

Kinesiology

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Graduate study is offered in the Department of Kinesiology leading to the Master of Science degree (concentrations in Exercise Physiology, Sport Pedagogy, and Sport Administration) and Doctor of Philosophy degree (concentrations in Exercise Science and Sport Studies). Graduate assistant positions are available. To secure additional information, contact the departmental Graduate Coordinator.

Master of Science in Kinesiology

The Master of Science program offers three concentrations: Exercise Physiology, Sport Administration, and Sport Pedagogy. The concentration in Exercise Physiology prepares students for careers in fitness and allied health care professions. The concentration in Sport Administration prepares students for careers in the sport industry, including positions with professional, collegiate, and recreational sport organizations. The concentration in Sport Pedagogy prepares students for leadership roles as coaches and physical educators. These concentrations also prepare students for advanced study at the doctoral level.

Admission Criteria

The following items are required in applying to the master's programs in the Department of Kinesiology:

1. A completed MSU Graduate School application form.
2. Official transcripts from all institutions attended since high school.
3. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test scores.
4. Three professional letters of recommendation. Ideally, the individuals writing the letters should be in a position to specifically comment about the applicant's academic ability (e.g., former professors or advisors).
5. A written statement of purpose, which should reflect a strong sense of career direction and highlight the applicant's qualifications, skills, and professional experience.
6. A résumé or curriculum vitae.

Admission is a competitive process. Positions within the programs are limited, and more individuals may apply than are able to be accepted. Competitive applicants will have a GPA of 3.00 or better in their final 60 undergraduate hours as well as acceptable scores on the verbal, quantitative, and analytical sections of the GRE exam.

An international student applying for admission must score a minimum of 550 PBT (79 iBT) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or a minimum of 6.5 on the International English Language Testing Systems (IELTS) in addition to meeting all other admission criteria.

Doctor of Philosophy in Kinesiology

The Doctor of Philosophy programs offers two concentrations: Exercise Science and Sport Studies. The degree is a research-focused program designed to prepare professionals with the cognitive and research skills needed to be productive scholars. The focus of the Exercise Science concentration is the scientific study of how biological systems function during physical activity, exercise and sports, emphasizing applications to both clinical and health populations. The Sport Studies concentrations involves studying sport from an interdisciplinary perspective, encompassing the fields of sport management, sport pedagogy, sport philosophy, and sport sociology, among others.

Admission Criteria

Prior to formally applying to the doctoral program, students should familiarize themselves with the research interests of graduate faculty members in the Department of Kinesiology and identify a faculty member whose research agenda aligns with their interests. A prospective applicant should then contact that faculty member to discuss his/her "fit" with the faculty member's research interests. If possible, prospective applicants are encouraged to visit the MSU campus. When an informal understanding is reached regarding the student's suitability to enter the doctoral program under the guidance of the faculty member, the student may then formally apply to the Graduate School. This does not guarantee a student admission to the doctoral program, but it is a necessary step prior to the formal application.

The following items are required to formally apply to the doctoral degree programs in the Department of Kinesiology:

1. A completed MSU Graduate School application form.
2. Official transcripts from all institutions attended since high school; students must have completed a master's degree prior to being admitted to the doctoral program.
3. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test scores.
4. Three professional letters of recommendation; at least two letters should be from university professors from whom the student has taken courses or worked with in a research capacity.
5. A written statement of purpose, which should clearly explain the applicant's research interests and highlight how these interests align with faculty members in the department, particularly the faculty member who the applicant wishes to serve as his/her advisor.
6. An academic writing sample (e.g., a published research article, thesis, or other academic paper).
7. A curriculum vitae.

An international student applying for admission must score a minimum of 550 PBT (79 iBT) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or a minimum of 6.5 on the International English Language Testing Systems (IELTS) in addition to meeting all other admission criteria.

Application deadlines in the Department of Kinesiology are as follows:

Fall/Summer admission	March 1
Late Application Deadline for Fall admission	June 1
Spring admission	October 15

Applications are reviewed periodically each semester, and applicants should generally expect to receive a reply within 30 days of the application deadline. Because of the competitive nature of admissions, it is recommended that individuals apply as far in advance of a deadline as possible. Students who wait until the late application deadline to apply may find there are no remaining spaces available in the program.

