



UNIVERSITY OF
NEW ENGLAND

ATHLETIC TRAINING PROGRAM



STUDENT HANDBOOK
MSAT – Class of 2024
Updated 8/22

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SECTION ONE

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT) Program at the University of New England. This handbook outlines the mission, goals and objectives, and philosophy of the athletic training education program at the University of New England. It also contains important policies and procedures that affect you. Please read the handbook thoroughly, as it is your responsibility to be familiar with its contents. ***Once you have read and understand all of the information, please print off, sign, and date the “Statement of Receipt and Understanding” and turn it in to our program office.***

All policies herein are in effect from April 1, 2022. Any substantive changes to the contents of this handbook will be brought to the attention of all students currently enrolled in the program and will be accompanied by a new “Statement of Receipt and Understanding.”

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Master of Science in Athletic Training Program is to provide a comprehensive curriculum designed for individuals who want to enhance the quality of health care for athletes and the physically active, and to advance the profession of athletic training through education and research in the prevention, evaluation, management, and rehabilitation of athletic and orthopaedic injuries.

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The athletic training faculty is committed to excellence in teaching. The process of learning is a continuous one where the student develops a foundation for intellectual inquiry. We believe that education is a partnership between the student and teacher, where the faculty member serves as a facilitator and guide. The faculty is receptive to individual learning styles and needs, and will provide a vehicle for students to move from novice toward expert within the profession and allow them to explore their chosen career opportunities.

PROGRAM GOALS

The ultimate goal of the MSAT Program is to prepare the student to challenge the National Athletic Trainers’ Association Board of Certification examination. To achieve this final goal, the faculty has identified six general program goals that are compatible with the missions of the Department and University and attained through the curriculum and the activities of the students and faculty. They are as follows:

1. Prepare students to be competent health care providers for the active population.
2. Develop a comprehensive curriculum that meets the demands of the profession.
3. Contribute to the body of knowledge in sports medicine through scholarly activity.
4. Provide continuing education opportunities for professional athletic trainers.
5. Actively participate in and contribute to professional activities at the department, college, and community levels.
6. Actively participate in and contribute to professional activities at the state and national levels.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The University operates in accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, the Maine Human Rights Act, and all other appropriate civil rights laws and regulations. The University of New England does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, marital status, ancestry, national or ethnic origin, physical or mental handicap, sexual preference, or veteran’s status in the administration of its employment practices or in educational programs or activities. The University is committed to its Equal Opportunity Policy.

ACCREDITATION INFORMATION

The UNE MSAT Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education ([CAATE](#)). Our current certificate expires during the 2028-29 Academic Year.

ATHLETIC TRAINING AS A PROFESSION

Please click [here](#) to access the National Athletic Trainers' Association Fact Sheet about the Certified Athletic Trainer.

PROGRAM FACULTY

Please click [here](#) to learn more about MSAT Program faculty and [here](#) to learn about our Clinical Preceptors.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Please click [here](#) to access information about the University's policy regarding health insurance.

STUDENT MALPRACTICE INSURANCE

The MSAT Program provides malpractice insurance for all students enrolled in the professional phase of the program in the amount of \$2,000,000 per incident and \$4,000,000 aggregate. The current annual fee for this coverage is \$70 per student per year in the professional phase (years 4 and 5).

BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS TRAINING POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Policy: Each student enrolled in the professional phase of the UNE MSAT Program must undergo an annual training and evaluation to ensure compliance with OSHA standards for the handling of infectious body fluids before being placed in direct contact with patients/athletes (e.g., observation hours, clinical experience rotations).

Procedure: Each student must complete the annual Bloodborne Pathogens WebCT Tutorial found on her/his Learning Management System (e.g., Brightspace) site. Please contact the Clinical Education Coordinator for access.

