

New Program Application: Format and Process (UUAC approved on 12.13.00)

Title of program - Kinesiology Athletic Training (KNAT)

Type of degree/s - Degree Track

Home department and program developer/s Kinesiology & Nutrition / Joe Bell

Description of program

This degree track allows the student to obtain the academic preparation and practical experience necessary to sit for the Texas Department of Health licensing examination for Licensed Athletic Trainer (LAT) in the state of Texas and to further matriculate into a Masters of Athletic Training program, should they so desire.

I. Overview

Mission

The mission of Kinesiology Athletic Training major is to prepare students to provide safe environments for sports, prevention of athletic injuries, and treatment modalities to athletes who become injured.

Goal (see Appendix A)

The goal of this program is to provide the competencies necessary for students to pass the Texas Department of Health Licensed Athletic Trainer (LAT) exam and thus, become Licensed Athletic Trainers.

Target Audience

The target audience of the KNAT degree track is made up of undergraduate students who have career goals of serving as athletic trainers in public or private secondary schools or in college or professional settings.

Admissions Requirements

In order to be admitted to the program students must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Students must be admitted to the university (non-probationary).
2. Students must have an overall GPA of 3.0 to be officially admitted into the Athletic Training program after 60 hours.
3. Students must be approved by the head of Athletic Training and the Chair of the Department of Kinesiology & Nutrition at Abilene Christian University.

II. Feasibility Study and Documentation (See "Guidelines for New Programs.")

- A. **Relation to ACU mission** and key emphases (faith/learning, multicultural perspectives, service learning)

One of the most important reasons for supporting a new degree track is the demand for it by prospective students. In the past five years, visitors to ACU, especially to the department of Kinesiology & Nutrition have increasingly been interested in the

area of “Sports Medicine.” The unofficial ratio of students who express interest in this field of study to other areas in the department is about one to five. That is, about 20% of the students who visit are interested in athletic training. The “big splash” recruiting event participants have reported a high number of inquiries about sports medicine.

The relationship of this type of program to ACUs Mission can be seen firmly rooted in the area of service learning. The work of the athletic trainer is often unnoticed and thankless. Trainers spend an unusual amount of hours working to restore athletes to their former playing status. These servants are given a great amount of responsibility and face many important decision making opportunities. The health and safety of entire athletic programs are affected by athletic trainers.

From the multi-cultural perspective, the athletic injury is a commonality to all races and religions. The thoughtful, respectful and supportive athletic trainer is in position to have a significant influence on the life of the young man or woman with whom he/she is working.

B. Societal need for the program

It is unlikely that athletic programs would flourish without the presence of competent Sports Medicine professionals. The need to treat and rehabilitate injured athletes stands as a significant task in sport. Society is provided with significant diversions by sports and would likely reject any activity that could not attend to the health and safety of its participants. One need only observe the current issue in professional football regarding concussions and see that the frontline care of competent athletic trainers is vital.

C. Employment demand for graduates from the program

According to the current **Bureau of Labor Statistics** projections for 2010-2020, there is projected growth in jobs for athletic trainers that exceed the growth projections of all other all other occupations combined. There will be a growth of 22% during the study period. This indicates a significant demand for licensed athletic trainers.

Anecdotal evidence from the observations by our current athletic training staff at ACU suggests that there is sufficient need for additional student athletic trainers on campus. Currently, Action Sports Rehab, a local clinic contracts with the region’s smaller school districts to provide Athletic Training services at their athletic contests. The director of that facility, Martin Caddell, suggests that there is always a need for more trainers in his program and he has yet to fail at finding a job for licensed trainers who have worked in his facility. Statewide, as the number of high school programs requiring licensed trainers increases, there will be continued need for competent, certified athletic trainers.

D. Prospective student interest, student pool

A significant portion of the inquiries and subsequent visits to the Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition are related to “sports medicine.” Most of these are interested in athletic training as a career. Approximately 8-9 students have spoken to the Athletic Trainers who are interested in Athletic Training as a profession this spring and summer and are admitted to ACU.

As suggested in the rationale, the interest in this program is high. There have been many inquiries about it from prospective students and current students. Presently, the other two universities in Abilene offer programs, as do most universities in the region. It is possible that we could have as many as 15 to 20 new students as a result of starting this program. For the fall of 2014, KINE 391 Basic Sports Medicine, 15 students are enrolled.

