“NAU’s open and collaborative atmosphere makes it a great place to do graduate work. I never thought I would work with such a diverse group of researchers. This has greatly improved my science and is helping me develop into a successful professional.”

— Suzanne Hagel, PhD Forestry, assessing endangered spider monkey populations in Nicaragua to determine how to keep this seed-dispersing, indicator species viable.
Northern Arizona University is open, collaborative, and a great place to forge relationships and pursue graduate studies. You can expect one-on-one interactions with outstanding faculty and a close working relationship with your adviser. Faculty mentors help guide you to service, publication, presentation, and research opportunities, plus provide access to premier facilities and equipment required for your thesis or dissertation research.

Within the tight-knit academic community, you will know your fellow graduate students well and can explore related fields and interdisciplinary projects. For distance education students, the university offers an increasing number of cohort classes with students who move through a program together, encouraging students to network and make lasting connections.

**High-level Opportunities for Research, Service, and Teaching**

**Research:** Innovative, scholarly, and creative research spans more than 50 departments and 30 institutes and centers, and generates more than $54 million in grants and contracts each year. Sponsored program support has increased more than 300 percent in the past decade. Graduate students and research assistants find themselves working closely with high-profile faculty, and 97 percent of graduate students give high marks to faculty’s support of their academic interests. Visit nau.edu/research for information on research support services and facilities.

**Teaching:** More than 300 Flagstaff campus graduate students hold teaching assistantships and receive significant training and professional development in undergraduate instruction. As a graduate teaching assistant, you are regarded as part of the faculty team.

“The best part about NAU is the people: the faculty and students drop whatever they’re doing to help you, yet they still find time to conduct cutting-edge, nationally recognized research.”

— Bala Chaudhary, PhD Biology

Chaudhary's ecological research in Venezuela and Utah explores the biogeography of fungi and their potential value in land management and ecosystem restoration. Her work has attracted funding from the National Science Foundation, ARCS Foundation, and Bureau of Land Management.
Service and Outreach: Service and outreach opportunities abound, and you’ll find support and guidance in creating new ones. Programs include Engineers Without Borders, which is addressing critical water issues in Ghana. The College of Health and Human Services and School of Nursing offer field study in public and environmental health in Kenya. The Student Association of School Psychologists hikes each year to one of the most remote sites in the nation to bring books and literacy to Native American children. The university’s strategic location on the Colorado Plateau generates many regional opportunities. Organizations like the Diablo Trust, Grand Canyon Association, Centennial Forest, Museum of Northern Arizona, and Coconino Coalition for Children and Youth call upon faculty and student expertise and offer partnerships, internships, and research opportunities.

A Diverse Cultural and Geographical Landscape

Northern Arizona is unique and exciting in its diverse ecosystems and cultures. The Flagstaff campus is situated within a landscape of unparalleled natural beauty with nearby cultural and natural destinations including the Grand Canyon, Sedona, Monument Valley, and the Navajo and Hopi nations. Flagstaff is the cultural hub of northern Arizona with a bustling music, art, and entertainment scene and the Snow Bowl ski resort. At 7,000 feet, there are beautiful summers and an average annual snowfall of 109 inches.

“Without strong mentors and the opportunity to teach in-person classes for our department, I would not have been able to secure a tenure-track assistant professorship while still a doctoral student.”
— Sara Rinfret, PhD Political Science
Rinfret focuses on how interest groups impact federal environmental regulations.

“The university values and promotes an ethnically rich and diverse academic community. Recent reports from Diverse Issues in Higher Education typically rank the university in the top ten for awarding master’s degrees in education to all minorities and Hispanics, and first in the nation for Native Americans. One fourth of our graduate students are ethnic minority, and more than 1.5 percent are international.

“My husband and I chose NAU because of the opportunities for connecting with people from many disciplines. The graduate community is small enough to cross interdisciplinary boundaries and get to know people you wouldn’t in a larger university.”
— Jaina Moan, MPA, with Engineers Without Borders in Ghana
Moan is a member of an NAU team that provides access to clean water for the people of Yua, who battle a high child mortality rate due to waterborne illnesses.

“Our master’s program in geology has a very good reputation and national recognition. People who come out of this program, if they are motivated and want to, can go wherever they want.”
— Cici Cruz-Urìbe, MS Geology, and her adviser/thesis chair Tom Hoisch.
Cruz-Urìbe’s outstanding research at NAU won her a full-support fellowship package from Pennsylvania State University for doctoral study.

“Putting myself in tight places is just part of the job. Understanding caves, biodiversity, and their fragile ecosystems can be demanding. With NAU’s support, this research has been able to grow and develop.”
— J. Judson Wynne, PhD Biology and cave explorer
Wynne studies cave-dwelling animal distributions in the face of global climate change. In findings that are rare for North America, Wynne and colleagues have discovered three new genera and 15 new species in Arizona caves.

