The Essence of Montana Western.
What makes us so special?
Discovering Montana Western

The timeline for development of new strategic plan and mission statement:

SPRING 2010
Previous mission review.

NOV. 2011
Task force appointed and charged with developing strategic plan and renewing the mission statement.

SPRING 2012
Public forums conducted with students, staff, faculty and community. Questionnaires distributed to capture input.
Task force presents University Council with first draft of strategic plan and one-sentence mission statement.

FALL 2012–FALL 2013
Revisions integrated and posted following ongoing discussions with University Council.
Final strategic plan and mission statement approved by chancellor based on recommendation from University Council.
We defined our mission.

“The University of Montana Western differentiates itself and achieves academic excellence by sustaining a culture of concentrated experiential education.”
Our core themes:

1. Improve undergraduate education and experiential learning.

2. Support student success and completion.

3. Foster campus efficiency and stewardship of resources.

(Submitted to the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, 2011)
Experience One impacts student success. Applied graduate-level learning at an undergraduate institution.
41% Enrollment Growth

We’ve experienced accelerated growth from 2008 thru 2011 stabilizing at around 1,400 FTE students. Montana Western’s enrollment increased 41 percent from 2003 to 2014, outpacing all other four-year MUS campuses.

(Tyler Trevor, Office of the Commissioner, Montana University System)

74% Retention Rates

Retention rates grew from 65 percent prior to Experience One to a high of 74 percent.
80%

Degrees Awarded
Total degrees awarded increased by 80 percent over the past 10 years, outpacing all other MUS two- and four-year institutions.

96%

Course Completion
Montana Western leads the system in course completion rates at 96 percent for first-time freshmen.

(Tyler Trevor, Office of the Commissioner, Montana University System)
55%
Graduation Rates
Montana Western’s graduation rate has jumped from 30 percent to 55 percent over a four-year period.

80%
Graduate Employment
Nearly 80 percent of UMW graduates find employment in Montana within one of year graduation and 88 percent of education majors find employment in the state within one year at an average salary of $29,208.

(Tyler Trevor, Office of the Commissioner, Montana University System)
Our students tell our story.
Ava Duncan | Natural Horsemanship
Sara Maslen | Environmental Sciences
Thank you.
We hope you enjoyed the experience.