

2011-13 Cal Poly Catalog

Kinesiology Department

MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN KINESIOLOGY

General Characteristics

The degree program offers advanced study in kinesiology to qualify graduates to enter occupations that require training beyond the bachelor's degree. The program is designed to strengthen the breadth and depth of the student's academic preparation in kinesiology and its sub-disciplines and improve competence for: a) positions in corporate/commercial, community, non-profit or government exercise and health promotion programs, b) teaching physical education, health or exercise science at the community college level, c) positions in obesity, diabetes and heart disease prevention in community, clinical or rehabilitative health care settings, d) independent research in the field of emphasis, and e) continued graduate study at doctoral granting institutions.

Two program options are available:

Thesis Option: 39 units of graduate committee approved coursework, 6 units of thesis research/project design, and successful completion of an oral defense of the thesis/project.

Non-Thesis Option: 45 units of graduate committee approved coursework and a comprehensive examination.

Most kinesiology graduate courses are offered every other year on a rotational basis. Students admitted with classified graduate standing can typically complete the program within two academic years. Applications to the program are currently accepted every quarter; however, a fall quarter entry is best for optimal progression toward completion of the degree.

Prerequisites

Applicants to the program must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a minimum grade point average of 2.75 in the last 90-quarter units. Letters of recommendation from persons knowledgeable about the applicant's academic achievement and potential as a graduate student are required.

Classified Graduate Standing

For admission to the program with classified graduate standing, the applicant must have an undergraduate degree in kinesiology or the equivalent academic preparation as determined by the coordinator of the kinesiology graduate program. Applicants with a grade point average below the required 2.75 and an undergraduate degree in kinesiology may appeal to the graduate coordinator to be "conditionally" accepted. This procedure involves a review process and a specified contract to be successfully completed before admission to classified graduate standing. Special attention is focused upon student performance in undergraduate

science and kinesiology coursework for applicants with a GPA below 2.75 requesting to be conditionally accepted.

Conditionally Classified Graduate Standing

Applicants to the program without an undergraduate degree in kinesiology or equivalent academic preparation may be admitted to the program with conditionally classified graduate standing. Applicants with undergraduate deficiencies must remove these deficiencies through coursework or examination before Advancement to Candidacy and may complete this coursework while enrolled as a graduate student at Cal Poly.

Information regarding specific coursework prerequisites and application procedures for admission to the kinesiology master of science program is available on the department website at <http://kinesiology.calpoly.edu> or from the graduate program coordinator.

Advancement to Candidacy

For Advancement to Candidacy a student shall have:

- successfully completed all conditionally classified requirements
- successfully completed the Graduation Writing Requirement
- filed a formal study plan
- maintained a minimum 3.0 GPA for all course work completed on the formal study plan

Requirements for the Degree

The formal study plan must include 45 units of graduate committee approved coursework. The approved coursework on the formal study plan is designed to prepare the student to achieve his/her stated career objective. At least 30 of the units must be completed at the 500 level in Kinesiology.

All candidates must meet the current Graduation Writing Requirement.

Each candidate must successfully complete a comprehensive examination before the degree is granted. The examination can take one of two forms: (1) those students following the thesis option must successfully defend the thesis or project in an oral examination, or (2) those students following the non-thesis option must pass a comprehensive examination dealing with current general knowledge in the discipline of kinesiology and the application of coursework taken on the formal study plan.

If the degree requirements are not completed within 7 years, the student will need to complete additional requirements as determined by the graduate committee. See the catalog for "Time Limit for Degree" for more information.

Up to 15 units may be taken in 400/500-level courses outside of the Kinesiology Department with graduate committee approval provided these courses were not required as part of the undergraduate degree program. Only 12 units of 400-level kinesiology courses may be put on the formal study plan.

At least 32 units must be completed in residence and no more than 9 units of graduate committee approved extension courses may be included on the formal study plan.

CURRICULUM FOR MS KINESIOLOGY

	<i>Thesis Option</i>	<i>Non-Thesis Option</i>
KINE 501 Eval Literature & Current Trends in Kinesiology	3	3
KINE 511 Administration and Leadership in Kinesiology	3	3
KINE 517 Research Methods in Kinesiology	3	3
Select from the following:	12	12-20
KINE 503 Current Health Issues (3)		
KINE 522 Adv. Biomechanics (4)		
KINE 525 Adv Motor Learning and Control (3)		
KINE 526 Sport/Exercise Psych (3)		
KINE 530 Advanced Physiology of Exercise (4)		
KINE 539 Effective Practice in Teaching and Coaching (3)		
Approved 400-500 electives	12	12-20
<i>Thesis option</i>	12	—
KINE 518 Research Prospectus and Proposal Writing (2)		
KINE 599 Thesis or Project (3,3)		
STAT 513 Applied Experimental Design/Regression Models (4)		
Elective appropriate for thesis research or applied project (4)		
<i>Non-Thesis option</i>	—	4
STAT 512 Statistical Methods		
Comprehensive Exam	No	Yes
	45	45

For more detailed information or advisement, contact the Kinesiology graduate program coordinator.