

SCIENCE/MATH EDUCATION, MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Offered by Science/Math Education Program (<http://catalog.unk.edu/graduate/departments/science-math-education-program>)

Program Information and Admission Requirements

This degree is administered by a committee of representatives from the departments of Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Statistics, Physics and Physical Science, and Teacher Education.

An Interdisciplinary Program

The Master of Science in Education Degree in Science/Math Education is offered in the sciences and mathematics for students who wish to broaden their background in teaching fields. Students must be certified to teach in an area of science (biology, chemistry, physics, physical science or mathematics) and meet the general requirements of the Office of Graduate Studies and Research to be eligible for this program. A student interested in pursuing the M.S.Ed. Degree in Science/Math Education should contact the program coordinator for specific information concerning admission criteria and degree work. All courses for a program of study/degree audit must be approved by the advisor prior to enrollment by the student.

Course Requirements

The program consists of 36 credit-hours of courses: 9 credit hours of teaching professional components (Educational Curriculum, Research, and Pedagogy courses), 12 credit hours of content courses in your chosen area of emphasis (Biology, Chemistry, Math, Physics, or Physical Science), 6 credit hours of content courses in math or science outside the area of emphasis, 6 credit hours of advisor-approved electives and a 3 credit hour capstone course in which the student will develop a new curricular unit, or redesign an existing one, to be implemented in a high school or middle school science/math course that the student is teaching that semester. Selection of the course options for a specific program should be made with the advisor before enrollment in the courses in order to develop the most effective and efficient program.

Final Examination

Candidates for the degree must demonstrate proficiency in their field of study via satisfactory performance on a comprehensive examination, taken during the capstone course.

Admission Information

To qualify for work on this degree, a student must have an endorsement in Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Natural Science (including those labeled "Science"), Physics, or Physical Science and meet the general requirements for entrance to graduate studies. Applicants with middle-grades endorsements may be admitted depending on their level of undergraduate science and math preparation. Admission to degree work is contingent upon evaluation of the following:

- Transcripts
- A letter of intent that addresses the following statements: "Describe your current teaching position and discuss how completing the UNK

Science/ Math Education M.S.Ed. program will help you meet your educational and professional goals. Summarize your undergraduate science, math, and education training and how it has prepared you for our program. If your current teaching certificate or license is from a state other than Nebraska, include a brief explanation of the certification/licensing requirements in your state."

- Evidence of current or most recent teaching certification or license

This program is offered online only.

All students are required to complete an exit survey during the semester of graduation or program completion.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Professional Components		
<i>Curriculum Course</i>		
Select one of the following:		3
BIOL 876	Natural Science Curriculum	
PHYS 872P	Science Curricula	
TE 809P	Curriculum Implementation	
<i>Research Course</i>		
TE 800	Education Research	3
<i>Pedagogy Course</i>		
TE 804	Curriculum Development in Multicultural Education	3
or TE 886P	Technology Tools for Teachers	
Academic Components		
<i>Major Emphasis</i>		
Select 12 credit hours in an area of endorsement (Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics or Physical Science)		12
<i>Supporting Courses</i>		
Select a minimum of 6 credit hours in Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Mathematics, Physics, or Physical Science outside the major emphasis. ¹		6
<i>Electives</i>		
Select 6 credit hours approved by the advisor prior to enrollment by the student. ²		6
Capstone		
SMED 888	Science/Math Education Capstone	3
Total Credit Hours		36

¹ Courses must be taken in at least two disciplines. These courses will be selected to meet student needs as indicated by previous course work and teaching duties.

² Electives can be additional major emphasis area courses to meet the new requirement from the Higher Learning Commission that dual-enrollment teachers must possess a master's degree with at least 18 credit hours in the subject area taught.