TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN PERFORMANCE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND KINESIOLOGY

MASTER OF SCIENCE
IN KINESIOLOGY

PROGRAM GUIDELINES AND
PROCEDURES MANUAL

(Effective September, 2011)
THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN KINESIOLOGY

Advanced study in Health and Kinesiology provides students an opportunity to improve their proficiency as master teachers or exercise professionals, can prepare them to become administrators in their field, and/or can prepare them for doctoral studies in their kinesiology discipline of interest. The Department of Health & Kinesiology offers coursework leading to the M.S. in Kinesiology with a flexible curriculum to meet the specific needs and interests of the student. Students may pursue a generalist degree or choose to tailor their major elective, supporting field coursework, and research so that their degree plan emphasizes sport administration/kinesiology pedagogy or health/exercise science.

PROGRAM MISSION

The mission of the M.S. in Kinesiology Program is to promote the study of health/fitness/wellness, sport administration, pedagogy, and exercise science through teaching, research, and service in health and kinesiology. The Program seeks to advance the kinesiology disciplines through the discovery and dispersion of human movement-related knowledge. A critical aspect of these efforts is to provide students with the knowledge and skills for advanced study or careers in the health- and kinesiology-related fields, and develop graduates who are strong in character and lifelong learners.

GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

This document is intended to facilitate smooth completion of degree requirements and inform the graduate student of rules and regulations specific to the Department of Health and Kinesiology. This document is meant to supplement the official rules and regulations of the University, the College of Graduate Studies, and the College of Education and Human Performance. Students are encouraged to obtain and become familiar with the TAMUK Student Handbook and the College of Graduate Studies Catalog. It is ultimately the responsibility of the student to ensure that they meet the degree requirements set forth by the University, the College of Graduate Studies, the College of Education and Human Performance, and the Department of Health & Kinesiology. Students are encouraged to consult with the M.S. in Kinesiology Program Coordinator or Advisor with any questions they may have concerning their progression through the degree program.
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I. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A. Applicants must meet requirements for admission to the TAMUK College of Graduate Studies as defined by the College of Graduate Studies Catalog, including GPA and GRE/MAT requirements specific to the College of Education and Human Performance (http://www.tamuk.edu/grad/admission_table.html).

1. A student must be admitted to the TAMUK College of Graduate Studies at TAMUK prior to consideration for admission to the M.S. in Kinesiology Program. Applications to the TAMUK College of Graduate Studies should be submitted using the Texas Common Application at www.applytexas.org for U.S. citizens. International students should contact the Office of International Admissions for information at international.inquiries@tamuk.edu.

2. Admission to the TAMUK College of Graduate Studies does not guarantee admission to the M.S. in Kinesiology Program. The final decision concerning the admission of a student to the Program rests with the Program Coordinator in consultation with the Department of Health & Kinesiology Graduate Faculty (See Section X.).

B. Applicants must demonstrate the ability to communicate in writing at the level required to enable successful progression through the M.S. in Kinesiology Program.

1. For unconditional admission to the Program, students who are required by the College of Graduate Studies to take the TOEFL examination for admission are required to earn a score of at least 4.5 (PBT and CBT) / 18 (IBT) on the writing portion of the TOEFL and a score of at least 3.5 on the analytical writing portion of the GRE. If the GRE is not taken at the time of application, these students may submit a writing sample for evaluation by the Department's Graduate Faculty. Please contact the Graduate Coordinator for more information on the procedures for submitting a writing sample.

2. For unconditional admission to the Program, students who are not required by the College of Graduate Studies to take the TOEFL examination for admission are required to earn a score of at least 3.5 on the analytical writing portion of the GRE. If the GRE is not taken at the time of application, these students may submit a writing sample for evaluation by the Department's Graduate Faculty. Please contact the Graduate Coordinator for more information on the procedures for submitting a writing sample.
C. Applicants must have undergraduate education in health, kinesiology, or a related area.

1. An applicant who holds a Bachelor’s degree in kinesiology or related area from a regionally accredited college or university is eligible for admission into the Program if his/her performance in critical undergraduate coursework is deemed acceptable. An applicant who lacks certain critical coursework or whose performance in certain critical coursework is deemed unacceptable might be required to complete prerequisite undergraduate coursework prior to or early in his/her graduate coursework.

