ATHLETIC TRAINING, M.S.

The Master's degree in Athletic Training is a 24-month professional program that provides rigorous and comprehensive preparation for students seeking a health care career in athletic training. Athletic trainers (ATs) are multi-skilled health care professionals who collaborate with physicians as part of the health care team to provide preventative services, emergency care, clinical diagnosis, therapeutic intervention and rehabilitation of injuries and medical condition. Athletic trainers provide health care in a variety of practice settings for people involved in all levels of physical activity. Practice environments include youth to professional sports, military and public service personnel, secondary schools, colleges, universities, performing arts, workers with physically demanding jobs, physician practice settings, and much more.

Prospective students should visit the program website (https://kinesiology.education.wisc.edu/AT/) for additional information on program outcomes and opportunities.

The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (https://caate.net/) and students are eligible to sit for the national Board of Certification exam (https://bocatc.org/) after successful completion of the MSAT program.

ADMISSIONS

Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program’s admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program’s website. Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. Applicants must meet the minimum requirements (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/) of the Graduate School as well as the program(s).

Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Deadline</td>
<td>The program does not admit in the fall.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Deadline</td>
<td>The program does not admit in the spring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Deadline</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)</td>
<td>Not required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Proficiency Test</td>
<td>Every applicant whose native language is not English or whose undergraduate instruction was not in English must provide an English proficiency test score and meet the Graduate School minimum requirements (<a href="https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/english-proficiency">https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/english-proficiency</a>).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters of Recommendation Required</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ATHLETIC TRAINING (MSAT)

• Applicants for all graduate programs must complete a UW-Madison Graduate school application: https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/
• Applicants for the professional program in athletic training must complete the Athletic Training Central Application Service (ATCAS) application: https://atcas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login

ADMISSION CRITERIA AND PREREQUISITE COURSES

Admission to the MSAT (professional program in athletic training) requires:

• Bachelor’s degree (or equivalent) from a regionally accredited school of higher education by the start of the program
• Transcripts from each college, university, or technical college attended showing work completed and in progress
• Observation of two Certified Athletic Trainers in different clinical practice settings. Refer to the MSAT Program website for forms and guidelines for required observation experiences. (upon approval insert web link here)
• Minimum of three letters of recommendation
• Personal statement responding to prompts provided on the graduate application
• A grade of ‘C’ or better in the following prerequisite courses or their equivalent:

Required Prerequisite Courses / UW-Madison or comparable coursework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ZOOLOGY/</td>
<td>Animal Biology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOLOGY 101</td>
<td>or ZOOLOGY/</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOLOGY 102</td>
<td>Animal Biology Laboratory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 103</td>
<td>General Chemistry I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYSICS 103</td>
<td>General Physics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 210</td>
<td>Basic Statistics I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or STAT 301</td>
<td>Introduction to Statistical Methods</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or STAT 371</td>
<td>Introductory Applied Statistics for the Life Sciences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 202</td>
<td>Introduction to Psychology</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANAT&amp;PHY 335</td>
<td>Physiology 1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANAT&amp;PHY 337</td>
<td>Human Anatomy 1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 314</td>
<td>Physiology of Exercise</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUTR SCI 132</td>
<td>Nutrition Today</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or NUTR SCI 332</td>
<td>Human Nutritional Needs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommended Prerequisite Courses / UW-Madison or comparable coursework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

* Early application consideration deadline is December 1.
## FUNDING

### GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

### PROGRAM RESOURCES

Financial assistance may be available through School of Education fellowships. The Athletic Training Program also has scholarships available to both incoming and returning students. For more information, please contact the MSAT Program Director.

## REQUIREMENTS

### MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

### MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of Instruction Definitions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Face to Face</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Evening/Weekend:** These programs are offered in an evening and/or weekend format to accommodate working schedules. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses and personal connections, while keeping your day job. For more information about the meeting schedule of a specific program, contact the program.

