

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MILWAUKEE  
ZILBER COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

**STUDENT HANDBOOK  
2024-25**

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE in KINESIOLOGY  
ACCELERATED BS KINESIOLOGY-MS ATHLETIC TRAINING  
KINESIOLOGY MINOR**

**draft**

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## UNDERGRADUATE KINESIOLOGY PROGRAMS

### 1. KINESIOLOGY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM MISSION

Kinesiology is the science of human movement. Students studying Kinesiology explore the social, behavioral, mechanical, and physiological principles of human movement. Kinesiology students are the future health and fitness providers who use preventative and rehabilitative intervention techniques in commercial health/fitness clubs, community fitness centers, corporate/industrial fitness facilities, and clinical agencies with specialization in cardiac/pulmonary rehabilitation. Many careers in Kinesiology require post baccalaureate and continuing education for practice.

The Kinesiology major can be tailored to prepare individuals seeking specialized future careers in the allied health/movement science fields, such as physical therapy, exercise physiology, athletic training, or chiropractic care, as well as the medical field in areas such as nursing, physician assistant, or medicine. In addition, students can minor in Kinesiology to supplement their major area of study.

Students should be aware that some professions, occupations, and employers are subject to licensing and/or bonding requirements. When a course of study includes clinical or field training, practice teaching, internships, or the like, students may be subject to a check of criminal conviction records, prior to acceptance of a student by the placement site. Students are responsible for obtaining the information necessary for them to become knowledgeable about these requirements and plan their studies accordingly.

Students who complete the Kinesiology major will be able to:

- Summarize and apply theoretical and scientific knowledge from the Kinesiology sub disciplines of biomechanics, exercise physiology, motor behavior, as well as the sociological and psychological aspects of physical activity, health and sport;
- Describe, from a multidisciplinary approach, the value and benefits of all forms of physical activity and a healthy lifestyle;
- Apply Kinesiology related skills to real-world problems through empirical research, course work, internships, field experience, and/or service learning;
- Demonstrate the ability to access and interpret information, respond and adapt to changing situations, make complex decisions, solve problems, and evaluate actions;
- Explain basic methods of research process and design;
- Develop and design strategies to pursue individual interests, knowledge, and skills for educational and professional advancement and development;
- Apply effective verbal, nonverbal, and media communication techniques;
- Articulate a rationale for the inclusion of diversity and social justice in the study and practice/promotion of Kinesiology; and
- Demonstrate ethical standards, scope-of-practice and inter-professional/inter-disciplinary collaboration.

## 2. KINESIOLOGY MAJOR (BS KINESIOLOGY)

### 2.1 Admission

Students who are accepted to UWM with an interest in Kinesiology will be directly admitted to the major.

### 2.2 Academic requirements

The undergraduate program is a four-year curriculum leading to a Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology. The program includes foundational studies, lab classes, and professional preparation leading to the completion of 120 credits for the Bachelor of Science degree.

To fulfill the 120 credit requirement for the BS Kinesiology degree, Kinesiology students are required to complete the (a) University Core, (b) Kinesiology Foundations Coursework, (c) Kinesiology Core Coursework, (d) Upper Level and Advanced Level Kinesiology Elective Coursework, and (e) Elective credits. Credit must be earned in all Kinesiology courses and a minimum 2.0 GPA (cumulative and Kinesiology Core) is required.

Detailed information about required coursework can be found in the UWM Catalog (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/public-health/kinesiology-bs/#requirementstext>).

- University Core. All students must complete the UWM General Education Requirements (GER) requirements. The number of credits may vary depending on course selection.
- Kinesiology Foundations Coursework. Students complete 30 credits of foundational coursework in preparation for Kinesiology Core classes.
- Kinesiology Core Coursework. Students complete 23 credits of Kinesiology Core coursework across 7 key subdisciplinary areas.
- Upper Level Kinesiology Elective Coursework. Students complete 12 credits of KIN 300-599 coursework in areas that align with their career goals and objectives.
- Advanced Level Kinesiology Elective Coursework. Students complete an additional 6 credits of KIN 500-599 coursework to develop deeper knowledge in specialized areas of Kinesiology.
- Elective Coursework. Students take a varying number of elective credits. Students often use elective credits to fulfill prerequisite requirements for application to professional degree programs such as Doctor of Physical Therapy and Master's of Science in Athletic Training.

