To get started, contact us at bartlingseg@unk.edu or 308.865.8513

If you have…

• The ability to work effectively with others
• A willingness to share academic competence
• A passion for working with children or youth
• A belief in the American work ethic

Then teaching is the right profession for you!
Welcome
UNK’s teacher education department has been the backbone of the educational system since its beginning as Nebraska State Normal School in 1905. Chances are, if you were educated in Nebraska, your teachers, coaches, principals or superintendent have education credentials from UNK. This 112-year history educating Nebraska’s educators brings an unmatched reputation and legacy that our graduates take with them to their schools and throughout their careers.
Here at UNK, students get in the classroom early and often, and our close partnership with Kearney and area schools gives students numerous opportunities to interact in both early practice and student teaching experiences. We know the value of hands-on learning and are here to guide you in these field experiences.

Mission
The Department of Teacher Education is committed to the principle that teaching is a moral endeavor and that the primary purpose of education in America’s schools is the preparation of our youth for the role of citizen in our social and political democracy. This basic belief forms the foundation of our mission. The mission is predicated upon the four moral dimensions espoused by the National Network for Educational Renewal (NNER): (a) the encouragement of youth into a social and political democracy, (b) access to knowledge, (c) nurturing pedagogy, and (d) stewardship. The themes of democracy, diversity, and technology are also central to department courses and programs.

Department Objectives
• To provide premier undergraduate and graduate programs for the preparation of pre-service teachers and the professional development of in-service teachers.
• To encourage the habits of independent and lifelong learning among undergraduate- and graduate-level students.
• To foster the development of effective and committed educators who are responsible, collaborative, and reflective. In this end, department undergraduate and graduate courses provide a broad knowledge base, applied skills, competencies, dispositions, and appropriate field and/or practicum experiences.

Desired Outcomes for Graduates
1. Understand the relationship of the philosophy that guides the education process in a democratic society, the College of Education, their specific discipline, and the behaviors they utilize in their classrooms.
2. Understand the central concepts, tools of inquiry, instructional technology, and standards of the discipline(s) they teach and be able to create learning experiences that make these aspects of subject matter meaningful for all students.

Your Degree Program
When you pursue your career in Teacher Education at UNK, your four-year Degree Program will consist of:

- General Studies Program: 45 hours
- Professional Sequence: 10 hours
- One subject endorsement or one field endorsement: 10-45 hours
- BA or BS Degree in Education: 120 hours total

Teaching Subject Endorsements
- Basic Business: 6-12
- Biology: 7-12
- Chemistry: 7-12
- French: 7-12
- Geography: 7-12
- German: 7-12
- Health Education: 7-12
- History: 7-12
- Physical Education PK-6, 7-12, PK-12
- Physics: 7-12
- Political Science: 7-12
- Psychology: 7-12
- Secondary English: 7-12
- Sociology: 7-12
- Spanish: 7-12
- Special Education Generalist: K-6, 7-12

Teaching Field Endorsements
Art: K-12
BMT: Business, Marketing & Information Technology
Early Childhood Inclusive Birth-Grade 3
Elementary Education K-6
English Language Arts: 7-12
Health & Physical Education PK-12
Mathematics: 7-12
Middle Grades 4-8
Music: K-12
Social Science: 7-12
Special Education Generalist K-12

Supplemental Teaching Endorsements
Must be paired with subject or field endorsement
- Adapted Physical Education PK-12
- Cooperative Education-Diversified Occupations 9-12
- Driver Education 7-12
- English as a Second Language PK-12
- Interscholastic Coaching: 7-12
- SPED-Behavior Intervention Specialist: 8-12
- SPED: Early Intervention Specialist: PK-12
- SPED: Functional Academic Skills and Independent Living Specialist: 7-12
- SPED: Inclusion and Collaboration Specialist: PK-12
- Theatre: 7-12

Educator Certification Office
UNK students who are pursuing a program/degree that leads to initial teacher certification must be formally admitted into the Teacher Education Program. Admission requirements include maintaining a 2.75 GPA, passing the Praxis Core exams, completing specific classes with a grade of “C” or above, providing evidence of the absence of any criminal conviction that would prevent a student from qualifying for a teaching certificate, (includes self-disclosure and a criminal background check), and providing evidence of sufficient emotional and mental capacity. At the end of their programs, students spend a semester, or more, in the field student teaching.
Be aware that some misdemeanor and felony convictions can prevent applicants from participating in a UNK Teacher Education program and obtaining a Nebraska teaching certificate. If you have a misdemeanor or felony conviction, even if it occurred many years ago or has been set aside, please contact Jenny Jansky, Certification Officer, for more information.
Before qualifying for Nebraska teacher certification, students are required to pass the Praxis Subject Assessments. For questions, please contact the Educator Certification Office at 308-865-4264 or ece@unk.edu.

Advising
Academic advising is an important and essential component in your college success. UNK provides quality individual advising, frequent and ongoing communication with your advisor and the Educator Certification Office is recommended to ensure a smooth and successful transition to UNK and to develop an efficient progression through the desired program of study.

Involvement
ELED Club
Student Education Association of Nebraska (SEAN)
SD College – UNK
Kappa Delta Pi – Educational Honor Society

Additional Resources
Admissions – Apply online
unk.edu/admissions/index.php
College of Education
unk.edu/academics/coe/index.php
Department of Teacher Education
unk.edu/academics/teed/index.php
Colleges and Departments
unk.edu/academics/index.php
Financial Aid Scholarships/Student Loan Information
unk.edu/offices/financial_aid/index.php

We are difference makers
Teaching is indeed a calling. At UNK, we can help you make a difference in the lives of students – ultimately making a big difference in the world today and tomorrow.