

# CU Faculty Appreciations



Dr. Leyla Lindsay has always made me feel like she had my back from day one. She has been so very instrumental in my success as a student and now in my professional future teaching career.

*-Katrina Ingraham*

Leyla Lindsay is the most incredible teacher, leader and friend. She inspires us to be all that we can be. She lifts us up when we need that push or just someone to listen to us.

*-Theresa Valentine*

Carlton Howard made Capstone fun and engaging every week. I wish I had him for a class before Capstone. He has a way of making you feel comfortable to share out.

*-Theresa Valentine*

Jose Rodriguez you were one of my first classes and my last class. You inspired us every week to be better leaders. I learned so much from you.

*-Theresa Valentine*

Swetha Narasimhan thank you for everything. I would not have made it to graduation without your guidance.

*-Theresa Valentine*

Karen Casper, your ethic class has inspired me to speak out against things I believe are wrong. You told me I should become a lawyer, well all the debates prepared me for the arguments against policies that are wrong in my school.

*-Theresa Valentine*

Sandy Peltier, Thank you for being an advocate to your students and helping us realize that we are worthy. You have made an everlasting imprint in my life and I will be forever grateful.

*-Jessica Coyle*

Jimi Orange has been very helpful with me throughout my CU experience. He goes out of his way to ensure that you're doing a good work.

*-Tommie Jenkins*

Kerry Schiff, Thank you for all the support and for being an exceptional person, thanks to you I was able to grow more than I thought.

*-Maria Grullon*

Carlton Howard; Thank you for helping us discover a new way of being able to share with each other, for your moments of reflection and above all for the support and motivation to always move forward.

*-Maria Grullon*

Rhoan Garnett; Dr, G. -- Definitely thank you from the bottom of my heart for helping me leave behind the fear of wanting to speak in public. Thank you for always motivating me to be better every day.

*-Maria Grullon*

I will like to appreciate Vanessa Vigil for supporting me and for going above and beyond to advocate for me. Thank you for your guidance and wisdom.

*-Osiris Grafals*

Ashton Darrett- There aren't enough words of praise to express just how beautifully unique Ashton is. From this first day I walked into Ashton's cohort being the "newbie", he made me feel welcomed, included, and pushed me to be my authentic self, while determined to get me graduated.

*-Victoria Castle*

Sandra Peltier thank you for always supporting me and making sure I was physically and emotionally well.

*-Leslie Ortiz*

Much appreciation to Rana Walker and Nina Kutty.

*-Latishia Logan*

Swetha Narasimhan has been an incredible source of support for me. Having someone always there to listen, provide perspective, and offer assistance made a huge difference, especially during challenging times.

*-Aimee Clark*

Shahran Green Santana- has been such a supportive leader for me in my cohort Accomplished! Having someone to guide and assist me was invaluable, especially during times of need. It speaks volumes about her dedication and leadership skills, and she was able to provide the support I needed when it mattered most.

*-Aimee Clark*

Melina Kuchinov- Melina has been a great source of encouragement, especially during challenging times. Having someone who supports you through rough patches and boosts your confidence and motivation can be incredibly uplifting. It was beautiful to have people like Melina in my corner, cheering me on and helping me navigate life's ups and downs.

*-Aimee Clark*

Christine Eaton- Christine's class on mindfulness was enlightening for me and my peers. It provided a much-needed space for relaxation, de stressing, and sharing coping strategies. Mindfulness is a powerful tool for promoting well-being and managing stress. It was fantastic that Christine guided me through relatable and engaging practices and discussions.

*-Aimee Clark*

Michael Reeves- Michael's Capstone class has been a valuable experience for me. It provides regular opportunities to connect with the Philadelphia cohort significantly and gain clarity on my academic or professional pursuits. Meeting weekly and engaging in discussions offers valuable insights and support as I work toward my goals. Having a dedicated space to check in, share progress, and receive guidance is incredibly helpful, especially when navigating the complexities of a capstone project.

*-Aimee Clark*

Melvin Turcois- Melvin made a significant impact as on me as a co-leader in my cohort Accomplished in the beginning. Having someone with a unique perspective was supportive to me in a leadership role.

*-Aimee Clark*

Jose Rodriguez-Jose was an excellent teacher of Grassroots Community Organizing. Leading engaging discussions and providing thought-provoking perspectives truly enriched the learning experience and empowered me to approach challenges in new and creative ways.

*-Aimee Clark*

Brian Jones- Brian did an excellent job teaching Reframing Failure, creating an environment where meaningful discussions thrived. Engaging with the topic of failure was incredibly valuable, as it led to personal growth in myself and resilience, which is beneficial. Brian's receptiveness, when I was a beginner, played a significant role in fostering a supportive and productive learning environment for me.

*-Aimee Clark*

J.Springer K.Castillo A.Bass A.Schawbsky M Reves C.Howard M.Walker B.Pender R.Nalls Sage K.Cooper Thank you All and many more for this opportunity to dive into what and equitable education is about Thank you for the real life long uncensored self relationship extended family acceptance and temperament much respect to those who will have the experience from this college unbound community!!

*-Ashley Hull*

I am deeply grateful to my Lab Faculty professor Sharahn Green Santana, whose passion for education cultivated in me,a lifelong learner.

*-Dhurata Paja*

Maryellen Kelly - She has made a huge positive impact on my life . She is kind, caring, generous and supportive. She is knowledgeable and patient - she deserves recognition for all of her hard work! She is encouraging and has made such a difference for many people, and I am blessed and proud to know her ❤️

*-Nycole Marvelous*

Chris Gross - Chris is one of the kindest, most supportive and encouraging people I have had the pleasure to meet. He works well with any person, has had a lasting impact on so many within the community in which he serves and has been such an amazing source of support, insight and experience. I am proud to call him my friend.

*-Nycole Marvelous*

Maryellen Kelley : You have become a mentor, counselor, cheerleader, friend, motivator and ANGEL to me . My gratitude for you is immense. You have changed my life by choosing to believe in my ability to finally allow myself to succeed.

*-Diane Cote-Travisano*

Chris Dickson goes above and beyond for students. He is able to connect with us on a human level and supports in so many different ways.

*-Brandon Soum*

Hannah Kahn was such an enormous support to our cohort full of brand new students this year. She was brand new herself and jumped in with us, never afraid to say that she wasn't sure but she would look for the answers with us or for us. She embraced all of our differences and was so patient even when we were experiencing those frustrating days. I wouldn't have been as successful without her.

*-Anne Fartura*

Lizz Colon was there since my first class as an inspiration and encouraged me every step of the way. Her guidance through Reframing Failure, that first class, truly helped me reframe and switch my mindset to complete my degree this time with success and confidence.

Without her, I would not have been as reflective and therefore grown so much.

*-Anne Fartura*