KINESIOLOGY, PHD

The Department of Kinesiology offers programs leading to the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) degree in kinesiology with areas of study in exercise science and sport pedagogy.

Kinesiology

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in kinesiology has been designed to provide students with the coursework, laboratory, and practical experiences to become a leading educator and researcher.

Admission

Admission to the Ph.D. program area of study in kinesiology is competitive and based on prior academic achievement, graduate record examination (GRE) scores (exercise science only), recommendations, and research interests. Minimum requirements consist of:

- a graduate degree or PGCE (sport pedagogy only) from an accredited institution
- a composite (verbal and quantitative) GRE score of 300 (exercise science only; no GRE required for applicants in sport pedagogy)
- 3.0 GPA for a completed graduate degree program.

Preference is given to students who have strong backgrounds in the Life Sciences (for exercise science), teaching (for sport pedagogy), or related fields, meet the minimum requirements stated above, and have research interests compatible with at least one of the Kinesiology faculty members.

See the Admission Criteria section of this catalog for more information.

Financial Support

A limited number of graduate assistantships are available each year. These assistantships are awarded on a competitive basis. Graduate assistants may be asked to assist with teaching, research, and/or the outreach mission of the academic unit.

Applicants who are awarded a graduate assistantship should inform the department in writing of their decision no later than April 15th. If an offer is not accepted by April 15, the department is free to offer the position to someone else. Acceptance of an offer of financial support for the next academic year by a prospective graduate student completes an agreement that both student and graduate school expect to honor. In that context, the conditions affecting such offers and their acceptance must be defined carefully and understood by all parties. In accordance with the Council of Graduate Schools' (CGS) resolution, students are under no obligation to respond to offers of financial support prior to April 15th. If a student accepts an offer and subsequently desires to withdraw that acceptance, the student should submit in writing a resignation of the appointment to the department as soon as possible. Once the department is informed, the student is free to accept any other offers.

Procedures & Deadlines

Interested applicants should apply online to the Graduate School of the University of Alabama (https://graduate.ua.edu/prospective-students/apply-now/). Students will be admitted on a rolling basis at the discretion of program faculty as applications are received. Prospective students should identify a prospective research mentor and contact that person for more information regarding an admission timeline. For coursework focusing on exercise science, prospective students are encouraged to submit admission and graduate assistantship applications prior to January 15 to be considered for Fall admission. For coursework focusing on sport pedagogy, applications are accepted year round.

Sequence of Steps through the Ph.D. Program

The sequence of steps for a doctoral student from admission to graduation is:

1. Satisfaction of admission requirements
2. Formation of doctoral program of study
3. Completion of coursework
4. Completion of major comprehensive exams
5. Formation of doctoral dissertation committee
6. Proposal of doctoral dissertation
7. Admission to candidacy
8. Oral examination of the dissertation
9. Submission of final copies of the dissertation

The Program

The Ph.D. degree requires a minimum of 72 hours beyond the master’s degree. This program includes 1) 24-hour kinesiology (i.e., exercise science or sport pedagogy) core; 2) 12-hour competency in research and statistics; 3) 12 hours of foundation courses to support the major; and 4) 24 hours of dissertation.

Coursework Focusing on Exercise Science

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Field Coursework</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KIN 592 Physiology of Exercise</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIN 651 Systems Physiology I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIN 652 Systems Physiology II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIN 670 Exercise Biochemistry</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Additional KIN coursework (Students may select from the following courses.) 12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KIN 506 Techniques of Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>KIN 507 Lab Techniques in Kinesiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>KIN 566 Evaluation in Kinesiology</td>
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<td>KIN 593 Adv Fit Test Ex Prescript</td>
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<tr>
<td>KIN 596 Independent Study</td>
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<td>KIN 602 Readings in Kinesiology</td>
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<td>KIN 603 Special Proj Kinesiology</td>
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<td>KIN 685 Field &amp; Lab Experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>KIN 690 Exercise Health Disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>KIN 692 Sem Exercise Physiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>KIN 698 Non-Dissertn Research</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Research/Statistics * 12

Students may select from the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BER 639 Applied Regression Analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BER 640 Quantitative II</td>
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<tr>
<td>BER 642 Advanced Regression Methods</td>
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<td>BER 643 Multivariate Statistics</td>
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<td>BER 645 Advanced Experimental Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>BER 646 Structural Equation Modl</td>
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<td>BER 648 Advanced SEM</td>
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<tr>
<td>ST 540 Stat Prog &amp; Comp with R</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Choose one research grouping below for 9 hours.

