

Christine Zuni Cruz

Christine Zuni Cruz serves as a professor of Law at the University of New Mexico. Christine came to the UNM law school in 1993 to establish the Southwest Indian Law Clinic, which provides students with the opportunity to practice Indian Law. She had served as a tribal judge, a consultant with the U.S. Department of Justice, and been in private practice for ten years.

In her research and teaching, Zuni Cruz, a member of Isleta Pueblo, explores law, race, and culture, including the impact of law on Indian families, the practice of Indian Law and lawyering for native communities and the Indigenous legal tradition and modern law of indigenous peoples, domestically and internationally. In 2014-15, she served as the H. Robert Arscott Chair at the University of Saskatchewan College of Law in Canada. She has served as a U.S. State Department Speaker and Specialist in Bolivia and Brazil. Her research and teaching has taken her to Greenland, Ecuador, Libya, Mexico, Australia, and the South Pacific.

Zuni Cruz is editor-in-chief of the Tribal Law Journal, an on-line law journal dedicated to the internal law of indigenous peoples. She recently served as a member of the UNM Division of Equity and Inclusion Task Force and is a member of the board of governors for the Society of American Law Teachers (SALT). Zuni Cruz holds a J.D. from the University of New Mexico.