

M.S. Earth Science Graduate Program
UNC Charlotte
Visits by Prospective Students

Visitation Overview: Choosing a graduate program is more than choosing a scientific interest area or a line of research – *graduate school is a lifestyle change!* Most students must move to a new location and begin treating their education like a career/job. Hence, campus visits can be an important step in their decision to attend one university over another. While the department does not have regular funding to support campus visits by prospective students, campus visits are encouraged. To coordinate a campus visit, please contact the Earth Science Graduate Coordinator or a faculty member who may serve as your research advisor. Below is a rough itinerary during your visit:

1. Student coordinates date/time of visit with prospective adviser(s) – student pays own way
2. Student meets with prospective adviser(s)
3. Student meets with MS Coordinator
4. Student meets with other faculty with similar broad research interests
5. Student meets with current graduate students
6. Student is given tour of the department
7. Student is given tour of campus
8. Students meets with admission staff in the Graduate School (if needed)
9. Students meets with staff in the Center for Graduate Life (if desired)

Deadlines for Applicants: Applicants who wish to be considered for a select number of competitive Teaching Assistantships (TAs) – see below – must have their *completed application* submitted to the Graduate School no later than **February 1** (students wishing to begin in the fall term) or **September 30** (students wishing begin in the spring term). Review of applications will begin on these dates and continue until all available teaching assistantships are filled. Applications received after these dates will be accepted although funding opportunities will be more limited.

Deadlines for Admitted Students: Students who have been admitted but are deciding between UNC Charlotte and other universities have until **April 15** (students wishing to begin in the fall term) or **November 15** (students wishing begin in the spring term) to accept or decline the admission (and any assistantship) offer. After these dates, admission may still be accepted, but assistantship offers may be rescinded and then offer to other qualified students. As soon as a decision has been made, please notify the Earth Science Graduate Coordinator.

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