

CLASS OF 2025

Outstanding Graduate



HAYLEE ARLENNE VIRAMONTES

College of Engineering

Haylee Viramontes is graduating with a B.S. in engineering technology with a major in information engineering technology, a minor in information security technology, and a 3.976 GPA.

From Anthony, NM, she credits NMSU's TRIO Upward Bound program with helping her navigate financial aid and connecting her with campus resources. Her academic guidance came primarily through the Conroy Honors Scholar Program. Honors College Dean Phame Camarena applauds Haylee's "quiet strength and capacity for critical thought," and McNair Scholars Program Director Marko Mohlenhoff adds that her "level of drive and methodical consideration [speak] volumes about her intentions regarding expanding and advancing her academic experience."

"My NMSU degree honors my support system and drives me to empower first-generation Hispanic women in STEM and beyond."

Through the Honors Program, Haylee participated in the Global Citizenship Seminar in Europe, was a McNair Scholar, researched New Mexico water system cybersecurity, and was a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow at the University of Connecticut, working with graduate students and faculty on a Navy-sponsored cybersecurity project. Her proudest accomplishment at NMSU was being awarded a prestigious and intensely competitive Defense Language and National Security Education Office Boren Scholarship to study in Japan.

A leader in forming NMSU's Cybersecurity Club, Haylee is creating a one-week cybersecurity course for high school students in the TRIO Upward Bound summer program, as it was a program like this that had introduced her to cybersecurity as a potential career. Haylee also volunteers for panels and talks at which she encourages other first-generation students to pursue higher education and serves as a role model for prospective Honors students.

Haylee says her mom taught her that "education is power. She took care of outside obstacles so I could focus on school. She understood that education would get me places I couldn't even imagine." Now, Haylee's next place is Carnegie Mellon University, where she'll begin a master's degree in information security. ▲