**Online:** These programs are offered primarily online. Many available online programs can be completed almost entirely online with all online programs offering at least 50 percent or more of the program work online. Some online programs have an on-campus component that is often designed to accommodate working schedules. Take advantage of the convenience of online learning while participating in a rich, interactive learning environment. For more information about the online nature of a specific program, contact the program.

**Hybrid:** These programs have innovative curricula that combine on-campus and online formats. Most hybrid programs are completed on-campus with a partial or completely online semester. For more information about the hybrid schedule of a specific program, contact the program.

**Accelerated:** These on-campus programs are offered in an accelerated format that allows you to complete your program in a condensed time-frame. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses with minimal disruption to your career. For more information about the accelerated nature of a specific program, contact the program.

### CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summer I (8 credits)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 570</td>
<td>Anatomical Foundations in Athletic Training</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 571</td>
<td>Emergency Procedures for Athletic Trainers</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 572</td>
<td>Foundational Skills in Athletic Training</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 620</td>
<td>Clinical Practicum in Athletic Training I</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall I (15 credits)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KINES 561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 670</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring I (15 credits)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KINES 622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 671</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summer II (4 credits)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KINES 623</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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1. Good standing (progressing according to standards; any funding guarantee remains in place).
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3. Unsatisfactory progress (not progressing according to standards; not permitted to enroll, dismissal, leave of absence or change of advisor or program).

An overall GPA below 3.0 will place the student on academic probation. If a 3.0 GPA is not regained in the subsequent semester the student may be dismissed from the program or allowed to continue provisionally for 1 semester based on advisor appeal to the Graduate School.

**ADVISOR / COMMITTEE**

The MSAT assigns an advisor to each student. MSAT students must complete one mandatory group advising meeting each semester. In addition, students must meet individually once per semester with an advisor to insure satisfactory progress toward their MSAT degree and to monitor clinical placement progress needs.

**CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED**

15 credits

**TIME CONSTRAINTS**

Master’s degree students who have been absent for five or more consecutive years lose all credits that they have earned before their absence. Students may count the coursework completed before their absence for meeting graduate degree credit requirements; the Graduate School will not count that work toward the Graduate School's minimum residence credit minimum.

**GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS**

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/)
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure)
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- Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/) (for conflicts involving students)

**POLICIES**

### GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

### MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

#### PRIOR COURSEWORK

**Graduate Work from Other Institutions**

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 15 credits of graduate course work from other institutions. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

**UW–Madison Undergraduate**

No credits from a UW–Madison undergraduate degree are allowed to count toward the MSAT degree.

**UW–Madison University Special**

With program approval and payment of the difference in tuition (between special and graduate tuition), students are allowed to count no more than 15 credits of course work numbered 300 or above taken in UW–Madison University Special student status. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

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Any student who feels that they have been treated unfairly by a faculty or staff member has the right to complain about the treatment and to receive a prompt hearing of the grievance, following these grievance procedures. The complaint may concern course grades, classroom treatment, program admission, or other issues. To insure a prompt and fair hearing of any complaint, and to protect both the rights of the student and the person at whom the complaint is addressed, the procedures below are used in the School of Education.

The person whom the complaint is directed against must be an employee of the School of Education. Any student or potential student may use these procedures unless the complaint is covered by other campus rules or contracts. The following steps are available within the School of Education when a student has a grievance:

1. The student should first talk with the person against whom the grievance is directed. Most issues can be settled at this level. If the complaint is directed against a teaching assistant, and the student is not satisfied, the next step would be to talk to the TA’s supervisor, who is usually the course professor. If the complaint is not resolved satisfactorily, the student may continue to step 2.

2. If the complaint does not involve an academic department, the procedure outlined in Step 4 below should be followed. If the complaint involves an academic department, the student should contact the chair of the department. The chair will attempt to resolve the problem informally. If this cannot be done to the student’s satisfaction, the student may submit the grievance to the chair in writing. This must be done within 60 calendar days of the alleged unfair treatment.

3. On receipt of a written complaint, the chair will refer the matter to a departmental committee, which will obtain a written response from the person at whom the complaint is directed. This response shall be shared with the person filing the grievance. The chair will provide a timely written decision to the student on the action taken by the committee.

