

KINESIOLOGY (M.S.)

Description

The Department of Kinesiology offers a degree with the following areas of concentration: exercise science, outdoor education, and sport studies. In addition, the Departments of Kinesiology and Social Work offer a dual degree program, which consists of a master of science in kinesiology with a concentration in outdoor education, as well as a master in social work (M.S.W.).

Exercise Science Concentration:

The MS in Kinesiology: Exercise Science prepares individuals for advanced careers in health and fitness promotion and education programs in hospitals, sports medicine centers, wellness clinics, universities, and rehabilitation facilities. Students are also prepared for terminal degree programs in the health professions, basic biology fields, medicine, or other health-related fields. Students must earn a grade of B- or better in every required course and must complete a capstone requirement to finish the degree. Interested students should consult with the option coordinator, Dr. Summer Cook.

Outdoor Education Concentration:

The University of New Hampshire is a leader in graduate education in the field of outdoor experiential education. Our graduates have gone on to run collegiate outdoor programs, pursue Ph.D.'s and join college faculty, design executive leadership programs, direct outdoor education centers, work in non-profit management, administer state and federal projects, lead international programs, and teach in K-12 schools in both the public and private sectors.

The goal of the Master of Science program is to prepare outdoor experiential educators with the skills necessary to become managers and directors of outdoor/experiential education programs, conduct advanced practice, and/or pursue a related degree at the Doctoral level. In addition to core courses, students focus on one of three areas: higher education outdoor programming, youth development outdoor programming, or adventure therapy (through the combined MS/MSW dual degree with Social Work).

Students focusing on higher education outdoor programming gain an understanding of college-level policies, practices, and program structures common to outdoor programs in institutions of higher education, particularly those with outdoor orientation programs (OOPs). Students focusing on youth development outdoor programs learn about contemporary perspectives on youth development, especially related to participation in non-formal educational programs in a variety of outdoor settings and activities. Students focusing on adventure therapy become eligible for licensure and clinical social work practice in wilderness, community-based, or other settings.

Sport Studies Concentration:

The Kinesiology Sport Studies graduate program focuses on preparing professionals in youth, interscholastic, intercollegiate programs and elite sport agencies to provide extraordinary sport experiences. Providing an understanding of the theoretical and practical knowledge and skills within the context of sport is essential in developing sport professionals at UNH. Our curriculum provides a framework of coursework, and the flexibility to focus preparation on careers in coaching or administration

or additional graduate study in sport psychology. In addition, students have opportunities for applied experience and research with faculty. The graduate program in Kinesiology: Sport Studies engages students in learning experiences in the classroom, in applied settings, and in research. The focus on a theory-to-practice approach is infused throughout the curriculum with the goal that our students will be well prepared professionals as they enter the workforce or further graduate study.

Integrated M.S.W./M.S. Dual Degree Program

The use of adventure experiences as a therapeutic or socio-educational intervention for clients with mental health needs is well documented. The UNH Departments of Social Work and Kinesiology offer an Integrated M.S.W./M.S. Dual Graduate Degree Program. This program is the first of its kind in the nation. It organizes a significant number of existing resources and assets at UNH in a way that empowers participating students for a career in adventure therapy.

Prospective graduate students in the SW/KIN Integrated Dual-Degree program apply and need to be accepted into each separate graduate program. Upon acceptance in both programs, students progress through the integrated curriculum, graduating from both programs at the end of their third year. The exception to this would be an Advanced Standing student in social work, who could graduate from both programs in two years.

Dual degree students take classes simultaneously over the course of three years in both Kinesiology: Outdoor Education and Social Work and complete a minimum of 77 credits for graduation. This includes two internships, one during their first year of study and a second specialized internship during the third year, which concentrates on the utilization and application of adventure therapy in an agency setting. In order to graduate with the dual degrees, the student completes a 24-hour per week social work/adventure therapy-related field internship in their third year as well as a KIN Thesis or Advanced Studies Project in their last semester. Contact Dr. Michael Gass for additional information.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

All degree candidates will be required to complete courses listed in the Masters Degree Core, the designated concentration core, and electives as required in order to meet the 30-credit minimum necessary for graduation. In addition to coursework, students follow either the thesis, the non-thesis, or the advanced research plan as described below.

