

The Master's Degree

Kinesiology offers the Master of Science (M.S.) and Master of Arts (M.A.) degrees. Both degrees are intended for students with exemplary academic or professional credentials seeking advanced academic training in areas related to human movement.

The M.S. and M.A. degrees require at least 30 credits of course work; six of those credits may be for thesis work courses. Students choose one of three options:

- **Comprehensive track** - allowing for flexible in-depth study of human movement.
- **Ph.D. preparation track** - intended for students who plan to continue toward a doctoral degree. This track requires a thesis.
- **Sport Management Track** – intended for students specializing in the management, marketing, economics, finance, and public policy of sports.

Applying to the Master's Program

Kinesiology welcomes applications of students from all academic programs and disciplines. The Kinesiology Graduate Committee makes admission decisions. Early applications are encouraged. Kinesiology admits students for the fall term only for all programs.

To apply to the master's program, prospective students should submit the application electronically at [The Rackham Home Page](#). The application fee for United States citizens and those with permanent resident visa status is \$65. The fee for non-U.S. citizens is \$75. This fee is non-refundable and subject to change.

Application materials include:

- **Statement of Purpose** should be a concise, well-written statement about a student's academic and research background, career goals, and how Michigan's graduate program will help meet the career and educational objectives of the student.
- **Personal Statement** indicating a student's background and life experiences, including cultural, geographical, financial, educational or other opportunities or challenges which motivated the decision to pursue a graduate degree at the University of Michigan.
- **Three letters of recommendation**, including one or more from persons who can attest to the student's academic accomplishments (i.e. a course instructor). Letters should be submitted along with Recommendation for Admission Form through the electronic application
- **Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores**; GRE scores are required for all master's applicants. Sport Management students may substitute GRE scores with GMAT scores. An aggregate score of 1250 on verbal and quantitative sections (previous version of GRE) and 4.5 or better on the writing portion of the GRE is expected, although this will not be treated as an absolute minimum if other accomplishments are outstanding. It may take several weeks after the test date for scores to be processed to the University, so students should take the GRE prior to Kinesiology's application deadline. Students should request that ETS send scores to: The University of Michigan code #0001839;

- **Unofficial transcripts** of all previous undergraduate and graduate coursework from all colleges and universities attended (including the University of Michigan and U-M extension graduate study center coursework) should be scanned and uploaded into the electronic application. Submit one **official** academic record/transcript from each institution where you have earned or will earn a Bachelor's, Master's, Professional, and Doctoral degree to Rackham Graduate School. Click [here](#) for details.
- **TOEFL scores**, if applicable. Applicants whose native language is not English must provide TOEFL scores. Minimum scores for acceptance are 220 (computer version), 560 (written version), or 84 (internet version). A reasonable working knowledge of written and spoken English is a minimum requirement for entry for all students.

Deadline: The deadline for Kinesiology's MS or MA program is March 1, 2011. Early applications are strongly encouraged.

Time Limit for the Master's Degree

Students are strongly encouraged to complete the degree within two years after enrollment. Students must complete the master's degree work within five consecutive years after first enrollment in the Rackham Graduate School. If a student exceeds this limit s/he must file a petition with Rackham OARD for a time extension, giving reasons for the request and plans for the continuation/completion of the degree. For Rackham's policy and to obtain the modification or waiver of regulation form (petition form), students should go to [this location](#) at the Rackham Policy Pages.

Final Master's Degree Check

Students should apply for graduation on Wolverine Access for the master's degree within the first two weeks of the final term of registration. A check is then made to determine if all requirements have been met and a minimum of 5.000 G.P.A. (B) on a 9-point scale has been maintained. Minimally acceptable grade in all coursework is a B-. Failure to receive an acceptable grade means that course credit will not be applied toward requirements for the degree. A grade must be submitted for all previous incompletes. Students who complete a majority of graduate credits in science-based work within Kinesiology and a majority of credits in scientific coursework outside Kinesiology will receive the Master of Science (M.S.) degree. Those who take a majority of their program in social science-based work within Kinesiology or who are in the Sport Management track will receive the Master of Arts (M.A.) degree.

