CONGRATULATIONS

**NEW CAPSTONE COURSE**

SMED 888 – Science/Math Education Capstone (3 credits): This course is designed to culminate the student’s experience in the Science/Math Education program. Students will complete the comprehensive exam and a capstone project that integrates educational research, curriculum design, science/math content application, and assessment. Based on a literature evaluation of a specific concept or problem in science/math teaching, 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. This unit must apply science/math content from their degree program courses and the student must assess the impact of the new/revised unit on student learning.

Prerequisite: Admission into Science/Math Education Program, completion of TE 800 Educational Research and at least 24 hours of the Science/Math Education degree program (including 6 or more in the Major Emphasis category).

Important Course Details:

- Scheduled to begin in spring 2017
- Available only during fall and spring semesters
- Course is recommended to be taken during the semester of graduation
- Summer graduates will need permission to complete the course during the spring semester
• **CAPSTONE COURSE FOR NEW STUDENTS**
  o Starting in the fall of 2016 – students entering the program will be required to complete SMED 888 as a part of their program

• **CAPSTONE COURSE FOR CURRENT STUDENTS**
  o Students can opt to switch to the new program
  o SMED 888 will replace 3 credit hours of supporting coursework
  o Supporting coursework will still need to be completed within two different departments (BIOL, CHEM, MATH, and PHYS) outside the major emphasis

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**SUMMER 2016 COMMENCEMENT**

Friday, July 29th at 10:00 a.m. in the Ponderosa Room in the Student Union

We hope you can make it to Kearney for the ceremony held on July 29th at 10:00 a.m. in the Ponderosa Room in Nebraskan Student Union. Please let us know if you plan to attend 2016 Summer Commencement.

The deadline for summer graduation is June 15th. Apply for graduation in MyBlue. If you missed the deadline to apply for graduation, please contact Jessica Bishop at bishopjs@unk.edu or (308) 865-8444.

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**COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION**

Are you planning on graduation in the fall? Contact Holly Peterson (call 308-865-8043 or email msedsci@unk.edu) to register for comps and to be added to her fall graduation list.

**Exam Format Part 1:** This first part is a closed-book, closed-notes written test that will contain questions on topics relating to one-half to three-fourths of the courses in the student’s degree program. Questions are composed by course instructors and compiled by the Program Director. Students may come to UNK to take the test or arrange for a proctor (usually a supervisor, work colleague, or other responsible adult who is not related or married to the student) in order to take the test in their community. If the student passes in all categories evaluated, then he or she passes the comprehensive exam without needing to take Part 2.

**Exam Format Part 2:** The format of Part 2 will be determined by the Program Committee but will usually consist of a meeting between the student and the Committee in person or via videoconferencing (Skype, Zoom, etc.) during which the student will answer questions posed by Program Committee members. Part 2 will be focused on topic areas that were determined through the Part 1 grading that did not meet program assessment expectations.
CLASS AVAILABILITY FOR FALL 2016

Registration for fall classes is under way and certain classes are filling up. Classes listed below will help you plan out your schedule for fall.

**Biology Classes:**

- **BIOL 802** - Organic Evolution
- **BIOL 803P** - Plant Physiology
- **BIOL 823** - Environmental Biology
- **BIOL 827** - Biological Statistics
- **BIOL 830P** - Special Topics: Genetics in Popular Culture
- **BIOL 830P** - Special Topics: Inside your Genetic Code
- **BIOL 838** - Essential Human Anatomy
- **BIOL 840** - Infectious Diseases
- **BIOL 861P** - Human Genetics
- **BIOL 877** - Writing in Science
- **BIOL 881** - Current Issues in Biology (1 credit hour) (elective course only)
- **BIOL 884** - Freshwater Management Techniques

**Teacher Education Classes:**

- **Research Course:** **TE 800** - Educational Research
- **Pedagogy Course:** **TE 804** - Curriculum Development in Multicultural Education
- **Pedagogy Course:** **TE 866** - Technology Tools for Teachers

**Electives**

- **TE 803** - Philosophy of Education
- **TE 805P** - Overview of Assistive Technology
- **TE 808P** - Human Relations (1 cr)
- **TE 810** - Design & Development in Instruction
- **TE 854** - Reading in the Content Areas
- **TE 866** - Motivating the 21st Century Learner
- **TE 877** - Developing Web-Based Educational Environments

**CAPSTONE COURSE:** **SMED 888** Science/Math Capstone Course (can replace a supporting course)

**Classes in the Chemistry Department, the Mathematics & Statistics Department, and the Physics & Physical Science Department will not be offered this fall.**

