About the Graduate Catalog

The Graduate Catalog provides basic information about more than 60 doctoral and over 100 master’s programs currently active in The Graduate School. It describes admission standards and requirements, tuition and other costs, and sources of financial aid (including fellowships). Links to research institutes and centers also are given. In addition to brief descriptions of programs and a comprehensive listing of all graduate courses, this catalog includes, under each program description, a current roster of graduate faculty members specializing in that area together with their specific research interests. For additional information on many of these topics, please visit The Graduate School’s Web site (http://gradschool.unc.edu).

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is one of the leading graduate research universities in the United States. As one of the most comprehensive universities in the nation, Carolina provides a breadth of study and interdisciplinary experience matched by few institutions. The University’s academic excellence is enhanced by the support of a community that includes people from a range of ethnic, racial, socioeconomic, and geographic backgrounds, as well as individuals whose personal attributes contribute to a rich learning environment. The University is committed to equality of educational opportunity. In addition to an outstanding faculty, comprehensive research and library resources, and exceptional facilities, the University has a warm and collegial spirit that is conducive to students’ personal growth and scholarship.

As a supplement to the Graduate Catalog, the Graduate School Handbook (http://handbook.unc.edu) contains most of the policies and procedures of The Graduate School at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Students should become familiar with the material pertaining to their degree programs and, together with their faculty advisors, make certain that the chosen program of study complies with all policies.

Several UNC–Chapel Hill schools offer graduate degree programs that are not administered by The Graduate School. For information about these programs, please consult the following schools’ Web sites: Kenan–Flagler Business School (http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu), School of Dentistry (http://www.dentistry.unc.edu), School of Education (http://www.dentistry.unc.edu), School of Law (http://www.law.unc.edu), School of Medicine (https://www.med.unc.edu), Eshelman School of Pharmacy (http://pharmacy.unc.edu), and the Friday Center for Continuing Education (http://fridaycenter.unc.edu).

Administrative Board of The Graduate School

Kristy Ainslie, Ph.D.
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Gershun Avilez, Ph.D.
English and Comparative Literature (2020)

Melinda Beck, Ph.D.
Nutrition (2020)

Robert Bourret, Ph.D.
Microbiology and Immunology (2018)

Eileen Burker, Ph.D.,

Allied Health Sciences (2018)

Brian Coussens, Ph.D.
Graduate and Professional Student Federation (2018)

Christine Durance, Ph.D.
Public Policy (2020)

Rhonda Gibson, Ph.D.
Media and Journalism (2018)

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Nursing (2018)

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Education (2020)

Sandra Hughes-Hassell, Ph.D.
Information and Library Science (2019)

Erica Johnson, Ph.D.
Global Studies (2019)

Michael Lambert, Ph.D.
School of Social Work (2020)

Christian Lundblad, Ph.D.
Kenan-Flagler Business School (2018)

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Biology

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Communication Studies (2020)

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Government (2019)

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Political Science (2019)

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Dental Ecology (2018)

Graduate School Administration

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Dean

Jennifer Gerz-Escandón
Associate Dean for Interdisciplinary Education and Fellowship Programs

Hoi Ning Ngai
Associate Dean for Student Affairs

Stephanie Schmitt, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Academics

Sarah Jacobson, M.A.
Graduate School Staff

The Graduate School is committed to improving and facilitating the integration of graduate and professional students’ academic, professional, and personal development, as well as to assist students to make the most of their Carolina experience. To further these aims, The Graduate School staff, located in Bynum Hall, is responsible for assisting students in a number of capacities. The offices of the associate dean for student affairs and the associate dean for academics create and implement programs and services that specifically address the needs of graduate and professional students. Some of these programs are listed below. The diversity and student success program develops and provides a number of programs and services throughout the year, both academic and social in nature, to assist graduate students of color with a successful transition and experience during their graduate work. The director of graduate student academic and professional development oversees workshops, training, and events in the Graduate Student Center focused on broad professional skills and career success. Graduate School staff are available to all graduate and professional students as a source of counsel, information, and referral for questions involving student services, academic procedures, policies, and grievances. Information is available by telephone at (919) 966-2611 or on the Web (http://gradschool.unc.edu).

Rob Bacchus
Assistant Dean for Development and Alumni Relations

Maria Erb
Co-Director, Diversity and Student Success

Rhonda Ethridge
Administrative Support

Pam Frome
Research Associate for Graduate Education Studies

Jennifer Gerz-Escandón
Associate Dean for Interdisciplinary Education and Fellowship Programs

Heidi Harkins
Executive Director, Professional Science Master’s Programs

Chris Harris
Admissions and Enrolled Students Specialist

Sarah Jacobson
Assistant Dean for Admissions and Enrolled Students

Melissa Lawrence
Admissions and Enrolled Students Specialist

Betty Lewis
Admissions and Enrolled Students Specialist

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Executive Assistant to the Dean/Special Projects Coordinator

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Steven Matson
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Julie Montaigne
Fellowship and Funding Manager

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Associate Dean for Student Affairs

