Master of Athletic Training (MATrg.)

Program and Application Information

Department Head: Dr. Margaret Fitzgerald
Program Coordinator: Dr. Nikki German Knodel
Department Location: Bentson Bunker Fieldhouse
Department Phone: (701) 231-8093
Department Web Site: www.ndsu.edu/hnes/athletic_training_professional/
Application Deadline: February 1 for summer admission
Degrees Offered: MATrg
English Proficiency Requirements: TOEFL ibT 81; IELTS 6.5

Program Description

The Master of Athletic Training (MATrg) is a professional program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). The MATrg (41 credits) will prepare students to take the Board of Certification, Inc. (BOC) examination and earn the ‘ATC’ credential. Didactic courses and clinical experience courses focus on prevention, assessment, treatment and rehabilitation of injuries resulting from physical activity. This is a five-semester program starting in the second eight-week session of the summer term.

Option 1: Five year program. This unique option allows the student to complete a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science and Master of Athletic Training (MATrg) degree in five years total.

• During the junior status of the Exercise Science undergraduate program at NDSU, students apply and must be admitted into the NDSU Graduate School.
• Students start the MATrg program in July, and take both undergraduate and graduate courses during the fall and spring semesters of their fourth year.
• After meeting all degree requirements and completing the exercise science internship in the summer after their fourth year, students will be awarded a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science.
• At end of the fifth year, the student will graduate with a Master of Athletic Training (MATrg).
• This program is recommended for entering freshmen, student-athletes, and transfer students who want to pursue an athletic training degree at NDSU.

Option 2: Two year program. This option is for students who have earned a bachelor’s degree in Exercise Science or a related field from another institution.

• Students must meet the admission requirement and be admitted into the NDSU Graduate School.
• The program begins in July.

Admission Requirements (same for both options):

• Acceptance into the NDSU Graduate School
• Undergraduate overall GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
• Research Writing: Students are required to write a research-based position paper making an evidence-based argument for the use of prophylactic tape or bracing. A minimum of two (2) references must be included.
• Documentation of 50 hours of observation completed under the direct supervision of a BOC ATC® in an athletic training room setting. All 50 hours must be completed within one (1) calendar year of application.
• Minimum of “C” or higher in the following college courses:
  • Human Anatomy and Lab (1 semester)
  • Human Physiology and Lab (1 semester)
  • General Physics and Lab (1 semester)
  • General Chemistry and Lab (1 semester)
  • Exercise Physiology and Lab (1 semester)
  • Kinesiology/Biomechanics and Lab (1 semester)
  • Medical Terminology (1 semester)
  • Nutrition (1 semester)
After successful completion of this program (41 credits), the student will be eligible to take the Board of Certification, Inc. (BOC) exam. Certification by the BOC is the entry-level credential. See the MATrg website for all necessary information regarding the application process.

Summer I
HNES 780 Athletic Training Techniques 3
Fall I
HNES 775 Therapeutic Modalities 3
HNES 781 Orthopedic Assessment I 5
HNES 783 Athletic Training Clinical Education I 2
Spring I
HNES 770 Evidence Based Research and Practice 2
HNES 782 Orthopedic Assessment II 5
HNES 784 Athletic Training Clinical Education II 2
Summer II
HNES 794 Practicum/Internship 1
Fall II
HNES 774 Therapeutic Exercise 3
HNES 776 Non-Orthopedic Assessment 3
HNES 785 Athletic Training Clinical Education III 2
HNES 793 Individual Study 1
*Elective 600/700 level course
Spring II
HNES 778 Athletic Training Administration and Professional Development 3
HNES 789 Athletic Training Clinical Education IV 3
HNES 793 Individual Study 1
*Elective 600/700 level course

Total Credits 39

* Only one (1) Elective is needed during the second year. The Elective must be approved by the student's adviser and/or Program Director.

Shannon David, Ph.D., ATC
Ohio University, 2013
Research Interests: Quantification of Intervention Outcomes, Patient-Clinician Relationship

Kara Gange, Ph.D., ATC
North Dakota State University, 2010
Research Interests: Therapeutic Modalities and Diagnostic Ultrasound

Nicole German Knodel, Ph.D., ATC
North Dakota State University, 2008
Research Interests: Critical Thinking, Clinical Practice

Katie Lyman, Ph.D., ATC
University of South Florida, 2014
Research Interests: Kinesio Tape®, Manual Medicine, Emergency Medicine