

# DOCTORAL DEGREES

---

A doctoral degree is the highest degree a student can earn for graduate study. Course work leading to the doctoral degree is planned to give students a comprehensive knowledge of their field of specialization and a proficiency in the methods of research. The final basis for granting the degree is their grasp of the subject matter across a broad field of study, their competence in planning and conducting research, and the ability to express themselves adequately and professionally both orally and in writing. Only the dissertation committee can certify that they have earned this degree.

UNCG offers two classifications of doctoral degrees. The Ph.D. is classified as doctoral degree of research and scholarship. The D.N.P., D.M.A., and Ed.D. are classified as a doctoral degree of professional practice.

Many doctoral programs require students to have previously earned a master's degree. Some doctoral programs allow students with a bachelor's degree to matriculate directly into the doctoral degree program; others are admitted through a doctoral track program.