### 2.3 Academic Standing

Students interested in Kinesiology will remain eligible for continuation in the degree by maintenance of a UWM cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher. Students may not repeat more than four (4) of the Kinesiology Foundation Courses.

### 2.4 Retention

Retention in the program and graduation are dependent upon maintaining good academic standing. Good academic standing is defined as:

- Maintenance of a 2.0 cumulative UWM GPA.
- Maintenance of a 2.0 Kinesiology Core GPA with earned credit in all Kinesiology Core courses. Students may not repeat more than three (3) of the Kinesiology Core courses.

## 2.5 Probation

Each semester, after final grades are posted, the Department of Kinesiology reviews the GPA and the number of core classes repeated for all Kinesiology students (a maximum of 3 KIN core classes may be repeated). If a student falls below a cumulative UWM GPA of 2.0 and/or a 2.0 Kinesiology core GPA, the student will be placed on academic probation in the program for the next semester.

Students will remain on academic probation if (a) their Kinesiology core GPA increases from the previous term but does not yet meet/exceed the 2.0 requirement or (b) they did not enroll in Kinesiology core courses in the most recent term.

## 2.6 Dismissal

If the student fails to increase the respective GPA during the probation semester, the student will no longer be “in good standing” and will be dismissed from the program. Additionally, if the student has exhausted the three available repeats in the Kinesiology core and can no longer mathematically achieve the 2.0 GPA requirement, they will be dismissed from the program.

## 2.7 Graduation Requirements

The following requirements must be met to graduate:

- Completion of the required 120 degree credits;
- Earned credit in required courses; and
- Cumulative UWM GPA of 2.0 and Kinesiology Core GPA of 2.0.

## 2.8 Additional Information

### Course repeats

- Foundations course repeats. Students admitted to the Kinesiology major are allowed to repeat no more than four Kinesiology foundations courses during their pursuit of the BS Kinesiology degree.
- Core course repeats. Students admitted to the Kinesiology major are allowed to repeat no more than three Kinesiology core courses during their pursuit of the BS Kinesiology degree. Core course repeats must be taken at UWM. Core courses may not be repeated more than once.

### Outdated credits

- Due to the constant evolution of scientific research, Kinesiology core credits that were completed more than 7 years prior to graduation will be considered outdated and not eligible to satisfy requirements for the baccalaureate degree.

### Residency requirement

- In accordance with the College of Health Science policies regarding degree completion ([http://www4.uwm.edu/academics/undergraduatecatalog.cfm?u=SC/C\\_CHS.html#regulations](http://www4.uwm.edu/academics/undergraduatecatalog.cfm?u=SC/C_CHS.html#regulations)), the last 30 credits of the Kinesiology degree must be completed in residence at UWM. Second degree candidates must complete at least 30 credits in residence beyond what was required for the previous degree.

### 3. ACCELERATED BS KINESIOLOGY – MS ATHLETIC TRAINING PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

#### 3.1 Freshman Admission

To apply to the athletic trainer degree program, you must first apply to UWM. On your application, select “Accelerated BS Kinesiology/MS Athletic Training” as your intended area of study. You will be classified as “Accelerated BS Kinesiology/MS Athletic Training-Intended” upon admission to the university.

#### 3.2 Advancement to Junior Standing

In order to forward count undergraduate courses toward the master’s degree, you must meet the following criteria to be permitted to enroll in undergraduate courses at the graduate level during your junior year:

- Have a minimum UWM cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0.
- Completion of all General Education Requirements (GERs).
- Completion of the following prerequisite courses with a grade of “C” or better or be in progress at the time of application submission:
  - PSYCH 101 Introduction to Psychology
  - BIO SCI 150 Foundations of Biological Science
  - BIO SCI 202: Anatomy & Physiology I
  - BIO SCI 203: Anatomy & Physiology II
  - CHEM 100: Chemical Science
  - KIN 270: Statistics in the Health Professions
  - PHYSICS 120: General Physics I
  - PHYSICS 121: General Physics I Lab

If you do not meet these criteria in the junior year, you may apply to the BS Kinesiology major by satisfactorily meeting the admissions criteria.