III. Curriculum Outline (See “Guidelines for New Programs.”)

- A. See Appendix A – Competencies and Measures
- B. See Appendix B – Degree Grid

IV. Institutional Supports Required from ACU (See “Guidelines for New Programs.”)

A. Faculty requirements and availability; impact on current loads

There will be no additional faculty requirements for this program because three of the Athletic Training courses are already being taught. Two adjuncts per semester are required to teach the five three-hour courses each year at ACU. In addition, the one-hour practicum course each semester will require an adjunct for a maximum of \$2,000 per year. The total adjunct cost will be \$13,750 - 15,250 per year.

B. Staff requirements and impact on current loads

Staff requirements would not change, except for the small increase in advising load.

C. Impact on existing programs in home department and other departments

The impact on current Kinesiology & Nutrition programs would be manageable. There may be a few students who are in Pre - PT/OT who choose this route and there may be a few from other teaching fields who would choose to pursue this from a teacher/coach perspective. There should be a manageable increase in total department numbers and thus an increase in advising loads.

D. Administration and leadership for the program

The administration of the program would still be under the umbrella of Kinesiology & Nutrition. However, the advising and supervision of practicum experiences would be done by the qualified athletic trainers in the Department of Athletics.

E. Library requirements

There are no requirements for library resources beyond current offerings.

F. Equipment, classroom/lab space, office space requirements

There is no impact on this. Current state-of-the-art facilities exist in the Department of Athletics and at Action Sports Rehab. Courses are already being taught and have had no significant impact upon classroom space.

G. Recruiting and scholarship plans

Action Sports has committed to assist with up to 300 hours of each student trainer's practicum hours (paid positions). Students are already coming to recruiting events desiring this program. Additional recruiting would not be a factor. Adam Ybarra, Athletic Trainer, has stated he is more than happy to talk to interested prospective students. The ACU Athletic Department is capable of providing 1500 practicum hours for each student.

H. Impact on revenue of the university

The impact on the university should be positive related to an increase in the number of students who choose ACU because of the program.

Students will perform several written and practical tests and complete 1800 hours of practical experience as prescribed by the Texas Department of Health in order to qualify to sit for the Texas Department of Health Licensed Athletic Trainers exam.

VIII. Approvals for Kinesiology Athletic Training (KNAT) *Display all approvals on one page.*

- A. **Department Chair:** Attach review comments of 200-300 words.

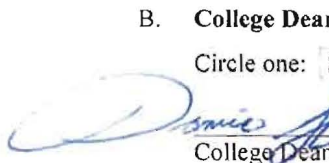
Circle one: ☒ Strongly support ☐ Forward w/ no recommendation ☐ Do NOT support


Sheila Jones
Department Chair

10/07/14
Date

- B. **College Dean:** Attach review comments of 200-300 words.

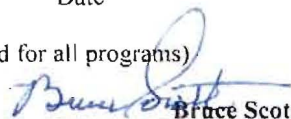
Circle one: ☒ Strongly support ☐ Forward w/ no recommendation ☐ Do NOT support


Donnie Snider
College Dean

10/07/14
Date

- C. **College Academic Council Action:** (required for all programs)

Approved ☒ Denied ☐


Bruce Scott
College Dean or Director

10/07/14
Date

- D. **Graduate Council Action:** (for graduate level programs)

Approved ☐ Denied ☐

Dean of Graduate School Date

- E. **University Undergraduate Academic Council Action:** (for undergraduate level programs)

Approved ☐ Denied ☐

Associate Provost Date

- F. **University Budget Committee Action:** (required for all degrees)

Approved ☐ Denied ☐

UBC Chair Date

- G. **University Planning Committee Action:** (required for all degrees)

Approved ☐ Denied ☐

UPC Chair Date

- H. **Provost Action:** (required for all programs)

Approved ☐ Denied ☐

Provost Date

- I. **President of the University Action:** (required for all programs)

Approved ☐ Denied ☐

President Date



TO: Susan Lewis, Ed. D., Vice Provost and Chair for the University
Undergraduate Academic Council