2. An applicant who holds a Bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited college or university in an area unrelated to kinesiology may be considered for admission to the Program if he/she has completed at least 18 credit hours of kinesiology-related undergraduate coursework. Of these 18 credit hours, at least 12 credit hours must be advanced. Additionally, the 18 credit hours must reflect acceptable performance in an adequate number of courses deemed to be critical coursework. An applicant who lacks certain critical coursework or whose performance in certain critical coursework is deemed unacceptable might be required to complete prerequisite undergraduate coursework prior to or early in his/her graduate coursework.

a Critical undergraduate coursework may include but is not limited to the following areas:
   i. anatomy/physiology
   ii. motor control, motor learning, motor behavior, or motor development
   iii. sport or performance psychology
   iv. biomechanics or kinesiology
   v. exercise physiology
   vi. tests, measurements, and evaluation
   vii. kinesiology for special populations (e.g., adapted PE)
   viii. exercise testing and prescription

b Acceptable performance is defined as a grade of “C” or above in any particular course, and a “B” average across all critical undergraduate coursework.

D. Applicants must have a sincere interest in sports administration, kinesiology pedagogy, health/fitness, and/or the exercise sciences.

E. Applicants must have demonstrated a high-level of professional and ethical conduct during their academic career to date.

F. Applicants, especially those whose qualifications are marginal, are encouraged to request letters of recommendation from their undergraduate professors. Letters of recommendation should be forwarded directly to the Program Coordinator.
II. GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

A. Graduate Assistantships: A limited number of graduate assistantships are available to qualified graduate students. The Chair or the Department of Health & Kinesiology is responsible for filling these positions in consultation with the Program Coordinator. Interested applicants should notify the Program Coordinator for an application. Please note the following concerning graduate assistantships:

1. Admission in the Program does not necessarily qualify a student to receive a graduate assistantship. Successful graduate assistantship applicants typically hold a Bachelor’s degree in kinesiology or a related field and demonstrated outstanding performance (i.e., GPA \( \geq 3.00/4.00 \)) during their undergraduate studies.

2. GAs must be enrolled in at least 9 credit hours each semester (i.e., GAs must be full-time students) unless approved in advance by the Program Coordinator. All courses must be graduate-level and applicable to the M.S. in Kinesiology degree unless approved in advance by the Program Coordinator. NOTE: There are situations where the Program Coordinator will approve enrollment below 9 credit hours or approve undergraduate courses to count towards a GA’s full-time status. These cases will be considered on an individual basis and must be approved prior to the applicable semester.

3. GAs must be making satisfactory academic progress towards the M.S. in Kinesiology degree in order to retain a graduate assistantship. A GA who is not making satisfactory academic progress (e.g., academic probation, dropping below full-time status during a semester, etc.) will be subject to review by the Program Coordinator in consultation with the Graduate Faculty. In such cases, the Program Coordinator may recommend revocation of a GA’s assistantship to the Department Chair.

4. Typical GA duties include assisting faculty with class instruction/labs, assisting faculty with research projects, instruction of activity courses within the Department of Health & Kinesiology (3 courses = 9 contact hours/week), and the maintenance of weekly office hours in the SPEC Computer Lab. In special situations GAs will be assigned to assist the Department Chair. It is strongly recommended that GAs not take on additional responsibilities (e.g., part-time job, other assistantships) outside of their full-time course load and GA duties. Outside activities and responsibilities will not be considered legitimate excuses for a GA’s poor performance of his/her assigned duties in the Department of Health & Kinesiology. Poor performance of his/her assigned duties will subject the GA to review by the Program Coordinator in consultation with the Graduate Faculty. In such cases, the Program Coordinator may recommend revocation of a GA’s assistantship to the Department Chair.
5. Graduate assistantships may be awarded for a single semester (fall or spring semester) or for an academic year (fall and spring semester). Receiving an assistantship for a particular semester or academic year does not guarantee that a student will be awarded an assistantship in subsequent semesters or academic years. Except in special situations, students are not eligible for assistantships after they have been in the program for two years (i.e., four long semesters).

6. Graduate assistantships include a monthly stipend and non-resident tuition waiver (i.e., non-resident students qualify for resident tuition rates).

