

Dr. Jesse Alemán joined the UNM faculty in 1999. He is a professor of English and a scholar of nineteenth-century American and US Latinx literary and cultural histories. He's also a highly decorated teacher who has directed 19 doctoral dissertations. In 2016, he was named a Presidential Teaching Fellow, and he is currently the 2023-2024 Distinguished Scholar in Residence at the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester, MA.

From 2019-2022, Dr. Alemán served as the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies. His portfolio included outreach and recruitment; scholarships and funding; academic program review; graduate student grievances; and student support programs and initiatives. In fall 2022, he held the role of Acting Dean of Graduate Studies, and in Spring 2023, he was appointed as the Interim Dean. He oversaw Graduate Studies' mission; led the office through transition; and ensured the quality of academic programs and graduate degrees conferred. Throughout his tenure in the Graduate Studies office, he also held the role of Special Assistant for Equity and Excellence in Graduate Education. In collaboration with the Diversity and LEAD councils, he analyzed institutional data on graduate student progress; reviewed, recommended, and facilitated policy changes to address institutional bias; enhanced support for underrepresented minority graduate students; and served on the Presidential Task Force to draft UNM's Inclusive Excellence plan. He was elected to the Western Association of Graduate Schools (WAGS) Executive Board for a two-year term (2021-2023) and has presented on issues related to graduate education, including attrition rates and anti-racism, at the WAGS and Council of Graduate Schools annual conferences.