Lian Niu
Functional Data Analyst

Teresa Phan
Fellowship Programs Coordinator and Events Planner

Lou Anne Phelps
Program Review and Student Services Coordinator

Alicia Rogers
Human Resources Manager

Shaun Rutherford
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Bryan Rybarczyk
Assistant Dean for Graduate Student Academic and Professional Development

Deb Saine
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Stephanie Schmitt
Associate Dean for Academics

Medelia Stambach
Financial Manager

Megan Totten
Admissions and Enrolled Students Specialist

Rachell Underhill
Web and Information Systems Manager

Kathy Wood
Co-Director, Diversity and Student Services

Beverly Wyrick
Director of Finance and Administration

History of The Graduate School

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill was the first state university to admit students. It was chartered in 1789 and formally opened in 1795; from early in its history, it has encouraged research and creative activity. As early as 1853–1854 the catalog of the University carried an announcement of graduate coursework. In 1876, after the institution had been closed for the period 1871–1875, the catalog announced the requirements for the master’s degree, and the next issue carried an announcement of regulations governing the degrees of master of arts, master of science, and doctor of philosophy. Several graduate degrees were awarded before the turn of the century (the first Ph.D. having been conferred in 1883), but it was not until 1903 that a separate graduate school with a dean was established.

The Graduate School celebrated its 100th year in 2003 by hosting a national forum on graduate education, sponsoring numerous student and alumni recognition ceremonies, and commissioning the book, Pioneer to Powerhouse: The History of Graduate Education at Carolina.

In 1922 the graduate faculty voted to vest in the Administrative Board of The Graduate School legislative powers in matters that affected graduate
education, to authorize the Administrative Board to admit members to the
teaching faculty of The Graduate School, and to vest in the Administrative
Board the responsibility for authorizing curricula and courses carrying
graduate credit.

With the exception of the master of business administration (M.B.A.),
the master of accounting (M.A.C.), the master’s in clinical laboratory
science (M.C.L.S.), the master’s in radiologic science (M.R.S.), the master
of law (L.L.M.), the master of health sciences (M.H.S.), the master of
education for experienced teachers (M.Ed.), and the master of school
administration (M.S.A.), all master’s degrees offered by the University
and the degrees of doctor of philosophy, doctor of education (post-2011),
doctor of nursing practice, and doctor of public health are conferred by
The Graduate School.

Work toward advanced degrees at the University of North Carolina at
Chapel Hill proceeds under policies and regulations established by the
graduate faculty. The immediate direction of The Graduate School is
in the charge of the Administrative Board, of which the dean is chair.
At present the board consists of academic and health affairs faculty
representatives appointed by the chancellor upon nomination by the dean
of The Graduate School.

Summer School for Graduate Students
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill established what was
possibly the first summer school in America in 1877. The "Summer
Normal School," as it was then called, enrolled 235 students in courses
over 10 disciplines. About half the students were teachers; students
came from 42 counties across North Carolina and from neighboring
states. Summer School was the first school at UNC–Chapel Hill to enroll
women, beginning in its first year and continuing thereafter. By 1925,
records indicate that 19,983 students had enrolled in Summer School.

Curricula and courses offered during Summer School are comparable
to those of the fall and spring semesters. Summer School offers two
sessions of five weeks each, a three-week Maymester, and other short
courses with various beginning and ending dates. The summer program
is planned to meet the needs of graduate students who are fulfilling
degree requirements in this institution, visiting graduate students who
desire to take courses for transfer to other institutions, teachers and
administrators who desire to meet state certification requirements, and
other students who have special educational objectives.

Graduate students who wish to be admitted or readmitted for the
summer to a degree program should contact The Graduate School.
The requirements for admission to a degree program starting in
the summer are the same as those in the regular academic year.
Those who desire other information or those wanting to enroll in
the summer as visiting students should visit Summer School’s Web
site (http://summer.unc.edu), contact Summer School via email at
summer_school@unc.edu, or telephone (919) 966-4364. Summer
School is located at 134 East Franklin Street, Room 200, Chapel Hill, NC
27599-3340.

Visiting Scholars
Registration as a visiting scholar at the University of North Carolina at
Chapel Hill entitles the registrant to certain privileges of the University,
the issuance of a UNC One Card, and the use of University facilities for
the duration of the visiting scholar’s stay.

Eligibility for registration as a visiting scholar is limited to those who
1. Are not on the University payroll as employees in any capacity, and
2. Are visiting the University under the sponsorship of an academic
department or school for the furtherance of scholarly interests.

Visiting scholars may include faculty members on leave from other
institutions of higher learning, postdoctoral fellows, or others who
hold the terminal degree in their fields and who are invited to visit by a
department or school.

Persons interested in applying for visiting scholars status should
communicate with the appropriate department or school within the
University. Further details concerning University privileges for visiting
scholars are available from the Human Resources Office (http://
hr.unc.edu/benefits), CB# 1045, 725 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard,
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-1045.

The University Year
Two semesters of approximately 17 weeks each and a summer school
consisting of two sessions (each five and one-half weeks long) constitute
the University year. The requirements for admission to graduate programs
and for graduate degrees in the summer session are the same as those
in the regular academic year. For the schedule of events of particular
interest to graduate students, consult the academic calendars at the
Office of the University Registrar (http://registrar.unc.edu).