

# Graduate Degree Options for SCIENCE EDUCATION at Kent State University

## What DEGREES does Kent State offer?

### M.Ed. in Curriculum & Instruction, Science Education Concentration

The M.Ed. degree requires 32 semester hours of coursework.

Graduates with this degree have taught at the college level and at the K-12 level, and have pursued doctoral degrees in education.

### Ph.D. in Curriculum & Instruction, Science Education Concentration

The Ph.D. degree requires 60 semester hours of coursework beyond a master's degree, or 90 hours of coursework beyond a bachelor's degree. This coursework includes 30 hours of dissertation hours.

Graduates with this degree have pursued professorial positions in university settings, returned to K-12 classrooms, and taken science curriculum specialist positions, among others.

## What kinds of EXPERIENCES will I get at Kent State?

For our master's program, we encourage students to:

- Join science education and curriculum & instruction professional organizations
- Present research at state, national and international conferences
- Work with successful science professional development programs
- Write and submit manuscripts to practitioner journals (e.g. *Science Scope*, *Science Teacher*)

For our doctoral program, we encourage students to:

- Join science education and curriculum & instruction professional organizations
- Partner with science education faculty in an early research experience
- Conduct pre-dissertation research
- Present research at state, national and international conferences
- Review conference proposals and manuscripts for science education associations
- Teach science education courses at the undergraduate level
- Partner with science education faculty members in grant-writing
- Work with successful science professional development programs
- Write and submit manuscripts for publication
- Supervise student teachers

## What COURSES are offered?

During your master's or doctoral program, you can plan to take several science education offerings that are relevant to classroom practice and grounded in educational theory. These courses are all offered in the evening or in the summers so that working professionals can enroll. Some of these courses include the following:

- C&I 61140 Culture & Multiculturalism in Science Education
- C&I 61141 Nature of Science in Science Education
- C&I 61133 Issues and Trends in Science Education
- C&I 61134 Research Trends in Science Education
- C&I 61142 History of Science Education
- C&I 67240 Introduction to Environmental Education

## What Kind of Support Can I Expect?

Graduate Assistantships for graduate students (primarily at the doctoral level) are available on a competitive basis. Most Assistantships require 20 hours of work per week during the academic year. Work includes teaching undergraduate courses, supervising student teachers and other undergraduate students in field experiences, assisting in the administration and work of various centers and programs in C&I, and working with individual faculty.

During the academic year, Graduate Assistants receive a nine-month stipend and waiver of all tuition and out-of-state course fees.

Other financial aid is available to qualified graduate students through the Office of Student Financial Aid.

## How Can I Apply?

If you'd like more information about our programs, please contact Dr. Lisa Borgerding by email ([ldonnell@kent.edu](mailto:ldonnell@kent.edu)) or phone (330-672-0614).

You can apply online at

[www.kent.edu/admissions/apply/graduate](http://www.kent.edu/admissions/apply/graduate)



## Science Education Faculty

### **Dr. Lisa Borgerding (Donnelly)**

Lisa Borgerding is an Associate Professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Curriculum Studies at Kent State University. She taught high school biology and K-8 informal science in Indiana before earning her doctorate in science education from Indiana University Bloomington. Her research interests center upon the teaching and learning of evolution, the nature of science, and science preservice and inservice teacher education.

### **Dr. Bridget Mulvey**

Dr. Mulvey is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Curriculum Studies at Kent State University. She earned her master's in geological sciences from Indiana University and then became a K-12 science teacher. She then earned her doctorate in science education from the University of Virginia. Her research interests center upon the nature of science, science teacher professional development, and technology in science teaching and learning.

### **Dr. Shannon Navy**

As a former science teacher, Shannon Navy's work is influenced by impacting the lives of science teachers and students. Her K-12 science teaching and science teacher education experiences have occurred in various states including: North Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, Indiana, and Ohio. Dr. Navy joined the faculty at Kent State University in 2017 as an Assistant Professor of Science Education. Her research focuses on the continuum of teacher learning, including science teacher education, induction, and professional development. She also conducts research on STEM integration, particularly STEM pedagogy in K-12 classrooms.

### **Dr. Sonya Wisdom**

Dr. Sonya Wisdom entered the teaching profession twenty-eight years ago as a middle school science teacher in Athens, Georgia. She then moved to Nassau, The Bahamas, and after eleven years as a classroom science teacher there, she taught science education courses in the School of Education at the College of The Bahamas for fifteen years. Her research interests include the curriculum decisions of pre-service teachers in science education, with a particular focus on environmental education. She is currently collaborating with urban high school science teachers in Cleveland, Ohio to design and enact action research projects in environmental education.