

CLASS OF 2024
Outstanding Graduate



NATALIA MOLINAR

College of Agricultural, Consumer
and Environmental Sciences

Las Cruces native Natalia Molinar will graduate with a degree in agricultural and extension education with a concentration in agricultural communications and a minor in journalism and media studies.

A Crimson Scholar who grew up in a farming family, Natalia first considered a career in agriculture during high school while taking dual-credit courses with NMSU's Dr. Shannon Norris-Parish. She decided to come to NMSU to study agricultural communications because "I liked the diversity — writing, film, and connecting with the community."

"I am so proud of my NMSU degree! I want to shape the future by highlighting the importance of agriculture in our lives."

She discovered a love of travel when she took a study abroad trip to Spain and Portugal to learn

about global issues in agriculture. "We visited so many farms and facilities and learned about how different the systems, rules, and guidelines are there."

Back home and eager to connect with other Hispanic ACES students, Natalia was on the team that rechartered the NMSU chapter of MANRRS, Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences. She was also selected as the photo editor for the 2024 ACES student magazine, *The Horseshoe*.

"Connecting with people through NMSU activities has been rewarding. I learned that people truly are paying attention to good work."

In addition to starting her own photography business, Natalia has held several jobs to put herself through school, including serving as a communications and events student aide for the New Mexico Department of Agriculture. "My NMDA work is in line with what I studied, and I hope to continue there and use my skills to communicate how vital agriculture is to our communities."

Natalia has always been supported by her faith. "My work is driven by my passion and sense of purpose, and I aim to make a positive impact and help others." She volunteers for the NM Future Farmers of America and assists with the children's ministry at University Community Church.

After graduation, Natalia will continue at NMSU for a master's in agricultural and extension education. ▲