



WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT IN DALLAS

MARCH 8, 2025



OUR MISSION

To change lives for the better by creating pathways to opportunity.

OUR PROMISE

We provide strong returns on students' educational investments through a deep connection to workforce needs, respected and relevant credentials, eliminating unnecessary costs, and generous financial assistance and transfer policies.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear graduates,

On behalf of all of us at WGU, I want to congratulate you on this incredible achievement. Your hard work, perseverance, and dedication have led you to this moment, and only you fully understand the sacrifices it took to reach this milestone.

It has been an honor to support you on this journey. Your degree represents not only a life-changing opportunity for you but also the potential to make a meaningful impact on the lives of others. As you join a proud network of more than 370,000 WGU graduates, we encourage you to stay connected through the Alumni Association.

Thank you for letting us share this moment with you and your loved ones. We are proud of all you've achieved and excited for the opportunities ahead. Congratulations!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott D. Pulsipher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Scott D. Pulsipher, President
Western Governors University

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



Anthony Robles

2011 NCAA Wrestling Champion, Jimmy V. Award for Perseverance Recipient, ESPN ESPY Awards Unstoppable Author

Anthony Robles is a three-time all-American wrestler who won the 2010-11 NCAA wrestling championship in the 125-pound weight class despite being born with only one leg. A graduate of Arizona State University with a degree in Business Communication, he was also awarded the 2011 NCAA "Best Wrestler of the National Tournament Award".

Robles is the recipient of the "Jimmy V Perseverance Award" at the 2011 ESPN ESPYs and he has also received the NFL "Hispanic Heritage Leadership Award". Robles is a Nike athlete, the first signed to an agreement after having retired from active participation in a sport. He is currently ESPN's NCAA wrestling analyst and expert. He was inducted to the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2012 and is the author of *Unstoppable: From Underdog to Undefeated: How I Became a Champion*. In 2013, President Obama appointed Robles as a member of the President's Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition. Additionally, Robles was a member of the Presidential Delegation to the 2014 Sochi Paralympic Games.

In 2015, the National Wrestling Media Association awarded Robles with the "Broadcaster of the Year" award, and he was inducted into Arizona's Sports Hall of Fame in 2017. Between 2018 - 2021, he became the Guinness World Record Holder for 3 different pull-up records. In 2022, Robles was inducted into ASU's Sun Devil Athletics Hall of Fame.

As a testament to the extraordinary nature of his life story, principal photography for a film based on Robles' life was completed in January 2024. Produced by Artist Equity and set to be distributed by Amazon Prime MGM, the film titled "Unstoppable," features an ensemble cast including Don Cheadle, Bobby Cannavale, Michael Pena, and Jennifer Lopez.

HONORARY DEGREE



Johnny C. Taylor, Jr.

President & CEO of SHRM

Johnny C. Taylor, Jr., is President and Chief Executive Officer of SHRM. Recently named one of the “300 Most Influential Executives in Corporate America” by Savoy Magazine, Mr. Taylor’s career spans more than 20 years as a lawyer and an executive, serving at IAC, Paramount Pictures, Blockbuster Entertainment Group, and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, among other organizations.

He is a member of the United Way Worldwide Board of Trustees and serves on the corporate boards of XPO Logistics (NYSE: XPO), Flores & Associates, and Guild Education. He previously served on the White House American Workforce Policy Advisory Board and as chairman of the President’s Advisory Board on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Mr. Taylor writes a weekly column in USA Today and is a Fellow of the National Academy of Human Resources and a SHRM Senior Certified Professional.

GRADUATING CLASS PROFILE



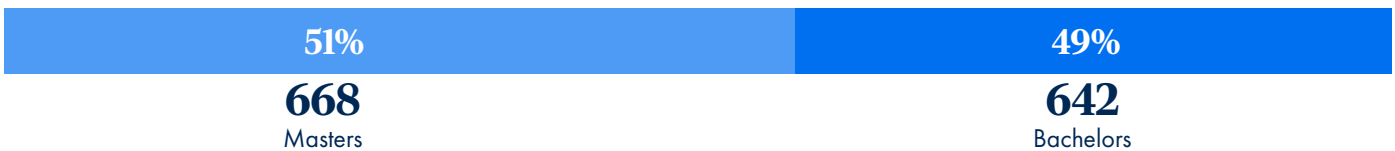
1,310

Total Number of Graduates

Degree distribution by college:



Degree type:



54%

Percentage of graduates from Texas

3,941 Mi

Furthest distance traveled from Eagle River, Alaska

46

Number of states represented (including U.S. territories)

LEAVITT SCHOOL OF HEALTH & SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Linda Battles

Regional Vice President, South Region

Anthem Singer

Angela Smith, Norman, OK

M.A. English Language Learning

Graduate Speakers

Sandra Elizabeth Schneider, Galveston, TX

M.S. Nursing

Emma Leah Bouza, Hawarden, IA

M.A. Teaching-Special Education

Commencement Address

Anthony Robles

2011 NCAA Wrestling Champion

Jimmy V. Award for Perseverance Recipient, ESPN ESPY Awards

Unstoppable Author

Conferral of Degrees

Dr. Sarah DeMark

Vice Provost

Leavitt School of Health

School of Education

Closing Remarks

Scott D. Pulsipher

President

SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY & SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Linda Battles

Regional Vice President, South Region

Anthem Singer

Amber Barker, Krum, TX

B.S. Healthcare Administration

Honorary Degree Recipient

Johnny C. Taylor, Jr.

President & CEO of SHRM

Graduate Speaker

Shauna Greer, Ogden, UT

B.S. Business Administration - HR Management

Commencement Address

Anthony Robles

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Unstoppable Author

Conferral of Degrees

Dr. Sarah DeMark

Vice Provost

School of Business

School of Technology

Closing Remarks

Scott D. Pulsipher

President

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The Honorable
Michael J. Dunleavy

Indiana

The Honorable
Mike Braun

Oregon

The Honorable
Tina Kotek

Arizona

The Honorable
Katie Hobbs

Montana

The Honorable
Greg Gianforte

South Dakota

The Honorable
Larry Rhoden

California

The Honorable
Gavin Newsom

Nebraska

The Honorable
Jim Pillen

Texas

The Honorable
Greg Abbott

Colorado

The Honorable
Jared Polis

Nevada

The Honorable
Joe Lombardo

Utah

The Honorable
Spencer Cox

Guam

The Honorable
Lou Leon Guerrero

New Mexico

The Honorable
Michelle Lujan Grisham

Washington

The Honorable
Bob Ferguson

Hawaii

The Honorable
Josh Green

North Dakota

The Honorable
Kelly Armstrong

Wyoming

The Honorable
Mark Gordon

Idaho

The Honorable
Brad Little

Oklahoma

The Honorable
Kevin Stitt

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Washington State University

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Simmons Media Group



CONGRATULATIONS, NIGHT OWLS! YOU DID IT!

Welcome to our growing alumni network,
now more than 370,000 strong!

Stay connected, network with colleagues, and learn
about the many resources and benefits available to you:

[Visit the Alumni Resources Website](#)

GET SOCIAL

Share the excitement!

Use #WGUgrad to tag your commencement posts.

