

## Concurrent B.S. / M.S. in Kinesiology

The combined B.S/M.S. program will provide exceptional undergraduates with the opportunity to obtain both a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science in Kinesiology in 5 years, a shorter time than typically required to earn a B.S. plus M.S if both degrees are pursued separately. The program has two options, thesis and coursework. In turn, the coursework option has two tracks which permit the completion of the requirements for certification by the American College of Sports Medicine as an Exercise Specialist or Public Health Physical Activity Specialist.

**The goal of the program** is to produce graduates with an in-depth understanding of the fundamentals of kinesiology and a broad set of professional skills. The curriculum will include both coursework and laboratory research experience. Graduates will be well-equipped either to seek applied professional positions or pursue advanced degrees. The advantages of the combined degree to students seeking private sector employment will be entry level positions with higher-level responsibilities, higher pay, and opportunities for more rapid advancement. The rigorous training and combined BS/MS will offer a competitive advantage in the admissions process to students interested in pursuing doctoral (PhD), professional (MD, PT, PA, MPH, Chiropractic) or combined (MD/PhD) degrees.

### Admission Requirements:

- Students may apply for the concurrent B.S./M.S. program from the second semester of the sophomore year through the second semester of the junior year (when they have accumulated 45-90 credit hours toward the B.S degree. Students may apply during the senior year with special permission from the chair of the Kinesiology Department and/or the coordinator of the Graduate Program in Kinesiology.
- Students must have completed the Kinesiology core courses (KIN 220, 310, 335, 336, 345, 346).
- Minimum standards for regular admission and for retention in the program require a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.0 and a G.P.A. of 3.0 in required courses.

### Application Process:

The application process will be the same as for the traditional M.S. degree except that completion of the B.S. degree is not required. The following steps are required:

- KSU graduate application form completed online before semester of enrollment. In general, applicants are only considered for fall enrollment. Application fee of \$30 (personal check, money order, or cashier's check payable to Kansas State University Graduate School) submitted with application.
- Applicant's statement of academic objectives and preferred primary advisor(s) must be submitted with the application.
- Three letters of reference must be submitted with the application.
- Transcript(s) of all undergraduate work must be sent directly to the Graduate Program in Kinesiology.

The graduate program processes the application of the student and forwards it to the Graduate School, as currently occurs for students applying to the normal program. Should the student meet the requirements, provisional admission will be granted, pending the award of the B.S. degree. The B.S. degree may be awarded at any time following the completion of the undergraduate degree requirements. Alternatively, the B.S. and M.S. degrees may be awarded concurrently.

### Program Guidelines and Formats:

A maximum of 9 credit hours will count toward both the B.S. and M.S. degrees. These may include any 600 level and above courses as approved by the student's advisory committee. For the M.S. degree, students must complete 24 hours (thesis option) or 36 hours (coursework option) of course work (which includes the 9 hours described above). In addition, for the thesis option, the student must do research leading to a satisfactory thesis.

Additional conditions include:

- The student must complete 30 (thesis) or 36 (coursework) graduate credit hours with a graduate GPA of at least 3.0.
- The student must complete all B.S. KIN undergraduate requirements with the exception that up to 9 credit hours taken for graduate credit can also count toward his/her undergraduate degree requirements.
- At least 18 of the graduate credit hours on the Graduate Program of Study must be in classes at the 700 level or above.
- Graduate courses in the KIN Department must be at or above the 600 level.
- Graduate courses outside the department must be at or above the 500 level.
- A student pursuing a thesis format must complete at least 6 credit hours of Masters Thesis (KIN 899).

In the first semester after acceptance into the concurrent degree program, the student will select a major professor from the membership of the Graduate Faculty in Kinesiology. The student will work closely with the major professor to form a supervisory committee and file a program of study by the end of the second semester of the junior year. The undergraduate advisor will advise the student in academic progress toward the B.S. degree, and the major professor will supervise the student's academic progress, and research project for the thesis option, for the M.S. degree. Research toward the M.S. thesis should typically begin during the junior year.

The formats for this program are as follows.\*

	Thesis	Coursework
KIN 815 Research Methods	3	3
Statistics course (STAT 702, 703 or PSYCH 830	3	3
KIN 800 Adv Exercise Physiology	3	3
KIN 830 Public Health Physical Act	3	3
Other Courses and Electives	12	24
Thesis	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL GRADUATE CREDITS</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>36</b>

\*Actual degree requirements will be summarized on an approved plan of study.