#### 3.3 Professional Phase Admission

Admission to the UWM Graduate School and the professional phase of the MS Athletic Training program is selective and occurs in November of the junior year. In order to be considered for admission to the professional phase of the accelerated program, you must meet the following requirements:

- Write an essay explaining your interest in the athletic training profession.
- Have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0.
- Complete the following prerequisite courses with a grade of “C” or better, or be in progress at the time of application submission:
  - KIN 320: Biomechanics
  - KIN 330: Exercise Physiology
  - NUTR 235: Nutrition for Health Professions
- Completion of 20 hours of observation of athletic training practice with a certified athletic trainer within 12 months of application submission. This requirement can be met in the KIN 212 Fieldwork in Athletic Training course.
- Two letters of recommendation attesting to your maturity and suitability for graduate education in a health profession. One letter must be an academic reference, the other letter must be from the athletic trainer with whom you completed the majority of your observation hours.
- Completion of an interview with the MS Athletic Training Admissions Committee.

If you are not selected for the accelerated MS Athletic Training professional phase, you will be accepted into the BS Kinesiology major, provided you meet the admissions criteria. After completion of the junior year of coursework in the accelerated program, you will only need 28 additional credits for the BS Kinesiology degree. The two undergraduate courses taken in the junior year (KIN 550, 551) will count toward these 28 credits. Only two additional semesters of study as a full-time student will be needed to complete the BS Kinesiology degree.

### 3.4 Matriculation Requirements

Once admitted to the program, students must complete the following to enroll in the university and program.

#### Criminal Background Check

The university is required to perform a criminal background check on students prior to beginning the program. Consistent with Wisconsin's Caregiver Background Law, individuals with certain convictions may be disqualified from working in hospitals and other health care or care facilities. Such individuals may also be denied national certification and licensure. More information about the Caregiver Background Law is available at: <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/caregiver/index.htm>.

If you have a criminal conviction in your background, it may affect your ability to work in certain facilities or obtain certification and licensure. The inability to be placed in facilities may affect your completion of clinical education requirements and thus degree completion. In addition, the existence of disqualifying convictions under the Caregiver Background Law may also affect your eligibility for certification and licensure, and/or your ability to gain employment in this field. It is the student's responsibility to notify the program Director if an event occurs while in the program that may change the results of the criminal background check. You should contact the program director as soon as possible to discuss whether you should apply to the program or consider alternative programs.

#### Immunization Verification and Testing

Students must provide a document with proof of immunization dates for the following:

- Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap)
- Tetanus Booster (Td) (within last 10 yrs)
- Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR)
- Hepatitis B (HepB) (Or signed refusal)
- Varicella (Positive titer or OR varicella vaccine (VAR))
- Meningococcal (Recommended for students living in the dormitories, but not required)
- COVID-19 (Recommended for all students; required by some clinical education sites)
- Two-step TB Skin test ( a "one step" TB test is NOT sufficient to meet this requirement) (required before July 1)
- 10 panel urine drug test (required before July 1)
- Influenza vaccine (required before October 15)

#### Technical Standards and Physical Examination

Prior to beginning the program, students must provide proof of a physical examination being completed

within the past year. One reason for the physical examination is to have a licensed and qualified health care provider verify that, to the best of his/her ability based on a routine physical examination, the student meets the Technical Standards for Athletic Training Students (with or without reasonable accommodation). The Technical Standards for Athletic Training Students-Healthcare Provider Verification form must be signed by the person who administered the physical exam within the last year. Students must have a physical examination completed annually (at the Norris Student Health Center or from a provider of choice). Any changes in health status that may affect the student's ability to meet the technical standards must be disclosed to the program director immediately.

### 3.5 Additional Information

Students are required to adhere to the rules and policies of the BS Kinesiology and MS Athletic Training programs.

## 4. KINESIOLOGY MINOR AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Minor in Kinesiology affords students opportunities to study the multidisciplinary science of human movement. Students interested in health, fitness, exercise, and sport will enjoy this minor.

Students who complete the Minor in Kinesiology will be able to:

- Describe, from a multidisciplinary approach, the value and benefits of all forms of physical activity and a healthy lifestyle; and
- Summarize and apply theoretical and scientific knowledge from multiple Kinesiology subdisciplines such as: biomechanics, exercise physiology, motor behavior, sociological and psychological aspects of physical activity, health, and sport.