Masters: Comprehensive Track

Students in this track study human movement in depth from different perspectives. The strength of this program is its flexibility; working with their advisors, students can design programs to meet their particular interests.

Degree Requirements for the Comprehensive Track

Students must complete a minimum of 30 credit hours for the M.S. or M.A. degree. Students are required to take KINESLOGY 615 (Philosophy of Science in Kinesiology Research) and one graduate level research statistics course outside of Kinesiology. In addition, students must elect at least 9 hours of Kinesiology course work. Five of these may be for independent research (e.g. KINESLOGY 684), practicum experience, or internships (e.g. KINESLOGY 680 and 686).

Included in the 30 credits, each student must also complete at least four credits in cognate work outside of Kinesiology.

Masters: Ph.D. Preparation Track

Students in this track work closely with a professor in a laboratory or research context. They participate with mentors in research, generate ideas, collect data, and write a thesis or research paper prior to graduation. The minimum number of credit hours to complete this track is 30. The exact number will vary according to student interests and advisor's requirements.

Degree Requirements for the Ph.D. Preparation track

Students must complete a minimum of 30 credit hours for the M.S. or M.A. degree. Students are required to take KINESLOGY 615, (Philosophy of Science and Research) and one graduate level statistics course outside of Kinesiology. In addition, students usually complete a master's thesis in KINESLOGY 619 (see requirements below). Students must elect at least 9 hours of Kinesiology course work. Five of these may be for independent research (e.g. KINESLOGY 684), practicum experience, or internships (e.g. KINESLOGY 680 and 686). Each student must also complete at least four credits in cognate work outside of Kinesiology; this is included in the 30 credits requirement.

Thesis in the Ph.D. Preparation Track

A student with a B+ average for the first twelve credit hours of graduate work will be permitted to proceed with writing a master's thesis. In addition to a thesis advisor, the student must have two other faculty members serve on his/her thesis committee. Students considering writing a thesis are strongly encouraged to discuss possible topics with potential thesis advisors soon after entering the program.

In order for the student to be recognized at the Kinesiology Commencement ceremony, he/she and his/her advisor must submit a thesis declaration form (available from Graduate Program Coordinator) to the Office of Student Services no later than April 5th.

Masters: Sport Management

Kinesiology supports one specialist track – Sport Management. Master students in this track will obtain an M.A. degree in Kinesiology. Students must complete a minimum of 30 credit hours, including:

Core Curriculum (15 hours)

- **KINESLGY 503** Legal Aspects of Sport (3 credits)
- **KINESLGY 509** Financial Management for the Sport Industry (3 credits)
- **KINESLGY 532** Organizational Behavior & Human Resources (3 credits)
- **KINESLGY 514** Strategic Management in Sport (3 credits)
- **KINESLGY 550** Marketing Management for the Sport Industry (3 credits)

Other Requirements (15+ hours)

- **KINESLGY 615** Philosophy of Science and Research (3 credits)
- **Sport Management elective(s)** (3+ credits)
- **Graduate-level statistics** (3-4 credits)
- **Cognate elective credits of student's choice** (4+ credits): Any appropriate graduate-level course(s) will fulfill this Rackham requirement that a minimum of four credits must be taken outside the School of Kinesiology.

Note: The remainder of the 30 credits will be from appropriate graduate-level courses offered by the School or by other UM graduate programs.

Faculty Advisors

Every master's student will be assigned a faculty advisor who will best match the student's area of study.

The PhD Program in Kinesiology

Overview

The doctoral program leads to the highest degree awarded by the School of Kinesiology and the university. The program seeks to develop scholarly and research competence, and culminates in an original doctoral dissertation that adds to the body of knowledge in Kinesiology. The program is designed for those students who intend to make their careers as scholars, teachers, researchers, and professionals in kinesiology or allied fields.

PhD students choose from a set of core courses in Kinesiology, as well as cognate courses from other units, and complete a minimum of 30 pre-candidacy credits beyond the master's level. Qualifying examinations must be passed before advancing to candidacy, after which the student completes an original doctoral dissertation. A minimum of 50 credits including pre-candidacy and candidacy work must be completed to graduate.

All PhD students work closely with a faculty advisor from the beginning of their degree program. Working with the student and advisor, a Guidance Committee, Qualifying Examination