



A Pioneering Program for Biology Educators and Researchers

Established in the early 1990s, this pioneering program was among the first in the nation to emphasize the teaching of biology. At UNC you'll get extensive hands-on experience as a teaching assistant and classroom leader, culminating in the

opportunity to teach your own college course. In addition to offering strong opportunities for biological field and laboratory research and publication, our Ph.D. program provides extraordinary training in STEM education. Our students graduate with an in-demand skill set that integrates research expertise with outstanding teaching ability and experience.

Career Pathway

Our program helps you stand out in the market by providing comprehensive training for positions in the following fields:

- Tenure-track faculty position in a university biology department
- Conservation nonprofit or government agency
- Educational policy think tank
- Medical research institute
- Postdoctoral positions
- Biotechnology careers

Many of our Ph.D. candidates have multiple job offers waiting for them at graduation.

Degree Options

UNC's Ph.D. in Biological Education offers options you won't find in most doctoral programs. Focus your dissertation studies on biological research or on the teaching and learning of biology, and enrich your education by working side-by-side with UNC's biology faculty who excel in both types of research.

Program Details

- Greeley Campus Delivery
- Credits Required: 64
- Time to Completion: Four to five years
- Classes Start: Spring and Fall semesters

Related Programs

- Biomedical Science, MBS
- Biological Sciences, M.S. thesis option
- Biological Sciences, M.S. non-thesis option

Cost and Value

Tuition rates are based on the 2021-22 Academic Year:

Colorado Resident Tuition: \$685 per credit hour plus fees.

Nonresident Tuition: \$1,296 per credit hour plus fees.

UNC is regularly called out as a top value for both resident and nonresident students, and the university offers financial aid packages for qualified students. For more information, visit [UNCO.EDU/COSTS](https://unco.edu/costs).

What Graduates Say

“UNC and the Department of Biological Sciences really provided me with the opportunity to grow into the researcher and teacher that I want to be. Unlike other graduate programs where you might just teach, or do research, I had the opportunity to do both at UNC, which provided me with significant training towards pursuing an academic career. The amount of support provided by faculty and administration truly sets you up to succeed and pursue your career goals.”

Anthony Saviola, Biological Education Ph.D. graduate, 2015

Financing your Education

UNC offers a variety of financial support options, including:

- Several competitive graduate and teaching assistantships
- Colorado resident tuition for students from 15 western states is offered through the Western Regional Graduate Program. To see if you qualify visit [UNCO.EDU/GRADUATE-SCHOOL/FUNDING/WESTERN-REGIONAL-GRADUATE-PROGRAM.ASPX](https://unco.edu/graduate-school/funding/western-regional-graduate-program.aspx)
- For more information contact Financial Aid at [UNCO.EDU/OFA](mailto:unco.edu/ofa).

Faculty Spotlight

Mitchell McGlaughlin, Ph.D.

Associate Professor Mitchell McGlaughlin's passion for teaching his students about plants and their importance, and his research on plant speciation and genetics, offers students unique opportunities. He focuses his research and teaching on using genetic tools — like DNA sequencing— to understand plant speciation and to help manage and understand plant diversity. His work encompasses rare plant species in the California Channel Islands, Hawaii and Colorado.

Program Contact

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About UNC Graduate School

The University of Northern Colorado, founded in 1889, is Colorado's right-sized doctoral research university, serving a diverse student body around the world. Given its size, program mix, and mission, UNC offers students the access and opportunities of a small college along with the nationally recognized programs, research funding and facilities that come with being a leading U.S. university. Students seeking preparation for a world (and workplace) full of opportunities and options, complexities and cultures, diversity and demands, will find faculty mentors and excited fellow students to engage with here at UNC.



UNC

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO

Graduate School

[UNCO.EDU/GRADUATE-SCHOOL](https://unco.edu/graduate-school)