FROM:  Donnie Snider, Ed. D., Dean for the College of Education and Human
Services

DATE: October 14, 2014

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE KINESIOLOGY
ATHLETIC TRAINING (KNAT) DEGREE

I strongly support the creation of a new degree in Kinesiology Athletic Training (KNAT). This degree has strong support from the Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition, from the ACU Athletic Training Department, and from area orthopedic doctors. The Department reports that this degree is asked for by prospective freshmen applicants annually. It is a vocation that fits with the mission of the College and University. According to the National Athletic Trainers' Association, "athletic trainers are health care professionals who . . . provide preventative services, emergency care, clinical diagnosis, therapeutic intervention, and rehabilitation. . . ." Also, with the move by athletics to NCAA Division I status, the current athletic trainer is indicating an additional need for support of our student-athletes.

It should be noted that the United States Department of Labor's *2012 Occupational Outlook Handbook* reports that the expected growth from 2012-2022 for Athletic Trainers is 19% as compared to an 11% growth for all occupations. Since nearly 70% of all athletic trainers have completed a master's degree, we see this degree as a springboard for adding a master's degree program in the future.

Please feel free to contact me if you have additional questions regarding this program.



October 14, 2014

To Academic Councils:

Repeated requests by prospective students regarding the offering of a degree track in "Sports Medicine" (Athletic Training) have resulted in the development of a proposal for a new track in Athletic Training within the Department of Kinesiology & Nutrition. Two specific sources were used to determine the feasibility of this offering. First, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reports that the demand will be very high for Athletic Trainers from 2012 to 2022. The BLS report suggested that the market growth is estimated to be 21% during the study period. This rate is considered faster than average. According to the report, this number exceeds the demand for all other allied health professions.

The Athletic Training degree track will allow students to obtain the academic preparation and practical experience necessary to sit for the Texas Department of Health licensing examination for Licensed Athletic Trainer (LAT) in the state of Texas. They may then matriculate into Masters of Athletic Training programs, should they so desire.

The B.S. degree obtained in an Athletic Training program requires that 1800 clock hours of experience be completed. Cory Driskill and Adam Ybarra in the Department of Athletics at ACU are extremely supportive of an Athletic Training program. They state they will be able to provide clock-hours for the students. In addition, Martin Caddell, partner and director of the Action sports rehabilitation facility, and Randy Harriman, Mr. Caddell's assistant, are also very supportive and state they are prepared to offer 300 clock hours for ACU Athletic Training students. Two physicians at the Action facility have indicated they would like to serve as guest lecturers for two of the courses in the program.

Due to the support of the Athletic Trainers in the Department of Athletics at ACU, support off-campus from the Action facility personnel, and the obvious interest of prospective students, I am in complete support of an Athletic Training track in the Department of Kinesiology & Nutrition. Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Sheila Jones
Chair, Department of Kinesiology & Nutrition

Appendix A: Competencies and Measures for KNAT

Competency	Measure	Evidence
1. Students will be able to assess and interpret findings from a physical examination based on the patient's clinical presentation.	Identification of Upper and Lower Body Injuries on Practical and Written Exams	Content in KINE 440 Assessment of Injury I & II
2. Students will perform appropriate taping and strapping techniques for stabilization of injured segments and prevention of injury.	Practical application and exams	Content of KINE 391 Basic Athletic Training
3. Students will apply evidence-based practice in sports medicine through practicum experiences.	Participation as a student trainer in the Department of Athletics and Action Zone Sports	Practicum I - VI (1500 hrs)
4. Students will organize and coordinate sports medicine services and facilities in a school setting.	Written Exams and Projects in KINE 396	Content of KINE 396 Advanced Athletic Training
5. Students will perform emergency first aid procedures.	Exams on the Care and Prevention of Athletic Injuries	Content of KINE 391 Basic Athletic Training
6. Students will understand the methods of assessing patient status and progress and make informed decisions regarding the safety of returning to athletic	Exams in Therapeutic Exercise	Content of KINE 495 Therapeutic Exercise

competition.

7. Students will assess the safety of athletic facilities and equipment.

Exams and projects in Basic Athletic Training

Content in KINE 391
Basic Athletic Training