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.

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 and managerial roles in the sport industry. 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).

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION IN KINESIOLOGY AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION
The B.Ed. in Kinesiology and Physical Education offers students interested in health and fitness a dynamic program that includes:

- strong scientific foundations which prepare teacher candidates to create developmentally appropriate lessons and activities across the lifespan
- small class sizes which provide more opportunities for hands-on classroom experiences and interactions with fellow students and faculty members
- 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. Students interested in pursuing the teaching option must also complete the requirements of the Teacher Certification program. 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 state of Washington is a member of the Interstate New Teacher Assessment & Support Consortium (InTASC). Completing a teacher preparation program at Gonzaga University, therefore, qualifies a candidate for reciprocity to teach in states that participate in the interstate certification compact.

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 fitness-related graduate studies and work in the fitness industry and various exercise settings. 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. Some of the internship and career paths our students have found are:

- Community Health Educators
- Fitness Club Programmers
- Preparations for Graduate Studies in KPE
- Public/Private Health & Physical Educators
- Sport Coaches at various levels
- Strength and Conditioning Coaches
- Wellness Coaches

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BACHELOR OF EDUCATION IN SPORT MANAGEMENT

The B.Ed. in Sport Management gives students the prestige of a Top-10 NCAA athletic brand on their resume. In addition to this reputation, graduates are inspired to impact the world with an enhanced understanding of their personal mission in life through Gonzaga’s Jesuit traditions.

With small class sizes, we strive to create collaborative, hands-on classroom experiences directly linked to discovering the student's professional aspirations. Course curricula train students to become leaders within the sport industry by taking classes in the following areas:

- Sport promotions and sponsorship
- Ethical and legal aspects in sport
- Social/Psychological aspects of sport and exercise
- Sport facility management
- Sport and fitness in the digital age
- Sport and activity in a diverse society

Sport Management faculty and staff have widespread sports industry networks to connect students for required internships as well as beginning their career in the sport industry. Fields where students and alumni engage include:

- College/University Athletic Departments
- Professional and Amateur Sport Teams/Organizations
- Recreational and Community Organizations
- Sport Media Organizations
- Sport Venue and Facility Organizations

Students are required to complete two sport management internships. 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. The Department also offers a 24-credit minor in Sport Management, which requires one professional internship. Some recent internships and job placements have included the following:

College/University Athletic Departments
- Fiesta Bowl Marketing and Media
- Gonzaga University
- University of San Diego
- University of Washington
- University of Wisconsin - Madison

Professional/Minor League Sports Franchises
- Portland Timbers
- Seattle Mariners
- Seattle Seahawks
- Seattle Storm
- Spokane Chiefs

Recreational and Community Organizations
- Boys and Girls Club of America
- Hoopfest Spokane
- ParaSport Spokane
- Spokane Sports Commission

Gonzaga offers a choice of an on-campus or online graduate program 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.

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

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

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