

Kinesiology

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Master of Science in Kinesiology

The Master of Science program offers four concentrations: Exercise Physiology, Sport Administration, Sport Pedagogy, and Disability Studies. 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. Initial license in Physical Education and Coaching is required for the Sports Pedagogy concentration. The concentration in Disability Studies prepares students for careers in physical activity promotion for persons with disabilities. 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. The application portal can be found online at the Mississippi State University Graduate School website:

- a. A completed MSU Graduate School application form
- b. Official transcripts from all institutions attended since high school
- c. 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--work ethic, and potential for success in graduate program. At least two letters should come from academic sources (professor, instructor, advisor, lecturer).
- d. A written statement of purpose, which should reflect a strong sense of career direction and highlight the applicant's qualifications, skills, and professional experience. The statement of purpose be directly related to the applicant's research interests.
- e. 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 a strong statement of purpose and positive letters of recommendation.

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 healthy 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 their "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:

- a. A completed MSU Graduate School application form
- b. 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

- c. 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 that can speak directly about their academic ability, research ability, and potential for success in a doctoral program.
- d. 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 their advisor
- e. An academic writing sample (e.g., a published research article, thesis, or other academic paper)
- f. 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 admission (domestic)	August 1
Fall admission (international)	May 1
Spring admission (domestic)	December 1
Spring admission (international)	October 1
Summer admission (domestic)	May 15
Summer admission (international)	March 1

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 Catalog*. Students are strongly 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.

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 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

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 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 8833 Event and Facility Management

SS 8883 Ethical Issues in Sport

Electives 3

Graduate-level course subject to approval of graduate advisor.

Concluding Options 6Select one of the three following concluding options.³

Option 1: Thesis (6 hours)

KI 8000

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.

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 6533 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		
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 Disability Studies Concentration

Research Core		6
KI 8303	Research in Kinesiology	
KI 8313	Interpretation of Data in Kinesiology	
Disabilities Study Core		12
KI 8603	Disability, Physical Activity and Health	
KI 8553	Exercise Management for Persons with Disabilities	
KI 8563	Motor Behavior in Special Populations	
KI 8543	Postural and Locomotor Rehabilitation	
Disability Supporting Area		6
Students should select 2 courses from the following list in consultation with their advisors. Students interested in Assistive Technology may take only one of the following courses towards the degree: EDX 6353 or COE 6353.		
EDX 6103	Introduction to Teaching Students with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities	
EDX 6623	Adaptations for Students with Physical/Multiple Disabilities.	
EDX 6353	Assistive Technology in Special Education	
COE 6353	Assistive Technology in the Rehabilitation Process	
COE 8363	Psychological Aspects of Disability	
COE 8373	Medical Aspects of Disability	
Electives		3
Students should select one elective course in consultation with their advisors. This course should be chosen in a way that fits the interests and career goals of each student. The following is a list of acceptable electives from diverse areas such as Special Education, Counselor Education, Exercise Physiology, Biomechanics, Physical Education, and Sport Studies. Students may pursue other electives not listed below with the approval of their advisor and advisory committee. Students should be aware that prerequisites or restrictions may apply to some courses. Students interested in Assistive Technology may take only one of the following courses towards the degree: EDS 6353 or COE 6353.		
EP 8243	Cardiorespiratory Exercise Physiology	
EP 8263	Exercise Metabolism	

EP 8443	Neuromuscular Mechanisms in Exercise	
EP 8453	Biomechanics of Human Movement	
PE 6163	Principles and Methods of Secondary School Health and Physical Education	
PE 6883	School Health Education	
PE 8113	Curriculum Construction in Physical Education	
SS 8803	Sport Law	
SS 8833	Event and Facility Management	
SS 8883	Ethical Issues in Sport	

Concluding Options ¹ **6**

Select one of the three following options.

Option 1 Thesis

KI 8000

Option 2: Directed Individual Study

KI 7000 Directed Individual Study in Kinesiology

Additional coursework approved by advisor (this additional coursework excludes KI 7000)

Option 3: Internship

KI 8710 Internship

Additional coursework approved by advisor (this additional coursework excludes KI 7000)

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.

Doctor of Philosophy in Kinesiology with Exercise Science Concentration

College of Education Required Course: University Instruction **3**

HED 8133 Curriculum and Instruction in Higher Education

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 Research in Kinesiology **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 8443 Neuromuscular Mechanisms in Exercise

EP 8453 Biomechanics of Human Movement

EP 8503 Occupational Physiology

KI 8603 Disability, Physical Activity and Health

KI 8543 Postural and Locomotor Rehabilitation

KI 8553 Exercise Management for Persons with Disabilities

KI 8563 Motor Behavior in Special Populations

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 Curriculum and Instruction in Higher Education

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 Research in Kinesiology 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 6533 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

KI 8603 Disability, Physical Activity and Health

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

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