CLASS AVAILABILITY FOR SPRING 2017

The classes listed below will help you to plan out your spring classes. Spring classes will be available in MyBlue on October 14th and **early registration will be October 24th – November 13th.**

**CAPSTONE COURSE:** **SMED 888** Science/Math Capstone Course (can replace a supporting course)

**Chemistry Classes**

**CHEM 820** – Inorganic for HS Teachers I
Biology Classes:

BIOL 802 - Organic Evolution
BIOL 804 - Evolution of Epidemics
BIOL 824 - Principles of Ecology
BIOL 827 - Biological Statistics
BIOL 830P - Special Topics
BIOL 834 - Conservation Biology
BIOL 839 - Human Physiological Systems
BIOL 841 - Virology
BIOL 844 - Molecular Biotechnology

BIOL 861P - Human Genetics
BIOL 863 - Biological Perspectives (recommended for biology and non-biology emphasis students)
BIOL 866 - Functional Morphology
BIOL 881 - Current Issues in Biology (1 credit hour, elective course only)
BIOL 883 - Aquatic Trophic Ecology
BIOL 886 - Sexual Selection (1 credit hour)

Teacher Education Classes:

Research Course: TE 800 - Educational Research
Pedagogy Course: TE 804 - Curriculum Development in Multicultural Education

Pedagogy Course: TE 866 - Technology Tools for Teachers

Electives
TE 803 – Philosophy of Education
TE 805P – Overview of Assistive Technology
TE 808P – Human Relations (1 cr)

TE 810 - Design & Development in Instruction
TE 854 – Reading in the Content Areas
TE 870 – Developing Web-Based Portfolios

**Classes in the Mathematics & Statistics Department, and the Physics & Physical Science Department will not be offered this spring.

WHAT TO DO WHEN CLASSES ARE FULL?

While the Program Coordinator (Holly Peterson, mssdsci@unk.edu, (308) 865-8043) can give you a rough idea of future course rotations and information about current classes, she cannot issue any permits for classes or put you on a waiting list. Only Department Chairs can do those things. Contact the appropriate Department Chair for the class you are trying to get into:

Biology (BIOL) -- Dr. Janet Steele (sstelej@unk.edu, (308) 865-8325)
Chemistry (CHEM) -- Dr. Scott Darveau (darveausa@unk.edu, (308) 865-8491)
Mathematics & Statistics (MATH) -- Dr. Barton Willis (willisb@unk.edu, (308) 865-8868)
Physics/Physical Science (PHYS) -- Dr. Ken Trantham (tranthamkw@unk.edu, (308) 865-8278)
Teacher Education (TE) -- Dr. Chris Knoell (knoellcm@unk.edu, (308) 865-8339)

TEXTBOOK INFORMATION

Textbook information for classes can be found on-line at the campus bookstore, unk.bncollege.com or through Blackboard at the beginning of each semester. Books can be purchased or rented on-line through the campus bookstore or other sites that sell textbooks.
CANDIDACY FORM

Application for Candidacy Form: Once you have completed 12 hours of your program, you need to complete the candidacy form and send it to program coordinator for signatures and processing. Copy and pastes this ‘Application for Candidacy’ link, http://www.unk.edu/academics/gradstudies/admissions/grad-files/Grad%20Files/Candidacy_1-13.pdf. It needs to be returned all forms to Holly Peterson (email: msedsci@unk.edu, fax: (308) 865-8399, mail: 2401 11th Ave, Kearney, NE 68849

STUDENT NEWS

Isaac Carr (current distance student), along with his wife April, are proud parents of their third baby boy. Hudson Tanner Carr was born on May 2nd weighing 10 pounds 2 ounces.

LET US KNOW...

We would love to include any of your news in our upcoming Science/Math Education Program newsletter, If you have anything you’d like to share please email us at msedsci@unk.edu. The information we would like to include is news regarding new jobs, publications, professional presentations, awards/honors received, etc. The next newsletter will go out in mid/late august. Please let Holly Peterson (call 308-865-8043 or email msedsci@unk.edu) if you have any news we can share!

MEET THE NEW DISTANCE EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Holly Peterson was hired in March as the Distance Education Coordinator for the Science/Math Education Program. Previously, Holly worked in the Educational Administration Department and Teacher Education Department working with the graduate programs. She will assist all the distance - learning students on their progress towards graduation. Please feel free to her with any questions at (308) 865-8043 or by email at msedsci@unk.edu. Holly is married to Brian Peterson who is the Distance Education Coordinator for the MS Biology Program. They have two boys, Tyler and Trevor, and a yellow lab named Ace.

unk.edu/scimath