B. Graduate Scholarships: A number of $1000 scholarships are awarded each year by the College of Graduate Studies. The Program Coordinator will notify students of the application procedures for these scholarships each spring semester. All students are encouraged to apply for these scholarships each spring semester.
III. ADVISEMENT

Students are required to make contact with the Program Advisor (the Graduate Program Coordinator) as soon as possible after their admission to the Program. Please make note of the following important information concerning advisement:

A. Students are responsible for making sure that the Program Advisor has their current contact information including a current e-mail address.

B. E-mail will be the primary means through which the Program Coordinator and Program Advisor will communicate important information to the students. **GRADUATE STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO CHECK THEIR E-MAIL ON A DAILY BASIS.** Failure to comply with this request will not constitute a valid excuse for not being familiar with critical information that has been disseminated by the Program Coordinator and Advisor (e.g., policy changes, appointments, deadlines, etc.).

C. Important information will be e-mailed to students, posted on the M.S. in Kinesiology Program website, and posted on the Program bulletin board in the SPEC. Students are responsible for checking all of these on a regular basis.

D. It is ultimately the responsibility of the student to ensure that they meet the degree requirements set forth by the University, the College of Graduate Studies, the College of Education and Human Performance, and the Department of Health & Kinesiology. The student is encouraged to consult with the Program Coordinator or Advisor with any questions he/she may have concerning their progression through the degree program.

E. Students are required to file an initial degree plan with the Program Advisor during their first semester of coursework in the Program.

F. Students are required to file a final degree plan with the Program Advisor during the semester prior to their anticipated graduation.

G. Students should ensure that the requirements for graduation are completed by the appropriate deadlines according to the instructions contained in the "Checklist for Graduation Requirements." This document is normally sent to students the semester before their anticipated graduation. Students are responsible for bringing to the attention of the Program Advisor any problems associated with them meeting the requirements for graduation.
IV. DEGREE PLANS

The Program Advisor will advise students on which of the following four degree plans is most appropriate for them to meet their educational and career goals.

**PLAN I-A Major with Thesis and Supporting Field:** Plan I-A’s 30 credit hour requirement is met through major core and elective coursework (12-18 credit hours), major thesis research (6 credit hours), and coursework in a supporting field of study (6-12 credit hours).

**MAJOR CORE COURSES (9 credit hours):**
1. EDKN 5312: Physiology of Exercise
2. EDKN 5317: Research in Kinesiology
3. EDKN 5338: Statistical Analysis of Research Data

**MAJOR ELECTIVE COURSES (3-9 credit hours):**
Select from applicable EDKN courses (see Section VIII.).

**MAJOR THESIS RESEARCH (6 credit hours):**
1. EDKN 5306A-Thesis I
2. EDKN 5306B-Thesis II

**SUPPORTING FIELD COURSES (6-12 credit hours):**
Select from applicable courses within the support field. NOTE: Support fields and courses must be approved by the Program Advisor.

**PLAN I-B Major with Thesis:** Plan I-B’s 30 credit hour requirement is met through major core and elective coursework (24 credit hours) and major thesis research (6 credit hours).

**MAJOR CORE COURSES (9 credit hours):**
1. EDKN 5312: Physiology of Exercise
2. EDKN 5317: Research in Kinesiology
3. EDKN 5338: Statistical Analysis of Research Data

**MAJOR ELECTIVE COURSES (15 credit hours):**
Select from applicable EDKN courses (see Section VIII.) or approved courses in a resource area outside EDKN. NOTE: No more than 6 credit hours outside of EDKN may be used as major electives for Plan I-B.

**MAJOR THESIS RESEARCH (6 credit hours):**
1. EDKN 5306A-Thesis I
2. EDKN 5306B-Thesis II
**PLAN II** Major with Research Project and Supporting Field: Plan II’s 36 credit hour requirement is met through major core and elective coursework (21 credit hours), major research project (3 credit hours), and coursework in a supporting field of study (12 credit hours).

**MAJOR CORE COURSES (9 credit hours):**
1. EDKN 5312: Physiology of Exercise  
2. EDKN 5317: Research in Kinesiology  
3. EDKN 5338: Statistical Analysis of Research Data

**MAJOR ELECTIVE COURSES (12 credit hours):**
Select from applicable EDKN courses (see Section VIII.).

**MAJOR RESEARCH PROJECT (3 credit hours):**
1. EDKN 5305-Graduate Research Project

**SUPPORTING FIELD COURSES (12 credit hours):**
Select from applicable courses within the support field. NOTE: Support fields and courses must be approved by the Program Advisor.

