS:
8 AM - 5 PM



Call 505-454-5313

EMT- Basic

12 Credit Hour Certificate Program

**Classes
Start**

1/17/2023



Instructors

Stephen "Tommy" Newkirk and Allen Sanchez

Schedule – In Person (max capacity 12 students)

Tuesday Evenings 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Fridays 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Alternating Saturdays 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

**Apply
Today @**



SCAN ME

Registration Starts 11/14/2022

Register online at [Luna.edu](https://luna.edu) or scan the QR Code

Contact AHPS@luna.edu for registration details, program fees and requirements including vaccinations, drug testing, and background check



Luna's Krutsch to teach two winter courses

Luna Community College softball coach Randy Krutsch will be teaching two asynchronous classes for students interested in coaching and for individuals in the coaching profession during winter break.

The courses will begin on Monday, Dec. 12 and culminate on Friday, Jan. 6. The courses will meet Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays throughout the four weeks.

The two courses are:

HPS150, Fundamentals of Coaching 3; (3,0)

This course provides coaches an understanding of the dynamics between a coach, the individual athletes and the team. Topics include: coaching objectives, coaching styles, teaching sport skills, learning appropriate communication skills, evaluating performance, managing a team, coaching ethics, and motivating athletes. Regardless of the sport, this is a general course for all coaches.

HPS211 , Coaching/Officiating Baseball/ Softball , 3; (2,2)

This course examines philosophy, strategy, leadership, team, and practice organization and coaching methods for baseball/softball as well as rules and mechanics of officiating baseball/softball. Topics include: offense and defense strategies, game analysis, rules, teaching pedagogy and a study of various methods of play.

"Students will get a better understanding of coaching and the systems and processes that need to be in place to be an effective coach," says Krutsch. "Coaches need to have a solid understanding of rules in order to teach the athletes how to play fair and have a deeper understanding of the game itself."

For more information on these courses, contact Krutsch at 505-454-5366 or via email at rkrutsch@luna.edu.

NMHU
Chief
Clarence
Romero
teaches
Child
Abuse
or Ne-
glect
Investi-
gations
during
LETC
Bienni-
um
Training
held
Nov. 14-
Nov. 18
at Luna.



N.M. Higher Education Department applauds passage of GO Bond 3

The New Mexico Higher Education Department thanks New Mexico voters for approving General Obligation Bond 3 authorizing the sale and issuance of \$215.9 million in bonds to fund improvements to facilities at college and university campuses and the state's three special schools.

Over 60 percent of New Mexico voters supported the bond question during the November 2022 general election, which will enable critical infrastructure repair and improvement projects to proceed at 23 public and tribal college campuses, the New Mexico School for the Deaf, and the New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Projects funded by the bond authorization are estimated to create over 2,000 jobs statewide and will not raise taxes.

"From advocating for tuition-free college to voting yes on universal pre-K and funding for instructional facilities, New Mexicans have shown year after year that they support investing in education at every level," Higher Education Secretary Stephanie M. Rodriguez said. "The passage of GO Bond 3 for Higher Education and Amendment 1 for Early Childhood Education will help our state continue to make meaningful progress in education and return these investments many times over in the future."

The following projects will be funded by GO Bond 3 for Higher Education in 2023:

- Clovis Community College will receive \$1.7 million to upgrade campus-wide infrastructure. This includes fixing drainage issues and upgrading parking lots and creating a more welcoming environment for students.
- Central New Mexico Community College will receive \$15 million for a new trades and applied technology facility.
- Doña Ana Community College will receive \$1.3 million for roof replacement and to plan and design needed infrastructure improvements.
- Diné College will receive \$5 million for a new student services facility on the south Shiprock campus.
- Eastern New Mexico University will receive \$9 million for a new student academic services building.
- Eastern New Mexico University-Roswell will receive \$2.4 million to install fire suppression systems in three buildings on campus.
- Luna Community College will receive \$1.5 million for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning replacements, infrastructure improvements, and ADA compliance upgrades.
- Navajo Technical University will receive \$4 million to plan, design, construct, and furnish a trades building at the Crownpoint campus.
- New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology will receive \$3.3 million to continue construction on a building to replace Kelly Hall laboratories and \$5 million to support infrastructure upgrades at the Playas Research and Training Center in Hidalgo County.
- New Mexico Highlands University will receive \$4.5 million to plan, design, construct, furnish and equip a new facilities building at its Las Vegas campus.
- New Mexico Junior College will receive \$2.1 million for a new vocational trades building.
- New Mexico Military Institute will receive \$4 million to expand Bates Dining Hall.
- New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired will receive \$4 million for a residential cottage.
- New Mexico School for the Deaf will receive \$1.4 million for infrastructure upgrades at its preschool facility in Albuquerque.
- New Mexico State University will receive \$48.5 million for the replacement of the Thomas and Brown Hall engineering building, improvements to O'Donnell Hall and the Health and Social Services Building, and expansion of the Nursing Skills and Simulation Center.
- New Mexico State University-Grants will receive \$1.2 million for improvements to Martinez Hall, the main building on campus.
- Northern New Mexico College will receive \$3 million to improve parking lots and roads at the Española and El Rito campuses.
- San Juan College will receive \$3 million for information technology infrastructure upgrades.
- Santa Fe Community College will receive \$2.3 million for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning replacements.
- The University of New Mexico will receive \$45 million for a center for collaborative art and technology.
- The University of New Mexico-Gallup will receive \$3 million for the renovation of Gurley Hall.
- The University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center will receive \$36 million to renew the Children's Psychiatric Center.
- The University of New Mexico-Los Alamos will receive \$1.3 million for improvements to access control systems, lighting, HVAC, roofing, building facades, and installation of solar panels.
- The University of New Mexico-Taos will receive \$3 million for improvements to the Fred Peralta Hall arts building.
- Western New Mexico University will receive \$2 million for renovations and upgrades to the historic Graham Gym and road improvements to Old James Road. They will also receive \$2 million for completion of the new Deming Learning Center.

For more information about how GO Bond 3 for higher education will impact New Mexico, visit www.bond3formm.com.