Academic Performance

Students in the Department of Kinesiology must meet University and College of Education academic performance requirements in order to remain in good standing. These requirements are found elsewhere in the Mississippi State University *Graduate School Catalog*. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with academic performance requirements.

Master's Degree Completion Requirements

The Master of Science in Kinesiology degree requires a minimum of 33 hours of graduate credit. The student will develop, in cooperation with the major professor and other committee members, a program of study during the first semester in the program.

The student pursuing Option 1 (Thesis) is required to complete 6 credit hours of thesis work as part of the 33 required hours. A thesis committee, consisting of at least three graduate faculty members, including the student's major professor and at least one more graduate faculty member from the Department of Kinesiology, must be established. Upon completion of the thesis, the student must provide copies for the department head, major professor, and committee members.

A student pursuing Option 2 or 3 (Non-Thesis) must successfully complete written comprehensive examinations prior to graduation. The student must be within 6 hours of graduation (coursework completion) or in the last semester of study and in good standing to be eligible to apply for comprehensive examinations. **Graduate Committee?**

Master of Science in Kinesiology with Exercise Physiology Concentration

Research Core		6
KI 8303	Research in Kinesiology	
KI 8313	Interpretation of Data in Kinesiology	
Exercise Physiology Core		9
EP 8203	Advanced Exercise Physiology	
EP 8243	Cardiorespiratory Exercise Physiology	
EP 8263	Exercise Metabolism	
Electives		
Select four of the following:		12
EP 8253	Doping and Supplement Use in Sports	
EP 8283	Environmental Exercise Physiology	
EP 8323	Science and Practice in Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation	
EP 8423	Graded Exercise Testing	
EP 8443	Neuromuscular Mechanisms in Exercise	

EP 8453	Biomechanics of Human Movement	
EP 8503	Occupational Physiology	
Select one of the three following concluding options. ¹		6
Option 1: Thesis (6 hours)		
KI 8000	Thesis Research/ Thesis in Kinesiology	
Option 2: Directed Individual Study (6 hours)		
KI 7000	Directed Individual Study in Kinesiology	
Additional 3-hour course		
Option 3: Internship (6 hours)		
KI 8710	Internship	
Additional 3-hour course		
Total Hours		33

¹ Students who select the Thesis Option must pass a thesis defense. Students in the Directed Individual Study or Internship Option must pass a comprehensive examination.

Master of Science in Kinesiology with Sport Pedagogy Concentration

Research Core		6
KI 8303	Research in Kinesiology	
KI 8313	Interpretation of Data in Kinesiology	
Sport Pedagogy Core		12
PE 8103	Developing Coaching Expertise	
PE 8113	Curriculum Construction in Physical Education	
PE 8163	Seminar in Physical Education	
PE 8203	Psychological Aspects of Sport	
Electives		
Select three of the following:		9
EP 6153	Training Techniques for Exercise and Sport	
EP 8253	Doping and Supplement Use in Sports	
EP 8443	Neuromuscular Mechanisms in Exercise	
EP 8453	Biomechanics of Human Movement	
SS 8203	Funding of Sport	
SS 8803	Sport Law	
SS 8883	Ethical Issues in Sport	
EDS 8243	Advanced Planning and Managing of Learning	
EDS 8623	Principles of Effective Instruction in Secondary Schools	
EDX 8173	Special Education in the Regular Classroom	
Concluding Options		
Select one of the three following concluding options ²		6
Option 1: Thesis (6 hours)		
KI 8000	Thesis Research/ Thesis in Kinesiology	
Option 2: Directed Individual Study (6 hours)		
KI 7000	Directed Individual Study in Kinesiology	
Additional coursework		
Option 3: Internship (6 hours)		
KI 8710	Internship	
Additional coursework		
Total Hours		33

² Students who select the Thesis Option must pass a thesis defense. Students in the Directed Individual Study or Internship Option must pass a comprehensive examination.