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**PLAN III** Major with Research Project and Resource Areas: Plan III’s 36 credit hour requirement is met through major core and elective coursework (21-24 credit hours), major research project (3 credit hours), and coursework in one (9 credit hours) or two (6 credit hours each = 12 credit hours) resource areas (courses from a concentrated area of study).

**MAJOR CORE COURSES (9 credit hours):**
1. EDKN 5312: Physiology of Exercise  
2. EDKN 5317: Research in Kinesiology  
3. EDKN 5338: Statistical Analysis of Research Data

**MAJOR ELECTIVE COURSES (12-15 credit hours):**
Select from applicable EDKN courses (see Section VIII.).

**MAJOR RESEARCH PROJECT (3 credit hours):**
1. EDKN 5305-Graduate Research Project

**RESOURCE AREA(S) COURSES (9-12 credit hours):**
Select from applicable courses within the resource area(s). NOTE: Resource areas and courses must be approved by the Program Advisor.
V. THESIS VS. RESEARCH PROJECT

Learning to read and conduct research is a major student learner outcome associated with a graduate-level education in the Department of Health & Kinesiology. Depending on which degree plan the student selects, he/she will be required to complete either thesis research (Plans I-A and I-B) or a research project (Plans II and III) as a part of his/her degree. While the decision as to which route to pursue (i.e., which degree plan) is ultimately the student’s, the Program Advisor will help the student decide which of these options are best for the student to meet his/her educational and career goals. While the College of Graduate Studies Catalog details the differences between thesis research and a research project, the following information might also help the student make his/her decision:

A. Both the thesis and the research project must be written to conform to thesis manual specifications. This means that the style and formality of writing is similar for both.

B. Thesis research requires the formation of a formal Thesis Committee comprised of at least three graduate faculty members, while the research project is supervised by a single graduate faculty member (i.e., the instructor of EDKN 5305). However, the final written documents for both the thesis and the research project must satisfy the requirements of the Department Chair and College of Graduate Studies Dean. The Thesis Committee includes a Committee Chair who will serve as the primary mentor for the student’s research efforts. The selection of a Thesis Committee Chair is ultimately the student’s decision, but the Program Coordinator and Advisor will help direct the student towards the graduate faculty member whose expertise and research interests are best suited to the student’s area of research interest. Once the student has selected his/her Thesis Committee Chair, they will jointly decide on the remaining members of the students Thesis Committee.

C. The research project is less “intense” than the thesis. This means that the topic, data collection, and writing of the research project are less involved than that required in thesis research. However, this does not mean that the research project is significantly “easier” than thesis research.

D. The course format for completing a thesis is different from that of the research project.

1. Thesis (EDKN 5306A and B): The 30 credit hour thesis degree plans (Plans I-A and I-B) requires two courses in which to complete the research requirements: EDKN 5306A, where the student completes the research proposal and begins data collection, and EDKN 5306B, where the student completes data collection, prepares the written thesis, and defends the thesis research.
   a. A student must complete the requirements in EDKN 5306A before taking EDKN 5306B. A student may not register for 5306A and 5306B in the same semester.
b. A student may receive an "IP" (in progress) in each course until all requirements have been satisfied. Enrollment must be consecutive (i.e., the student must enroll every semester until completion).

c. A student’s Thesis Committee must be available in order for a student to work on a thesis during the summer terms. The graduate student must seek the approval of the involved committee members before enrolling in summer thesis work.

2. Research Project (EDKN 5305): The 36 credit hour research project degree plans (Plans II and III) requires one course in which to complete the research requirements: EDKN 5305. Students are required to finish the research project in one semester, their final spring semester in the Program.

a. **EDKN 5305 is offered in the spring semesters only.** If a student does not finish the research project during the semester enrolled, he/she must wait until the course is offered again (i.e., the following spring) to complete the research requirements for the degree requirements.

b. At their discretion, research project supervisors may decide to not continue supervision of a research project after the semester in which the student is enrolled in EDKN 5305 has ended. In these cases, students will have to wait until the next time EDKN 5305 is offered (i.e., the following spring semester) to seek advisement from their research supervisor. Additionally, while the Department tries to keep students assigned to a particular research supervisor for however long it takes the student to complete their project, there are cases where research supervisor assignments for EDKN 5305 might be changed. Therefore, students who fail to complete the research project under a certain supervisor during their initial semester of enrollment in EDKN 5305 might be faced with having to meet the requirements and expectations of a different supervisor in subsequent semesters. Needless to say, both of these scenarios are less than optimal from a learning experience standpoint and students are strongly encouraged to complete their research projects within the semester they initially enroll in the course.

