



### Teaching and Learning

UNC's Master of Science in Chemistry: Education extends and builds upon the knowledge and skills learned at the undergraduate level. Through the combination of graduate work in chemistry and a strong science education component, students gain the skills necessary to become increasingly effective in the chemistry classroom. In this program, you will learn not only advanced topics in

chemistry that are tailored to your specific needs, you will also obtain hands-on experiences in chemical education as you design, build, evaluate and implement education research to the practice of chemistry.

Successful completion of this degree will enhance advancement opportunities in the chemical education field by providing you with marketable skills in content and pedagogy.

### Career Pathway

The MS in Chemistry: Education degree is geared for those students interested in expanding their understanding around the teaching and learning of Chemistry. Graduates of this master's degree program are highly qualified for careers in numerous fields, including:

- Doctoral program in Chemical Education or Science Education
- Government or nonprofit education agency
- Teaching position in high school (teaching license requires additional coursework)
- Junior or community college level teaching

### Degree Options

Depending on your interests and career goals, you can choose either a thesis or non-thesis option for your master's degree in Chemistry: Education. Both degrees provide you with a rigorous foundation in teaching, lab skills and academic writing.

- Thesis - students write and defend a thesis based on their research
- Non-Thesis - students complete coursework and a project in their field

### Program Details

- Numerous faculty with expertise in Chemical Education
- Greeley Campus Delivery
- Credits Required: 30
- Time to Completion: three to four semesters
- Classes Start: Fall and Spring semesters

## Related Programs

- Chemistry: Research, M.S.
- Biological Sciences, M.S.
- Biological Education, Ph. D.
- Chemical Education, Ph.D.

## Cost and Value

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

Colorado Resident Tuition: \$649 per credit hour plus fees.

Nonresident Tuition: \$1,217 per credit hour plus fees. You may qualify for CO resident tuition - see WRGP information at right.

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](http://UNCO.EDU/COSTS).

## What Students Say

"I was able to meet peers who have similar interests in Chemical Education and debate the issues involved in teaching and learning. It ended up being a great decision to attend UNC for my master's degree...because you are able to work one-on-one with faculty and get to know them personally."

*Anna Pierce, current Chemistry: Education student*

## Financing your Education

- The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry offers competitive assistantships to well-qualified candidates. These assistantships are typically assigned for teaching undergraduate laboratories, but assistantships for research and administrative work are also available.
- Limited scholarships and grant funding in support of graduate research are also available.
- 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](http://UNCO.EDU/GRADUATE-SCHOOL/FUNDING/WESTERN-REGIONAL-GRADUATE-PROGRAM.ASPX)
- For more information contact Financial Aid at [UNCO.EDU/OFA](http://UNCO.EDU/OFA).

## Faculty Spotlight

### Jerry Suits, Ph.D.

Jerry Suits' research focuses on the factors that affect how students learn chemistry. He has found that most students tend to be memorizers until they have acquired a certain amount of chemical knowledge that allows them to become conceptualizers. Conversely, some learners continue to use only memorization skills that rely on algorithms rather than thinking strategies. All of these cognitive processes are probably interlaced with affective processes, that is, learners either appreciate the real world applications of chemistry or they avoid this integration.

## Program Contact

Melissa Weinrich, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
[melissa.weinrich@unco.edu](mailto:melissa.weinrich@unco.edu)  
970-351-1172

Kayleen Allen  
Graduate Admissions Counselor  
[kayleen.allen@unco.edu](mailto:kayleen.allen@unco.edu)  
970-351-1711



## 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.