UNCG was founded in 1891 as the first college serving women in the University of North Carolina system. UNCG became co-educational in 1963, and the campus has rapidly grown to include more than 30 academic buildings with 79 undergraduate programs in more than 100 areas of study, 65 masters programs and 30 doctoral programs. With more than 19,600 students and 2,500 faculty and staff, UNCG is the largest state university in the Piedmont Triad region of North Carolina and has an annual economic impact of more than $1 billion. UNCG holds two classifications from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, as a “research university with high research activity” and for “community engagement” in curriculum, outreach and partnerships. More than $30 million in grants and contracts for research and creative activity are awarded to faculty members annually.

UNCG is the most diverse university in the UNC system with two-thirds (66%) being female and roughly 49% of the student population described as non-white. Currently, UNCG has almost 3,000 graduate students with over 70% being female and approximately 35% of them being of non-white ethnicity. UNCG is committed to being a quality educational resource for returning veterans and their families. For the sixth consecutive year, UNCG has been named a Military Friendly School by Victory Media for its efforts in recruiting and retaining military veterans. UNCG has nearly 1,000 students who are either Veterans or dependents of Veterans. Finally, UNCG has 20 research centers emphasizing research and community engagement. Research encompasses a wide variety of work including professional development, business, drug design, creative writing, education, information technology, health care management, genomics, youth and immigrant outreach.