Master of Science in Kinesiology with Sport Administration Concentration

Research Core		6
KI 8303	Research in Kinesiology	
KI 8313	Interpretation of Data in Kinesiology	
Sport Administration Core		18
SS 8123	Sport Management	
SS 8203	Funding of Sport	
SS 8803	Sport Law	
SS 8823	Sport Sponsorships	
SS 8883	Ethical Issues in Sport	
Electives		3
Graduate-level course subject to approval of graduate advisor.		
Concluding Options		6
Select one of the three following concluding options. ³		
Option 1: Thesis (6 hours)		
KI 8000	Thesis Research/ Thesis in Kinesiology	
Option 2: Directed Individual Study (6 hours)		
KI 7000	Directed Individual Study in Kinesiology	
Additional 3-hour course		
Option 3: Internship (6 hours)		
KI 8710	Internship	
Additional 3-hour course		
Total Hours		33

³ Student who select the Thesis Option must pass a thesis defense. Students in the Directed Individual Study or Internship Option must pass a comprehensive examination.

Doctor of Philosophy in Kinesiology with Exercise Science Concentration

College of Education Required Course: University Instruction		3
HED 8133	University and Community College Instruction	
Major Required Courses		
Research Methods and Statistics (Select four courses, at least 12 hours, from the list)		12
ST 6213	Nonparametric Methods	
ST 8114	Statistical Methods	
ST 8214	Design and Analysis of Experiments	
ST 8253	Regression Analysis	
ST 8313	Introduction to Survey Sampling	
ST 8853	Advanced Design of Experiments I	
ST 8863	Advanced Design of Experiments II	
Directed Research		
KI 7000	Directed Individual Study in Kinesiology	3
KI 9000		21
Exercise Science Concentration Requirements		3
KI 8913	Doctoral Seminar in Exercise Science	
Departmental Cognate (choose 12 hours from the following with approval of supervisory committee)		12
EP 8203	Advanced Exercise Physiology	
EP 8243	Cardiorespiratory Exercise Physiology	
EP 8253	Doping and Supplement Use in Sports	
EP 8263	Exercise Metabolism	
EP 8283	Environmental Exercise Physiology	
EP 8323	Science and Practice in Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation	
EP 8423	Graded Exercise Testing	

EP 8443	Neuromuscular Mechanisms in Exercise	
EP 8453	Biomechanics of Human Movement	
EP 8503	Occupational Physiology	
Outside Electives		9
Students choose a cognate field of study from an appropriate science-related discipline outside of the Department of Kinesiology. Choice of courses must be approved by the Supervisory Committee. Students may elect to take 3 additional credit hours to fulfill the requirements for a 12-hour minor in a specific area.		
Total Hours		63

Doctor of Philosophy in Kinesiology with Sport Studies Concentration

College of Education Required Course: University Instruction		3
HED 8133	University and Community College Instruction	
Major Required Courses		
Research Methods and Statistics (Select four courses, at least 12 hours, from the list)		12
ST 6213	Nonparametric Methods	
ST 8114	Statistical Methods	
ST 8214	Design and Analysis of Experiments	
ST 8253	Regression Analysis	
ST 8313	Introduction to Survey Sampling	
ST 8853	Advanced Design of Experiments I	
ST 8863	Advanced Design of Experiments II	
Students in the Sport Studies Concentration may take the following two courses and two others from the above list for their 12 hours of research and statistics:		
AN 6143	Ethnographic Methods	
EDF 9453	Introduction to Qualitative Research in Education	
Directed Research		
KI 7000	Directed Individual Study in Kinesiology	3
KI 9000		21
Sport Studies Concentration Requirements		3
KI 8923	Doctoral Seminar in Sports Studies	
Departmental Cognate (12 credit hours from the following list with approval of supervisory committee)		12
PE 8103	Developing Coaching Expertise	
PE 8113	Curriculum Construction in Physical Education	
PE 8163	Seminar in Physical Education	
PE 8203	Psychological Aspects of Sport	
SS 6403	Gender and Sport	
SS 8123	Sport Management	
SS 8203	Funding of Sport	
SS 8803	Sport Law	
SS 8823	Sport Sponsorships	
SS 8833	Event and Facility Management	
SS 8883	Ethical Issues in Sport	
Outside Electives		9
Students choose a cognate field of study from an appropriate discipline outside the Department of Kinesiology. Choice of courses must be approved by the supervisory committee. Students may elect to take 3 additional credit hours to fulfill the requirement for a minor in a specific area.		
Total Hours		63