



# Sport & Physical Education

The Department of Sport and Physical Education is part of Gonzaga's School of Education. The School's mission is to prepare socially responsible professionals who serve with care, competence, and commitment, guiding not only the educational goals for the School, but also the behaviors of the faculty, students, and staff. The School of Education is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and is approved by the Washington Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB).

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

The Department of Sport and Physical Education offers two Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) degrees: a **B.Ed. in Kinesiology and Physical Education** and a **B.Ed. in Sport Management**. These degrees prepare students for careers as teachers, coaches, fitness specialists, or leadership roles in the sport industry. The programs are also designed to be a broad-based foundation for graduate studies in sport administration, physical education, or health and fitness related areas. Students interested in pursuing the teaching option must also complete the requirements of the Teacher Certification program. This qualifies individuals to teach health and fitness (physical education) in grades K-12.

## UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

The **B.Ed. in Sport Management** prepares students for a variety of positions within the sport industry. Some of these positions may include:

- Amateur Sport Teams/Organizations
- Professional Sport Teams/Organizations
- Sport/Fitness Clubs
- Sport Venue and Facility Organizations
- Parks and Recreation Departments
- Sport Media Organizations
- Collegiate Athletic Departments

Gonzaga's Sport Management program offers its students several exceptional benefits:

- Small class sizes, hands-on classroom experiences, and networking opportunities with fellow students and faculty members
- Widespread industry connections for internships
- Experience-based curriculum to best prepare undergraduate students to be leaders within the sport industry

Students take a broad curriculum with courses in many areas. Some of these courses include:

- Administration of Sport and Athletics
- Sport Promotions and Sponsorship
- Psycho-Social Aspects of Sport and Exercise
- Sport and Fitness in the Digital Age
- Ethical and Legal Aspects in Sport
- Sport Facility Management

- Sport and Activity in a Diverse Society
- Health and Fitness Club Management

Students are required to complete two sport management internships for their degree. It is recommended that students in Sport Management pursue an advisor-approved minor, such as business, communication studies, promotions, journalism, or other relevant specialty areas. This program prepares students to pursue graduate studies in sport management or athletic administration. The Department offers a 24-credit minor in Sport Management, which requires one professional internship.

The **B.Ed. in Kinesiology and Physical Education** offers students interested in health and fitness a dynamic program that includes:

- small class sizes which provide more opportunities for hands-on classroom experiences and interactions with fellow students and faculty members
- strong scientific foundations which prepare teacher candidates to create developmentally appropriate lessons and activities across the lifespan
- multiple opportunities throughout the program for teacher candidates to work with K-12 learners in Physical Education, and a strong foundation in management techniques and planning for students interested in careers in coaching

The Kinesiology and Physical Education program is designed to prepare students for Washington State Certification to teach health and fitness at the K-12 level. Candidates seeking teacher certification will receive a Health and Fitness endorsement and can teach in grades K-12. In addition, Kinesiology and Physical Education candidates have an opportunity to pursue teaching in a second endorsement in other disciplines (e.g., English, Science, Math, Social Studies, Music, etc.). The teacher certification has reciprocity for obtaining a teaching license in most U.S. states.

Students not interested in careers in teaching can complete the major in Kinesiology and Physical Education, along with a Fitness Specialist concentration, without completing the requirements for teacher certification. This concentration provides additional knowledge and skills, from classes and internships, to prepare for work in the fitness industry and various exercise settings. Graduates of the program may find work as fitness club programmers, managers/owners, or providing fitness and health-

related programming for individuals, groups, or corporations. Students will be qualified to sit for national certification exams in fitness specialties (ACSM, NSCA, etc.), and to work as professionals in fitness clubs and community organizations that promote health and fitness. Graduates of the program will also be prepared for possible enrollment in a graduate degree program focused on exercise or fitness.

## GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Gonzaga offers an on-campus and online graduate study in sport administration. The Master of Arts in Sport and Athletic Administration (MASAA) is designed as an interdisciplinary curriculum, grounded in the liberal arts, drawing on studies in educational and organizational theory. The program prepares students to be leaders in sport, athletic, and health professions. The emphasis is on training candidates to administer programs in accordance with best professional practices.

Students spend 175-300 hours working in a variety of internship settings and complete the program in two years. Advisors work with students to select appropriate internship sites that will best match students' interests, goals, and career aspirations.

Graduate Assistantships are also available to a limited number of students in the on-campus program. Graduate Assistants typically teach undergraduate classes in our extensive physical education activity program. Letters of applications for Assistantships are submitted to the Sport & Physical Education Department Chair.

## OUTCOMES

Both undergraduate and graduate students in sport management at Gonzaga complete internships as a requirement of their degrees. Students often cite their internships as one of most valuable parts

of their educational experience. Some recent internships and job placements have included the following:

### College/University Athletic Departments

- Gonzaga University
- University of Washington
- University of San Diego
- Oregon State University
- University of Wisconsin - Madison
- North Idaho College
- West Coast Conference
- NCAA
- Fiesta Bowl Marketing and Media Department

### Professional Sports Franchises

- Seattle Mariners
- Oakland Athletics
- Portland Timbers
- Calgary Stampeders
- Colorado Rapids
- Seattle Seahawks
- Seattle Storm
- Baltimore Orioles
- Cleveland Indians

### Minor League Sports Franchises

- Everett Aquasox
- Bend Elks
- Spokane Indians
- Spokane Chiefs
- Tacoma Rainiers
- Idaho Stampede

### Health and Fitness Clubs

- Training Ground
- U-District Sports Medicine (Spokane)
- Get Fit 360
- CrossFit Sport

### Recreational and Community Organizations

- YMCA
- Spokane Sports Commission
- Spokane Hoopfest
- ParaSport Spokane
- Boys and Girls Clubs of America

Recent graduates of the undergraduate sport management programs at Gonzaga have entered graduate programs at the following universities:

- Marquette University Law School, Sports Law program
- University of San Francisco, M.A. in Sport Management
- Belmont University, M.A. in Sport Administration
- Gonzaga University, M.A. in Sport and Athletic Administration
- University of Northern Colorado, Ph.D. in Sport & Exercise Science: Sport Administration
- Eastern Washington University, M.S. in Exercise Science
- Cal State Fullerton, M.S. in Clinical Exercise Physiology
- Springfield College, M.S. in Exercise Physiology

## FACULTY CONTACTS & SPECIALTIES

### Karen Rickel | Dept. Chair

Ph.D., University of Idaho  
Health and wellness, sport motivation  
rickelk@gonzaga.edu

### Nichole Calkins

Ed.D., Seattle Pacific University  
Pedagogy  
calkins@gonzaga.edu

### Don Garrett

DHSc., AT Still University  
Exercise physiology, exercise prescription  
garrett@gonzaga.edu

### Heidi Nordstrom

Ph.D., University of New Mexico  
Sport administration  
nordstrom@gonzaga.edu

### Jimmy Smith

Ph.D., University of Alberta  
Sport marketing, organizational theory and behavior  
smithj1@gonzaga.edu

