

# KINESIOLOGY, PHD

The Department of Kinesiology offers programs leading to the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) 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		Hours
<b>Major Field Coursework</b>		
KIN 592	Physiology of Exercise	3
KIN 651	Systems Physiology I	3
KIN 652	Systems Physiology II	3
KIN 670	Exercise Biochemistry	3
Additional KIN coursework (Students may select from the following courses.)		12
KIN 506	Techniques of Research	
KIN 507	Lab Techniques in Kinesiology	
KIN 566	Evaluation in Kinesiology	
KIN 593	Adv Fit Test Ex Prescript	
KIN 596	Independent Study	
KIN 602	Readings in Kinesiology	
KIN 603	Special Proj Kinesiology	
KIN 685	Field & Lab Experience	
KIN 690	Exercise Health Disease	
KIN 692	Sem Exercise Physiology	
KIN 698	Non-Dissertn Research	
<b>Research/Statistics *</b>		<b>12</b>
Students may select from the following courses:		
BER 639	Applied Regression Analysis	
BER 640	Quantitative II	
BER 642	Advanced Regression Methods	
BER 643	Multivariate Statistics	
BER 645	Advanced Experimental Design	
BER 646	Structural Equation Modl	
BER 648	Advanced SEM	
ST 540	Stat Prog & Comp with R	

ST 550	Stat Methods In Res I
ST 552	Applied Regression Analy
ST 553	Appld Multivariate Analy
ST 560	Statistical Methods
ST 561	Applied Design Expermnts
ST 635	Nonparametric Statistics
CHS 525	Biostatistics
CHS 627	Multivar Meth Hlt Stats
PY 602	Advanced Statistics I
PY 603	Advanced Statistics II
PY 604	Multivariate Methods Analysis

**Foundations Area Coursework\*\* 12**

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 Trtmt Chron Disease
NHM 561	Adv. Vitamins and Minerals
NHM 562	Metabolism of Energy Nutrients
NHM 568	Nutrition for the Older Adult
PY 658	Psychopathology

**Dissertation Research 24****Total Hours 72****Footnotes**

\* Research 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. BER 540 does not count toward the required 12 hours of Research/Statistics.

\*\* Sample areas include health promotion, psychology, nutrition, biochemistry, physiology, immunology, epidemiology, and occupational health.

**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	Analy Res Teach Phys Ed	3
KIN 632	System Observ Phys Educ	3
KIN 642	Instrect Design PE High Ed	3
KIN 691	Res Sociology Human Perf	3

**Research/Statistics\*\***

BER 640	Quantitative II	3
---------	-----------------	---

Choose one research grouping below for 9 hours. 9

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\*\*\* 12****Dissertation Research 24**

KIN 699 Dissertation Research

**Total Hours 72****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.