ATHLETIC TRAINING, MS

Banner Code: E1-MS-ATT

Academic Advising
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This is a professional preparation program for aspiring athletic training healthcare professionals.

The program will provide students with a strong foundation of the competencies and proficiencies (knowledge, skills and attitudes) established by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) for professional athletic trainer preparation. Because of increasing employment opportunities in youth athletic leagues and school settings, students will also take coursework in pediatric sports medicine to address the special needs of this patient population.

Successfully completing the program will prepare a student to become a national athletic training Board certified (BOC®), Virginia Board of Medicine licensed athletic trainer.

Admissions & Policies

Admissions
Application Requirements
In addition to fulfilling admission requirements for graduate study as specified in the Graduate Admission Policies, applicants are required to have already completed the following prerequisites at GMU or another institution with a grade of "C" or better:

- Anatomy and Physiology 6-8
- Exercise Physiology 3
- Research Methods 3
- Basic Nutrition 3
- Medical Terminology 3

Applicants who marginally meet some of the admissions requirements may be invited for an interview.

Policies
For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Requirements

Degree Requirements
Total credits: 65

All courses must be taken at GMU.

The MSAT requires a grade of B- or higher in all ATEP required coursework, and maintenance of current Health Care Provider Emergency Cardiac Care (ECC) and First Aid certifications.

MS Core Coursework

- ATEP 510 Advanced Functional Anatomy 3
- ATEP 520 Therapeutic Interventions Foundations 3
- ATEP 525 Athletic Training Foundations 3

Total Credits 9

Professional Phase

- ATEP 530 Emergency Procedures for Athletic Trainers 3
- ATEP 540 Lower Body Physical Assessment 3
- ATEP 545 Athletic Training Clinical Techniques 1 3
- ATEP 550 Lower Body Therapeutic Interventions 3
- ATEP 555 Athletic Training Clinical Techniques 2 3
- ATEP 560 Upper Body Therapeutic Interventions 3
- ATEP 565 Athletic Training Clinical Techniques 4 3
- ATEP 570 Upper Body Physical Assessment 3
- ATEP 575 Athletic Training Clinical Techniques 3 3
- ATEP 600 Pathopharmacology 3
- ATEP 650 Administration and Management in Athletic Training 3
- ATEP 660 Pediatric Sports Medicine 3
- ATEP 670 Post Rehabilitative Therapeutic Interventions 2
- ATEP 680 Athletic Training Research 3

Total Credits 41

Practicum

- ATEP 566 Athletic Training Practicum 1 (high school/university; 150 hours) 2
- ATEP 656 Athletic Training Practicum 2 (rehabilitation clinic; 75 hours) 1
- ATEP 667 Athletic Training Practicum 3 (pre-season; 150 hours) 2
- ATEP 676 Athletic Training Practicum 4 (university/high school; 300 hours) 4
- ATEP 686 Athletic Training Practicum 5 (400 hours) 6

Total Credits 15

Note:
- Practicum courses require a clinical education field experience component.
- Students will engage in coursework during the summers of their academic program.

George Mason University is currently seeking accreditation for their new Athletic Training program and is not accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). The institution will be submitting a self-study to begin the accreditation process on July 1, 2017. Submission of the self-study and completion of a site visit does not guarantee that the program will become accredited. Students who graduate from the program prior to accreditation WILL NOT be eligible to sit for the credentialing examination for athletic trainers and will not be eligible for licensure in most states.
Special Requirements

Fees and Expenses
All ATEP courses have a per credit fee of $25. ATEP 686 has an additional fee of $200. Fees cover the following:
- laboratory supplies and equipment
- clinical attire
- clinical supplies
- clinical education manuals

Technical Standards
After admission to the MSAT, students must submit a technical standards certification statement, located on the MSAT website, indicating that they have read, understand, and can meet the technical standards for athletic training students, either with or without accommodation. These standards outline the essential functional tasks that students must be able to perform to enroll in and complete the program. Students requiring special accommodations are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services (http://ds.gmu.edu).

Health Examinations and Certifications
Athletic training students are required to have evidence of completion of the three hepatitis B immunizations, a titer report indicating positive immunity, or a signed waiver. Students choosing not to complete hepatitis B immunizations will be required to sign a declination waiver. Some practicum sites require proof of tuberculosis screening in accordance with current U.S. Public Health Service recommendations. Students will be responsible for any costs associated with such screenings. All MSAT students must complete annual blood-borne pathogens and infectious disease exposure training offered in the practicum courses. All students must have proof of current Emergency Cardiac Care (CPR/AED Certification at the level of a Healthcare Professional (e.g. American Heart Association’s Basic Life Support for Healthcare Professionals, the Emergency Care & Safety Institute (ECSI)) and First Aid Certification. For additional information about ATEP academic policies and procedures refer to the program handbook (https://rht.gmu.edu/athletic-training/forms).

Background Check
Students will be required to undergo a criminal background check at the student's expense, upon admission to the MSAT. Most practicum sites require an additional background check before engaging in patient treatment. The Clinical Education Coordinator will provide instructions to complete the background check. If a criminal background check fails to meet the requirements of a student's assigned practicum site, the student will be withdrawn from the practicum site and may be prohibited from completion of the MSAT curriculum. Students are encouraged to disclose any criminal background incidences to the ATEP Director and Clinical Education Coordinator prior to practicum placement, to determine if the incidences might be detrimental to placement at a practicum site.

Transportation Responsibilities
It is the responsibility of the MSAT students to arrange transportation to and from their assigned practicum course sites. It is recommended that students have personal transportation. A limited number of sites are accessible via public transportation. In the case that a practicum site is not accessible by public transportation and the student does not have a car, it is suggested the student take public transportation as far as possible and then take a taxi to the site. The student is responsible for all transportation fees including but not limited to gas, parking, bus, metro, taxi and zip car expenses. Students that have financial difficulty are encouraged to meet with a financial aid advisor to seek additional assistance.

Summer Courses
Students are required to engage in MSAT summer courses. Housing and travel arrangements are the responsibility of the student.