MASTERS DEGREE CORE

Code	Title	Credits
Select one of the following graduate statistics courses or equivalent:		
EDUC 881	Introduction to Statistics: Inquiry, Analysis, and Decision Making	4
SW 962	Data Analysis and Statistics	3

Exercise Science Concentration

Code	Title	Credits
KIN 896	Advanced Research in Exercise Science	6
KIN 901	Analysis of Professional Literature	4

KIN 902 Colloquium (two semesters) 2-4

Additional elective courses are selected in consultation with academic advisor to meet the 30-credit minimum necessary for graduation¹

Sport Studies Concentration

Code	Title	Credits
KIN 880	Psychological Factors in Sport	4
KIN 843 or KIN 840	Sport Marketing Athletic Administration	4
Select one advisor-approved KIN elective at the 800 or 900 levels		3-4
KIN 901	Analysis of Professional Literature	4

Additional elective courses are selected in consultation with academic advisor to meet the 30-credit minimum necessary for graduation

Outdoor Education Concentration

Code	Title	Credits
KIN 883	Psych Factors of Adventure Ed	4
KIN 884	Historical Foundations of Outdoor Experiential Education	4
KIN 885	Program Models and Evaluation in Outdoor Education	4
KIN 886	Organization and Administration of Outdoor Education Programs	4
KIN 897	Advanced Topics in Outdoor Education	2-6

Students pursuing the Higher Education Outdoor Programming focus also must take the following:

KIN 950	Internship	2-4
and		
RMP 872 or EDUC 897	Law and Public Policy in Leisure Services Special Topics in Education	3

One Approved Elective² 3-4

Students pursuing the Youth Development Outdoor Programming focus must take the following:

HDFS 950	Contemporary Issues in Adolescent Development	4
One Approved Elective ³		3-4

Students pursuing the Adventure Therapy focus must be dually enrolled in the MSW program and also take the following:

KIN 882	Therapeutic Applications of Adventure Programming	4
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For additional information on the dual MS/MSW degree, see Program Description above.

Thesis Plan

A minimum of 30 approved graduate credits, including a thesis (24 graduate course credits plus 6 thesis credits), as well as an oral defense of the thesis, are required in the thesis plan.

Non-Thesis Plan

A minimum of eight approved graduate courses (with a minimum of 30 credits) are required in the non-thesis plan. Four credits of KIN 895 Advanced Studies are required. A student may begin taking KIN 895 Advanced Studies only after completing at least three approved graduate courses.

Advanced Research Plan

Exercise science students who elect this plan must take a total of 6 credits of KIN 896 Advanced Research in Exercise Science. Outdoor education students who elect this plan must take a total of 6 credits of KIN 897 Advanced Topics in Outdoor Education. In addition, exercise science and outdoor education students must orally present their research to faculty and peers.

- KIN 804 Electrocardiography
KIN 805 Topics in Applied Physiology
KIN 806 Neurology
KIN 820 Science and Practice of Strength Training
KIN 822 Applied Biomechanics
KIN 824 Exercise Metabolism: Acute and Chronic Adaptations
KIN 836 Fitness and Graded Exercise Test and Prescription
KIN 837 Exercise Prescription and Leadership in Healthy and Special Populations
KIN 894 Cardiopulmonary Pathologies

- Higher Education Outdoor Programming Electives:
EDUC 976 Policy and Governance in Higher Education
RMP 870 Management and Design of Recreation and Park Facilities
RMP 924 Fund Development and Grantwriting
POLT 802 Grant-writing for Public and Non-profit Sectors
GRAD #940 Foundations in College Teaching
GRAD 950 Issues in College Teaching
GRAD #963 College Students and the Undergraduate Culture

- Youth Development Outdoor Programming Electives:
HDFS 846 Human Sexuality
HDFS 876 Children, Adolescents and the Law
HDFS 995 Seminar and Special Problems
EDUC 801 Human Development and Learning: Educational Psychology
EDUC 805 Contemporary Educational Perspectives
SW 805 Child and Adolescent Risks and Resiliency: Program, Policy and Practice
SW 815 Practice with Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender People
RMP 830 Camp Administration and Leadership
RMP #868 Theories of Youth Development