PROGRAM OF STUDY
MS: EXERCISE AND SPORT SCIENCE

Minimum Credits

Research Core: One graduate-level statistics course (3 credit-hours), EXSS 573, and EXSS 575. For students in some of the areas of concentration, alternative statistics/research courses may be utilized. This decision, based on individual student needs, will be made by the advisor after consultation with a Co-Director.

Area of Concentration: Students are required to complete a minimum of 9 credit-hours of courses identified within an area of concentration.

Discipline Requirement: Students are required to take a minimum of 6 hours of graduate-level program courses outside of their area of concentration and excluding research core and seminar requirements. Program courses taken to fulfill the requirements for a minor may be used to satisfy the discipline requirement.

Seminar: MS students are required to complete one term of the program seminar (EXSS 507).

Project*/Thesis: Students enrolled in the MS in Exercise and Sport Science program are required to complete either 6-12 thesis credits or 6 project credits. Students should be aware that the non-thesis option might place them at a disadvantage if they apply for admission to doctoral programs. Virtually all doctoral programs require prior research experience for admission, or they may require an in-lieu-of thesis once admitted.

Minimum Total Program Credit-hour Requirements: 31/30

College Requirement:
H 523 Foundations of Public Health (4 credits)
H 525 Principles and Practice of Epidemiology (4 credits)

Additional graduate courses to bring total credits hours to the University minimum of 45.

Ethics Requirement: Complete ethical research training to meet the learning outcome that students are able to conduct scholarly or professional activities in an ethical manner. Meeting the learning outcome can be accomplished in a variety of ways, such as (but not limited to) a course on the responsible conduct of research, completing an online responsible conduct of research module, a course in the student’s major, instruction in a research group, and direct mentoring by a major professor.

Minor (optional): A minor is an academic area that clearly supports the major. If a minor is included in the program, it must contain at least 15 credits. The minor may be from a different major, from a different area of concentration within EXSS, or an integrated minor (courses from two or more departments). Courses satisfying the Discipline Requirement can be applied towards a minor within EXSS or an integrated minor. If an integrated minor is designed, EXSS courses cannot comprise more than half of the credits and an EXSS faculty member cannot serve as the minor professor.

Background Coursework: Prior to, or during, the first term of admission, each major professor will meet with any incoming graduate student advisee to discuss and evaluate her/his academic background in EXSS. At that time, the major professor may require that the student take undergraduate prerequisite courses in EXSS necessary to meet the goals of the defined program of study.

*Master’s Degree Project Option: Students who are not completing a thesis as part of their master’s degree requirements have the option of completing a master’s project. A project is a significant work of scholarship, often of an applied nature, which may or may not involve formal research data collection. In general, a project usually focuses on solving a problem while a thesis aims to answer a specific research question.

1 Professional (as opposed to academic) areas of concentration are exempt from this requirement.