### 4.1 Admission to Kinesiology Minor

To be admitted to the Kinesiology Minor, students must:

- Have completed a minimum of 24 credits;
- Have a minimum UWM GPA of 2.0; and
- Complete the online declaration form.
- Complete 18 credits of kinesiology coursework - see list in UWM Catalog, <https://catalog.uwm.edu/public-health/kinesiology-minor/#requirements>

### 4.2 Academic Requirements of Kinesiology Minor

To be awarded the Minor in Kinesiology, students will need to earn credit in each course taken and have a minimum GPA of 2.0 in the 18 credits in the Kinesiology minor. Students must satisfy published prerequisites of any course.

## 5. TRANSFERRING TO UWM

### Transfer of credits

While the University Registrar will review academic transcripts and perform pre-approved department course-for-course transfers, the Department of Kinesiology reserves the right to modify transfer requests.



Course transfers may be rejected if grades are below acceptable levels or if courses were taken more than 7 years ago.

### Course substitutions

Students may appeal for course substitution consideration if content of a course taken previously is significantly similar to a program requirement. Such appeals are subject to review by the BS Kinesiology Program Director and the primary faculty in the specific area. Course syllabi will be necessary for documentation.

## 6. ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC CONDUCT

Students should refer to the UWM policies on Academic (<https://uwm.edu/deanofstudents/academic-misconduct/>) and Non-academic Conduct (<https://uwm.edu/deanofstudents/nonacademic-misconduct/>).

## 7. CONCERNS AND APPEALS

Students should follow the UWM Dean of Students procedures for sharing concerns and filing appeals (<https://uwm.edu/deanofstudents/assistance/complaints/>). Note that there are specific timelines for filing grade appeals, so be sure to read the procedures in the section “Academic Complaints and Appeals.”

## 8. STUDENT SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

### Kinesiology Academic Advising and Support

Torry Rufer, Senior Academic Advisor for Kinesiology, Pre-Physical Therapy, and Pre-Athletic Training

- [tjrufer@uwm.edu](mailto:tjrufer@uwm.edu)
- 414-229-6237
- Enderis Hall 810

Kate Brondino, Director of Office of Student Affairs, Zilber College of Public Health

- [brondino@uwm.edu](mailto:brondino@uwm.edu)
- 414-229-4806
- Enderis Hall 809

Christy Greenleaf, Program Director, Kinesiology

- [cgreenl@uwm.edu](mailto:cgreenl@uwm.edu)
- 414-229-5341
- Enderis Hall 419

### UWM Support and Resources

UWM Dean of Students – provides support and resources for students’ academic and personal success

- <https://uwm.edu/deanofstudents/>
- [dos@uwm.edu](mailto:dos@uwm.edu)
- 414-229-4632

- [Absence Notifications](#): For students who are hospitalized or are physically unable to contact their instructors.
- [Student Support Coordinators & Case Managers \(non-clinical\)](#): Assistance connecting to campus and community resources and planning next steps.
- [UWM Emergency Grant](#) – A private donor-funded grant for students facing unforeseen financial emergencies.
- [Food Center and Pantry](#) – For students seeking access to food.
- [Laptop Loan Program](#) – For students who need to borrow a laptop.
- [Resources for Students](#) – Check out this page to find out about other resources at UWM and in the greater community.
- [Medical Withdrawals](#) – For students who experience a serious and unexpected condition during the academic semester that completely prevents them from being able to function as a student.
- [Tuition and Fee Appeals](#) – For students who believe their tuition charges are incorrect due to university error.

#### UWM Student Health and Wellness

- <https://uwm.edu/wellness/>
- [wellness-info@uwm.edu](mailto:wellness-info@uwm.edu)
- 414-229-7429
- Northwest Quadrant – D, Floors 7 & 8; 2025 E Newport Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211 USA

#### UWM Writing Center – provides support for improving quality of written work

- <https://uwm.edu/writing-center/>

#### UWM Center for Student Experience and Talent – provides support for career services, experiential learning, internships, community engagement and on-campus student employment at UWM

- <https://uwm.edu/set/>

#### UWM Community Empowerment and Institutional Inclusivity

- <https://uwm.edu/community-empowerment-institutional-inclusivity/programs-offices/>