4. If either party is not satisfied with the decision of the department, they have five working days from receipt of the decision to contact the dean’s office (at the number below), indicating the intention to appeal. If the complaint does not involve an academic department in the school, the student must contact the dean’s office within 60 calendar days of the alleged unfair treatment.

5. In either case, there will be an attempt to resolve the issue informally by the associate dean. If this cannot be done, the complaint can be filed in writing with the dean’s office. This must be done within 10 working days of the time the appealing party was notified that informal resolution was unsuccessful.

6. On receipt of such a written complaint, the associate dean will convene a subcommittee of the school’s Equity & Diversity Committee. This subcommittee may ask for additional information from the parties involved and may hold a hearing at which both parties will be asked to speak separately. The subcommittee will then make a written recommendation to the dean of the School of Education who will render a decision. Unless a longer time is negotiated, this written decision shall be made within 20 working days from the date when the grievance was filed with the dean’s office.

Questions about these procedures can be directed to the School of Education Dean’s Office, 377 Education Building, 1000 Bascom Mall, 608-262-1763.

State law contains additional provisions regarding discrimination and harassment. Wisconsin Statutes 36.12 reads, in part: ‘No student may be denied admission to, participation in or the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any service, program, course or facility of the system or its institutions or center because of the student’s race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, disability, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital status or parental status.’ In addition, UW–System prohibits discrimination based on gender identity or gender expression. Students have the right to file discrimination and harassment complaints with the Office of Compliance (https://compliance.wisc.edu/), 361 Bascom Hall, 608-265-6018, uwcomplianceoffice@wisc.edu.

OTHER

n/a

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Take advantage of the Graduate School’s professional development resources (https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Understand the role of the athletic trainer within the broader health care system.
2. Demonstrate appropriate oral and written communication skills.
3. Develop and apply strategies to prevent the incidence and/or severity of injury and illnesses.
4. Demonstrate the clinical skills needed to appropriately diagnose patients for treatment and referral.
5. Apply clinical and decision-making skills to respond to acute injury and illness, including emergencies.
6. Assess patient status and develop treatment and rehabilitation that are consistent with contemporary disablement models.
7. Demonstrate clinical scholarship in the form of evidence appraisal and application to influence athletic training practice.
8. Maintain the highest standards of clinical practice by examining the quality of patient care through the use of patient outcomes.
9. Apply research methods to develop and evaluate clinical questions applicable to practice-based research environments while demonstrating an understanding of ethical research practice.

PEOPLE

FACULTY AND INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF

Andrew Winterstein, PhD, ATC
MSAT Program Director
Distinguished Clinical Professor
andrew.winterstein@wisc.edu

David Bell, PhD, ATC
Associate Professor

- Title IX (https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/) (for concerns about discrimination)
ACCREDITATION

Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (https://caate.net/)

Accreditation status: Active—in good standing; degree will be updated from BS to MS. Next accreditation review: 2025–2026.

CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE

The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (https://caate.net/) and students are eligible to sit for the national Board of Certification exam (https://bocatc.org/) after successful completion of the MSAT program.

Currently, 49 states and the District of Columbia regulate the practice of athletic training. Individuals must be legally recognized by the appropriate state regulatory agency prior to practicing athletic training. The Board of Certification (BOC) exam is recognized by all athletic trainer state regulatory agencies to meet their exam requirement. Compliance with state regulatory requirements is mandatory and the only avenue to legal athletic training practice.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE DISCLOSURE (NC-SARA)

The United States Department of Education requires institutions that provide distance education to disclose information for programs leading to professional certification or licensure about whether each program meets state educational requirements for initial licensure or certification. Following is this disclosure information for this program:

The requirements of this program meet Certification/Licensure in the following states:

The requirements of this program do not meet Certification/Licensure in the following states:
Not applicable

The requirements of this program have not been determined if they meet Certification/Licensure in the following states:
California*, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands

*California does not regulate athletic training at this time