E. Those students considering pursuing a terminal degree at any time in the future are strongly encouraged to consider pursuing one of the thesis degree plans (i.e., Plans I-A and I-B). While some doctoral programs will require applicants to have written a thesis during their Master’s work, others won’t. However, for those who do not require it, many will require the students to conduct thesis research upon entry to the doctoral program (i.e., the doctoral student will have to perform a make-up thesis). Universities in Texas which currently grant doctoral degrees in kinesiology or related areas include: Baylor University, Texas A&M University-College Station, Texas Tech University,
Texas Woman's University, University of Houston, and University of Texas-Austin. Universities in neighboring states which currently grant doctoral degrees in kinesiology or related areas include: University of New Mexico, University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, University of Arkansas, University of New Orleans, and Louisiana State University.

F. Students should enroll in EDKN 5317-Research in Kinesiology early in their progression through the program. This course will help them begin to prepare a problem statement regardless of which research option they choose.

G. Students are generally better off selecting a thesis/research topic and following through with that particular topic. It is unwise to change a topic unless absolutely necessary. Changing topics makes the student start over with respect to research design and the accumulation of related literature which will significantly delay the completion of the research project.

H. Regardless of which research option the student selects he/she is encouraged to seek counsel from Graduate Faculty with expertise and interest in the student’s area of interest when deciding on a research topic. See Section X. For a list of Graduate Faculty, their research interests, and their areas of expertise.
VI. COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATIONS (COMPS)

The College of Graduate Studies requires that all graduate students demonstrate proficiency in the major subject by passing comps in that area. Additionally, if the student has a supporting field where at least 9 credit hours of coursework were taken, the student must demonstrate proficiency in the supporting field by passing a comp in that area. For students in Plans II and III, comps should be taken during the student’s final semester of coursework. For students in Plans I-A and I-B, comps should be taken before beginning thesis work if possible (i.e., if adequate coursework has been completed).

A. Comp Declaration: Graduate students are required to declare their intent to take comps no later than one month prior to the scheduled comp date. The Coordinator will send out a call for comp declarations two months prior to each comp date.

B. Comp Topics: Students will be required to take comps and demonstrate proficiency in the following areas:

1. Research Methods and Statistical Analysis: This comp will cover material from EDKN 5317 (Research in Kinesiology) and 5338 (Statistical Analysis of Research Data).

2. Health/Exercise Science: This comp will cover material from EDKN 5312 (Physiology of Exercise) and another course listed under the Health/Exercise Science classification in Section VIII. The student will be allowed to select the second course to be covered on the comp. This selection will be made at the time the comp declaration is made. The second course selected must appear on the student’s final degree plan. In the event that the student did not take a second Health/Exercise Science course, the comp will cover material from EDKN 5312 only.

3. Sport Administration/Kinesiology Pedagogy: This comp will cover material from two courses listed under the Sport Administration/Kinesiology Pedagogy classification in Section VIII. The student will be allowed to select the two courses to be covered on the comp. This selection will be made at the time the comp declaration is made. The two courses selected must appear on the student’s final degree plan. In the event that a student has taken only one Sport Administration/ Kinesiology Pedagogy course, the comp will cover material from that course only. In the event that a student has taken no Sport Administration/ Kinesiology Pedagogy courses, the student will take a second comprehensive examination in Health/Exercise Science.

4. Supporting Field/Resource Area: If the student has a support field/resource area with at least 9 credit hours of coursework from a specific discipline, he/she
will be required to take a fourth comp covering the material from the supporting field/resource area.

Each of the three/four comps will be prepared by, and graded by the faculty member(s) who instructed the student in the applicable courses during their graduate work. This means that for a particular comp more than one faculty member may prepare a portion of the exam, and evaluate a portion of the exam. In the event that the faculty member(s) who instructed the student is no longer at TAMUK, the faculty member(s) currently instructing the applicable courses will be responsible for preparing/grading the comp.

