MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Mission Statement

The mission of the Department of Health, Leisure and Exercise Science is to build a foundation of health, leisure, and exercise science knowledge and to prepare students with professional skills and analytical abilities to assume prominent positions in health, leisure, and exercise science across the state and nation.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students with a UWF Masters in Physical Education should be able to do the following:

Content

- Critically evaluate and utilize cues for physical activity performance to maximize successful participation in physical activity and learning new physical activity skills on a regular basis
- Apply a variety of concepts from disciplinary knowledge (pedagogy; motor development and learning; exercise science, sociology and psychology of movement; history and philosophy) when planning and implementing physical activity enhancing interventions.
- Demonstrate knowledge based expertise in multiple forms of physical activity including, but not limited to games, sports, dance, gymnastic activities, adventure activities, aquatics, and fitness activities
- Explain and demonstrate connections between disciplinary and pedagogical knowledge when selecting and sequencing curriculum content

Critical Thinking

- Plan and implement health enhancing opportunities that promote individual responsibility, decision-making, problem solving while learning how to engage in physical activity on their own and adopting a physically active lifestyle
- Examine, evaluate, and apply research on developing skills and learning in physical education and physical activity domains
- Conduct and analyze research on physical activity enhancement regularly
Communication
- Present ideas clearly, effectively, and elegantly in written and oral communications
- Communicate physical activity assessment results effectively to relevant constituents
- Use technological resources (e.g., internet web-sites, email discussion groups) to interact with other professionals interested in enhancing physical activity participation and performance

Integrity/Values
- Collaborate with members of the physical activity and health community to advocate and promote sound educational philosophies and practices aligned with national and state standards and legislation and physical activity professional organization goals
- Demonstrate consistent commitment to personal growth and learning and reflection that informs practice
- Model professionalism and leadership aimed at securing physical activity as a central part of personal growth experiences
- Identify relevant public policies and proposed legislation and actively advocate for more enlightened policies and guidelines that directly affect physical activity enhancement programs

Project Management
- Complete a thesis or project in lieu of thesis in the final semesters before achieving the masters degree
- Submit a proposal for and make at least one public presentation of an academic paper or best practices of physical activity enhancement before an audience of scholars and peers prior to completion of the degree
- Collaborate effectively with colleagues on physical activity enhancement projects and interventions.

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes
We are committed to providing learning opportunities of the highest possible quality. Our internationally recognized faculty members will assess students’ progress in a number of ways including the following: Group projects, examinations, in-class presentations, at least one presentation that has been proposed by the student and presented before a scholarly audience, and a thesis or a project in lieu of thesis. Before graduation students will be asked to formally present to the faculty and their peers a report on their experiences throughout the program and to provide evidence of the knowledge and skills obtained throughout their masters work. In return we expect students’ attendance, preparedness, and active participation in coursework, projects, and professional activities.
**Job Prospects for Masters of Physical Education**
Masters of Physical Education have many options after graduation for employment or further education including the following:

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<tr>
<th>Recreation Director with public and private organizations</th>
<th>Physical Activity Specialist with Non-Profit and Governmental Organizations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strength and Conditioning Specialist in Public and Private Settings</td>
<td>County or State Specialist/Curriculum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elementary, Middle or High School Physical Education Teacher</td>
<td>Director of Physical Education and Physical Activity Programs</td>
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<td>Physical Activity Consultant in Worksite Wellness Settings</td>
<td>Community College Instructor for Physical Activity Related Courses</td>
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<td>Physical Activity Consultant</td>
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<td>Fitness Center Employee/Specialist</td>
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**Find out more about a Master of Science in Physical Education at UWF:**