- Qualitative option: BER 631, BER 632, and BER 633
- Quantitative option: BER 645, BER 641, and BER 642
- Combination option: BER 631, BER 645, and BER 641

** Major Area Foundations **

** Dissertation Research **

** Total Hours **

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** Footnotes **

- Sport pedagogy students who have not completed a master's degree at The University of Alabama take these 8 courses for a total of 24 hours. Sport pedagogy students who have taken some of the major field courses in a master's degree program at The University of Alabama may substitute the major field courses with KIN 596, KIN 602, KIN 603, KIN 685, and/or KIN 698. Students who will focus on adapted sport pedagogy may obtain approval from Dr. Hardin to substitute a maximum of two of these courses for KIN 632 and KIN 691: KIN 596, KIN 602, KIN 603, KIN 685, and/or KIN 698.

- Research/Statistics prerequisite: If a student has not completed a basic research methods course in a master's degree program, KIN 506 Techniques of Research is a prerequisite. If a student has not completed a basic statistics course in a master's degree program, BER 540 Statistical Methods In Educ must be completed. Neither KIN 506 nor BER 540 counts toward the required 12 hours of Research/Statistics.

- Sample areas include health promotion, human development, educational psychology, educational leadership, educational foundations, educational policy, research, special education, or other areas to suit student's research/teaching interests.

** Doctoral Dissertation **

The doctoral dissertation is designed to provide students with a significant research experience and is considered a contribution to the research and the literature in the field. It is anticipated that students will complete credits for the dissertation after the completion of all coursework and the comprehensive examination. The student will work closely with the doctoral program chair and committee in developing a dissertation proposal and conducting the dissertation research. The doctoral dissertation committee will consist of a minimum of five faculty members, one of whom must be from outside the department.

** Advising **

All doctoral students will be advised by a major professor with whom they will have been aligned as part of the admissions process. In the event a doctoral student is granted admission without a research mentor/major professor, they will be assigned an interim advisor upon admission to the Ph.D. program. The advisor will assist the student in the evaluation of previous work, selection of coursework, and research oversight.

** Time Limit for Doctoral Study **

Students must complete all requirements for the Ph.D. degree within nine calendar years from the time they are officially admitted to a program of study.

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** Coursework Focusing on Sport Pedagogy **

** Hours **

** Major Field Courses **

- KIN 512 PE Curriculum 3
- KIN 538 Adv Adapted Phys Ed. 3
- KIN 604 Sem in Physical Education 3
- KIN 612 Res Phys Ed Teach Education 3
- KIN 622 Anal Res Teach Phys Ed 3
- KIN 632 System Oberv Phys Educ 3
- KIN 642 Instrct Design PE High Ed 3
- KIN 691 Res Sociology Human Perf 3

** Research/Statistics **

- BER 640 Quantitative II 3

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** Foundations Area Coursework **

Courses may include but are not limited to the following examples:

- CHS 500 Rural Envir/Occup Health
- CHS 520 Basic Epidemiology
- CHS 550 Intro to Fundamentals of Med I (6)
- CHS 551 Intro to Fundamentals Med II (6)
- CHS 625 Advanced Epidemiology
- BSC 524 Human Physiology
- BSC 535 Immunology
- BSC 549 Endocrinology
- BSC 550 Fundamentals of Biochemistry
- NHM 557 Childhood Obesity
- NHM 558 Nutr Prev Trtmnt Chron Disease
- NHM 561 Adv. Vitamins and Minerals
- NHM 562 Metabolism of Energy Nutrients
- NHM 568 Nutrition for the Older Adult
- PY 658 Psychopathology

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** Dissertation Research **

- KIN 699 Dissertation Research 24

** Total Hours **

72