C. Comp Schedule: The Program Coordinator will notify all graduate students of the specific dates for comps at least two months before the examination dates. However, the comps are generally given in mid-October (fall), mid-March (spring), and late-June (summer). Comps will be administered over two days (M and W, or T and Th) in the following order*:

Day 1  
9:00am – 12:00pm: Research Methods and Statistical Analysis  
1:00pm – 4:00pm: Sport Administration/Kinesiology Pedagogy

Day 2  
9:00am – 12:00pm: Health/Exercise Science  
1:00pm – 4:00pm: Supporting Field/Resource Area (if applicable)

*The days of the week may be changed depending on circumstances, such as the number of students who are employed and working during the day.

D. Comp Performance Requirement: To “pass comps” and fulfill this requirement for the degree, students are required to demonstrate satisfactory Master’s-level performance (i.e., proficiency) on each of the three/four comps they take. Within a given comp, the student must demonstrate satisfactory Master’s-level performance within all areas covered on that examination to pass that particular comp. For example, for a student to demonstrate proficiency in the area of Research Methods and Statistical Analysis, he/she must be proficient in the material from both EDKN 5317 (Research in Kinesiology) and EDKN 5338 (Statistical Analysis of Research Data). It will be up to the faculty member(s) grading each particular comp to determine what is “satisfactory Master’s-level performance (i.e., proficiency).”

E. Preparing for Comps: Once a student has declared their intent to take Comps, and has designated the specific courses to be tested, they may contact the faculty members responsible for preparing his/her comps to request study guidance. These faculty members may provide the student with direction in how to prepare for his/her comps in the specific areas, including providing the student with study guides if available. The degree of direction provided will be determined by the faculty member. Students are encouraged to declare their intent in the semester prior to taking Comps.

F. Comps Results: Each Comp section is graded by the faculty member who prepared that section, and that faculty member will determine proficiency. Evaluation of comps
usually takes approximately two weeks. The student will be notified as to their pass/fail status. Graded comps papers are NOT given back to students, no matter the result. If the student has failed any portion of the comps, the responsible faculty member will, at the request of the student, counsel the student as to strengths and weaknesses, along with guidance in studying for the re-take.

G. Comp Re-Takes: If a student fails to demonstrate proficiency on one or more of the three/four comps (i.e., he/she does not “pass” comps), he/she will be given an opportunity to re-take comps once. The decision as to whether or not the student will be required to re-take all three/four comps, or just the comps on which his/her performance was deemed to be unsatisfactory, will be made by the Graduate Faculty. The student may not change which courses are covered on the comp re-take. The specific items on the examinations for comp re-takes may or may not be the same as the items on the original comps. The student is not assured that he/she will see the same examination as he/she saw during their original attempt to pass comps. Additionally, if an alternative form of examination is available for the comps the student is required to re-take (e.g., if the original comp was a written exam, but it is possible for the exam to be administered orally), the student may opt to take the alternative form of the comp. The determination as to whether or not an alternative format is possible for a given comp will be made by the faculty member(s) responsible for preparing the comp.

H. Preparing for Comp Re-Takes: Students are encouraged contact the faculty appropriate faculty for direction in preparing for comp re-takes. If possible, the student should consider auditing appropriate coursework or seeking peer tutoring to help him/her prepare.

I. Comp Re-Take Schedule: Comp re-takes can only be scheduled during the normally scheduled administration of comps (see VI. C.). That is, if the student does not pass comps in a particular semester, he/she must wait at least until the next semester to re-take comps. The student must declare his/her intent to re-take comps according to the guidelines detailed in Section VI.A.. Additionally, the student must re-take comps prior to when his/her five year time limit for earning the degree is reached.

J. Failure to Pass Comps: If a student fails to pass comps (i.e., fails to perform in a satisfactory manner on one or more of the three/four comps), then fails the single re-take of comps (i.e., again fails to perform in a satisfactory manner on one or more of the three/four comps), he/she will have failed to meet the requirements for the degree. The student will be withdrawn from the Program.
VII. OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION

A. Students must be aware of College of Graduate Studies deadlines for graduation. Paperwork for May graduation typically is typically due in late-November, August graduation in early-May, and December graduation in late-July. The Program Coordinator may post the specific dates and e-mail the graduate students when the Dean releases this information each semester. However, it is the responsibility of the student to be aware of deadlines.