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Northern Arizona University Accolades

• The Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index ranks the university in the top 20 of comparable U.S. research universities for doctoral faculty scholarly output and honors, and the School of Forestry tenth in the nation.

• Washington Monthly ranks the university among the top 100 U.S. colleges and universities for fostering students’ upward mobility, scientific and humanistic research, and an ethic of service to country and community.

• The MBA program is regularly ranked as outstanding by Princeton Review in its “Best 300 Business Schools.”

• The physical therapy doctoral program ranks among the top 10 percent in the nation according to U.S. News & World Report’s annual ranking of “America’s Best Graduate Schools.”

• Conservation Biology ranks the university in the top 30 academic institutions in the U.S. and Canada for number of publications and the top 40 for research productivity in the field of conservation biology.

• Expert reviewers in the field consider the university’s master’s in anthropology one of the top three applied anthropology master’s programs in the nation.

• The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation selected the university as one of eight host universities nationwide for its Conservation Fellows program for graduate students in science, medicine, and engineering.

A Green Campus

You will see sustainable practices all around the Flagstaff campus: progressive recycling efforts, shuttle buses powered with biodiesel, and several energy-efficient buildings certified by the U.S. Green Building Council. The Flagstaff campus is home to the new Applied Research and Development building, the greenest building in Arizona and one of the three greenest in the world. Sierra magazine named the university among the nation’s “coolest schools” for our efforts to stop global warming. The university offers a master’s degree in Sustainable Communities and hosts a number of environmental programs including the Center for Sustainable Environments and the Sustainable Energy Solutions Group.

Quality and Credibility in Distance Education

NAU is accessible to all learners and seamlessly integrates on-campus and distance education options. The university was recently awarded a 21st Century Best Practice Distance Learning Award for leadership, innovation, and technology in distance education. Classes and programs are offered on-site at more than 30 locations across the state as well as online.

“NAU offers me a large, warm family away from my hometown of Beijing. My doctoral program is teaching me to be an open-minded and creative scientist.”
— Zhuoting Wu, PhD Biology

Wu explores ecosystem responses to climate change from three perspectives: soil biogeochemistry, elevated temperature and altered precipitation, and vegetation distribution.

“I was apprehensive about finding a quality program with credibility that could be completed via distance learning. I cannot say enough about the caliber of the master’s program and my online classes at NAU. The MEd Career and Technical Education program was very challenging and really stretched me in my profession, yet I never missed a family moment or an all important little league game. I have since taken distance learning coursework through other universities, and the classes and delivery were nowhere near this level.”
— Debbie Gentene, MEd Career and Technical Education

The degree allowed Gentene to move beyond her classroom to write new curricula, establish a distance education program at the public high school level, and provide leadership training to other business education teachers.
Developing Great Minds for Global Challenges

Expand your horizons and professional possibilities at Northern Arizona University, where graduate study trains fine minds to grapple with the world’s most compelling challenges.

The university is recognized for expertise in biotechnology and health, business, environmental and sustainable systems, and teaching and learning. Student achievement and professional success is promoted through:

- exceptional mentorship
- research and scholarship
- global learning
- strategic and interdisciplinary partnerships
- active engagement in discovery and practice

“NAU researchers consistently announce findings that are distinguished, important additions to basic knowledge.” Public Purpose magazine, American Association of Colleges and Universities

According to a recent survey of graduate alumni:

- 99% of respondents rate their experience as either good or excellent
- 98% of respondents would recommend their graduate program to others
- 95% of respondents would start over again at NAU

Approximate number of graduate degrees/certificates awarded annually:

- 1,700 master’s degrees
- 45 doctoral degrees
- 45 first professional degrees
- 150 graduate certificates
List of graduate program areas available at Northern Arizona University:

Visit nau.edu/gradcol for more information on the specific areas of study within these program areas and for a list of online and certificate programs.

Administration
Anthropology
Applied Communication
Applied Linguistics¹
Bilingual and Multicultural Education
Biology²
Business Administration
Career and Technical Education
Chemistry
Climate Science and Solutions
Clinical Speech-Language Pathology
Counseling and School Psychology²
Criminology/Criminal Justice
Curriculum and Instruction¹
Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education
Educational Leadership²
Educational Technology
Engineering
English
Environmental Sciences

Forestry²
Geology
Geospatial Sciences
History²
Human Relations
Mathematics and Statistics
Music
Nursing
Physical Therapy¹
Physics
Political Science²
Psychology
Public Administration
Quaternary Sciences
Science Teaching
Sociology
Spanish
Special Education
Sustainable Communities
Teaching English as a Second Language

¹. Only offered as a doctoral program
². Doctoral programs also offered in these areas