

CLASS OF 2026  
*Outstanding Graduate*



**BIPIN KHANAL**

Graduate School, Doctorate

Bipin Khanal is graduating with a Ph.D. in Chemistry. From Nepal, he came to the United States for graduate school and followed his advisor, Dr. Brian Gold, to NMSU.

Bipin is an organic chemist focused on the medicinal applications of small molecules. “I make molecules that might be used in new drugs, and I chemically modify existing drugs to create new analogs that may be more effective,” he says. “The compounds are then tested for critical properties such as toxicity, efficacy, and solubility.” At NMSU, Bipin has worked on potential therapeutics targeting HIV/AIDS, as well as derivatives of compounds that may serve as new anticancer agents, anticoagulants, and antidepressants.

**“Through chemistry, I hope to design molecules that transform scientific discovery into therapeutics to improve lives.”**

Dr. Gold notes that Bipin “elevates those around him. He combines exceptional technical skill . . . with a rare intellectual curiosity that allows him to contribute meaningfully across disciplines. Bipin has become a cornerstone of our research community . . . serving as a trusted resource for both students and faculty.”

A graduate research and teaching assistant, Bipin also served as secretary of the NMSU Nepalese Student Association, for which he helped organize cultural and academic events. On weekends, he enjoys playing soccer and spending time with his wife, watching movies and cooking.

His proudest moment at NMSU was defending his dissertation in front of faculty members and his wife: “My NMSU journey has made me both a better person and a stronger researcher. I’ve grown in ways both big and small, learning to think more creatively and independently.”

After graduation, Bipin will begin a postdoc at the University of Kansas Cancer Center in the Institute for Advancing Medical Innovation, where he will design and synthesize molecules to be evaluated as analogs of existing cancer drugs and develop new compounds for clinical testing. Bipin’s long-term goal is to contribute to the fields of organic and medicinal chemistry by designing new molecules that treat disease and improve human health. ▲