B. Students are encouraged to obtain copies and to familiarize themselves with the following documents:

1. College of Graduate Studies catalog (available on-line or from the College).
2. Tentative long-term course offering schedules (may or may not be available from the Program Coordinator and/or Department Chair of the department in which you are interested in taking graduate coursework).
3. College of Graduate Studies Thesis Manual (regardless of which degree plan the student is following, available on-line from the College of Graduate Studies).
4. Institutional Review Board (IRB) for the Protection of Human Subjects Manual (regardless of which degree plan the student is following, available on-line from the College of Graduate Studies).

C. Students should sharpen their computer skills. Graduate students should have a functional knowledge of basic computer programs such as Microsoft Word, Excel, and Power Point, as well as how to conduct internet searches. Workshops are conducted on campus for students whose computer skills may be lacking.

D. Grades of “D” and “F” do not count towards the degree but will count towards the student’s GPA.

E. Students are encouraged to take the major core courses (EDKN 5312, 5317, 5338) as soon as possible during their progression through the Program. These courses are required for the degree and in the event that a student earns a “D” or “F” in one of these courses, they may not be replaced on his/her degree plan with any other course. That is, they must be re-taken the next time they are offered which could be a year from when the course was originally taken.

F. Students should enroll in courses as soon as possible once registration opens. If this is not possible, they should notify the Program Coordinator of their intent to enroll in courses. This will reduce the likelihood of a graduate class for an upcoming term being cancelled due to projected low enrollment.

G. Students must contact the Program Coordinator/Advisor early in the semester for advisement concerning coursework for the following semester.
VIII. GRADUATE COURSES

CORE COURSES / RESEARCH COURSES (REQUIRED)
EDKN 5305: Graduate Research Project (for Plans II and III)
EDKN 5306A & B: Thesis (2 semesters) (for Plans I-A and I-B)
EDKN 5312: Physiology of Exercise
EDKN 5317: Research in Kinesiology
EDKN 5338: Statistical Analysis of Research Data

SPORT ADMINISTRATION/KINESIOLOGY PEDAGOGY ELECTIVES
EDKN 5301: Sports Coaching and Officiating
EDKN 5303: Teaching College Physical Education
EDKN 5308: Administration of Athletics
EDKN 5309: Organization and Administration of Kinesiology Programs
EDKN 5315: Current Issues in Kinesiology Programs
EDKN 5316: History and Philosophy of Sport and Human Performance
EDKN 5333/4: Sport and Athletic Law

HEALTH/EXERCISE SCIENCE ELECTIVES
EDHL 5311: Scientific Foundations of Health Education
EDHL 5321: Critical Analysis of Current Issues in Health Education
EDHL 5322/4: Drug Education
EDHL 5322/8: Healthy Aging
EDHL 5322/10: Cardiovascular Health
EDHL 5322/12: Health Program Planning and Evaluation
EDKN 5333/1: Psychological Aspects of Kinesiology
EDKN 5333/2: Motor Development
EDKN 5333/3: Exercise Testing and Prescription
EDKN 5333/5: Fitness, Nutrition, and Weight Control
EDKN 5333/6: Performance in Environmental Extremes
EDKN 5333/7: Youth Fitness and Performance
EDKN 5333/8: Aging and Physical Activity
IX. THE HUMAN PERFORMANCE LABORATORY (HPL)

For those students interested in the exercise sciences or the testing, measurement, and evaluation of human performance variables, the Department of Health & Kinesiology’s Human Performance Laboratory (HPL) is located in the Health & Recreation Building and is comprised of the main lab (HR 203) and four sub-labs [Performance Psychology (HR 208), Exercise Biochemistry (HR 106a), Body Composition Assessment I (HR 106b), and Body Composition Assessment II (HR 201)]. Students may use equipment housed in the HPL during their data collection for EDKN 5305 or 5306. Students with an interest in this area are strongly encouraged to take EDKN 5333/3: Exercise Testing and Prescription.

Equipment housed in the HPL includes:

Ergometers: Treadmills (Laboratory Grade and Industry Grade), Stationary Cycles (Pendulum and Basket Drop), High-Load Stationary Cycle with Computer Interface (for Anaerobic Power Testing), Arm Crank, Jackson Isometric Strength Device (Load Cell), Hand Grip Dynamometers

Range of Motion/Muscular Flexibility: Sit-and-Reach Boxes (Standard and Modified), Total Body Rotation Devices, Shoulder Body Rotation Devices, Goniometers, Flexiometers

Body Composition Assessment: Skinfold Calipers (Lange), Anthropometers, Anthropometric Measuring Tape, Bioelectric Impedance Analyzer (Multi-frequency), Hydrostatic Chamber, Whole Body Plethysmograph (Bod Pod), Physician's Platform Scales, Stadiometers

Metabolic/Pulmonary: Metabolic Cart, Dry (Bellows) Spirometer, Peak Expiratory Flow Meters, Scholander Chemical Gas Analyzer

Cardiovascular: Sphygomanometers (Aneroid and Mercury Column), Electrocardiograph (EKG), Stethoscopes (Single and Dual), Heart-Rate Monitors


Environmental: The HPL is currently equipped to measure barometric pressure, ambient air temperature, globe temperature, and wet bulb globe temperature in-house and in the field.

Other: Pedometers, Curl-Up Templates (for abdominal endurance), Stopwatches, Metronomes, Refrigerator/Freezer (2), Computer Stations, Athletic Training Tables, Anatomical Models
X. GRADUATE FACULTY
(*denotes the M.S. in Kinesiology Program Coordinator/Advisor)

● Dr. David M. Cutton, Assistant Professor
Education: B.S., University of Florida; Ph.D., Louisiana State University
Areas of Expertise: sport pedagogy, motor learning, applied sport psychology
Research Interests: sport and exercise-related self-talk, motivation, attention and performance

● Dr. Mike Daniel*, Professor and Assistant Chair of the Department of Health & Kinesiology
Education: B.S.Ed., Southern State College (AR); M.A., University of Missouri-Columbia; Ed.D., University of Arkansas-Fayetteville.
Areas of Expertise: exercise physiology, sport psychology, sport administration, biomechanics.
Research Interests: ethics, moral reasoning, cardiovascular health.

● Dr. Stacey Gaines, Assistant Professor
Education: B.A. and M.S., University of Northern Colorado; Ph.D., Purdue University
Areas of Expertise: sport psychology, sport sociology, motor learning, social psychology
Research Interests: character development in sports, peer influence in sport and physical activity, youth sport, motivation

● Dr. Christopher M. Hearon, FACSM, Professor and Chair of the Dept. of Health & Kinesiology
Education: B.S., M.Ed., Texas Tech University; Ph.D., Louisiana State University.
Areas of Expertise: exercise physiology, applied statistical design and analyses, exercise testing and prescription.
Research Interests: human performance in environmental extremes, body composition estimation practices, exercise science pedagogy practices

● Dr. Sara Mahoney, Assistant Professor
Education: B.A., Hope College (MI); Ph.D., University of South Carolina
Areas of Expertise: exercise physiology, chronic disease, metabolism, exercise and immunology
Research Interests: nutrition and muscle function, fatigue, exercise and chronic disease

● Dr. Alberto Ruiz, Professor and Dean of the College of Education & Human Performance
Education: B.A., M.S., Texas A&M University-Kingsville; Ed.D., University of Houston
Areas of Expertise: kinesiology pedagogy, sport coaching, sport officiating, athletic administration
Research Interests: youth fitness, children’s attitudes toward physical activity, sport coaching, sport officiating

● Dr. Nestor W. Sherman, FACSM, Professor
Education: B.S.E., State University of New York-Cortland; M.Ed., Ed.D., University of Houston
Areas of Expertise: measurement and evaluation, statistical analyses, research methods
Research Interests: statistical modeling, energy expenditure, test development
• Dr. Melody Yarbrough Knight, RN, CHES, Associate Professor
  Education:  B.S., Southwest Baptist University (MO); M.Ed., Texas Tech University; Ph.D., Texas A&M University-College Station.
  Areas of Expertise:  school health, asthma, osteoporosis, HIV/AIDS, human sexuality, obesity, diabetes
  Research Interests:  Hispanic health issues, health issues in South Texas, cardiovascular health, sexuality and obesity.

• Dr. Lonni Wilson, Assistant Professor
  Education:  B.A., Point Loma Nazarene University (CA); M.F.A., University of Miami; M.A., University of San Francisco; Ph.D., Ohio State University
  Areas of Expertise:  sport marketing, sport law, sociology of sport, event management
  Research Interests:  pedagogical issues in sport management, experiential learning, current technological practices of sports organizations
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