It is the responsibility of the student to submit proof of this annual training to the program office each year BEFORE beginning clinical experience rotations or observation hours.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Policy: The University of New England and its MSAT Program are committed to providing a safe working, living, and learning environment for its faculty, staff members, and students. Students who have communicable diseases (including tuberculosis, Hepatitis B, or HIV infection) will not be barred from working, teaching, residing, or participating in University-sponsored activities or attending classes at UNE unless the individual poses a substantial threat to himself/ herself or others. This policy will further address the diseases that pose a potential threat to the University community due to rapid transmission of infection to, and/or among employees and students. Examples of such infectious diseases include, but are not limited to acute meningitis, acute respiratory illnesses (especially influenza or respiratory illness associated with international travel), possible or known tuberculosis, vaccine preventable viral illnesses (i.e., measles, mumps, rubella, whooping-cough or pertussis), viral conjunctivitis (pinkeye), community-acquired methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) skin infections, and others.

Procedure: The person responsible for ensuring that this policy is followed on a day-to-day basis is the UNE Student Health Services infection control provider. When this person is not available, the Student Health Services health care provider will be temporarily in charge so that a health care provider is always available to assist with the implementation of this policy.

UNE Infection Control Provider Student Health Services can be reached at (207) 602-2358 or 207-221-4242

When more than one student/faculty is involved with a communicable disease raising concerns about a possible local epidemic, the Dean of College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM) and /or the Maine Center for Disease Control (CDC) will be consulted.

Students are encouraged to seek medical assistance or guidance from the University Health Center (or another health care provider) in the event they have concerns about communicable diseases. Any students and/or employees with symptoms suggesting an acute infectious disease (fever, fever and rash, fever and cough, severe headache and fever, flu-like symptoms, fever and shaking chills, pinkeye, sputum with blood, etc.) should be evaluated by either his/her personal provider or the staff at UNE Student Health Services. When such evaluation is made by a personal provider and a communicable disease is diagnosed or suspected, the UNE provider in charge of infection control should be notified by the patient and his/her physician so that any potentially exposed university personnel can be protected as per the University of New England (UNE) infection control protocols.

In the event that an athletic training student has been diagnosed with or is suspected of having a communicable disease, the MSAT Program director shall be notified and s/he will consult with the UNE Student Health Infection Control Provider to determine if the student should be suspended from clinical experience rotation to limit exposure.

Any student who has been suspended from clinical experience opportunities because of a diagnosed or suspected communicable disease must be cleared by UNE Student Health Services before being allowed to resume his/her work at the affiliated site.

If the UNE Infection Control Provider is of the opinion that someone in the University community may have an infectious disease that poses a significant risk for an epidemic, the situation will be reported to the Dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM.). The Dean of COM will be notified for selective communicable diseases only, ones that are very serious or high risk for public relations concerns (i.e. acute bacterial meningitis), or those that may denote the possible start of an epidemic. For example, "regular influenza" would usually not be reported to the Dean of COM –unless it were the index case, but a novel respiratory virus isolate, acute meningitis case, or clusters of cases would be reported. These patients will have their medical condition monitored by UHC in coordination with the patient's primary care provider with consultation from the Maine CDC, if appropriate.

UNE will refer to the guidelines provided by federal or state CDC when dealing with specific communicable illnesses.

Laboratories used in teaching context are to be environmentally safe with respect to communicable diseases. UNE Safety Manual guidelines (Chapter 8: Blood Borne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan) will be followed for decontamination of environmental surfaces and for the handling of equipment and objects that could come into contact with human blood or bodily fluids. In cases which require or which are likely to involve contact with blood, and /or bodily fluids, UNE guidelines for equipment and surface decontamination will be strictly enforced.

No information concerning any individual's medical condition will be released to the general public, although general information with the goal of protecting the health of others on campus and/or educating and informing the community, if indicated on consultation with the Maine CDC, may be released.

In the event that it is determined that an individual medical condition and/or activities represents a public health hazard and/or warrants limitation of activities, only essential persons will be informed on a need-to-know basis of an individual medical condition. The Maine CDC will be consulted if there is a possible or known epidemic. The effected person will be apprised of the names of those persons who have been so informed. No information will be disclosed concerning the medical condition of any person diagnosed with HIV infection except as authorized by law.

Medical Leave of Absence Policy

The terms of the Leave of Absence and the policy in its entirety will be provided to the student at the time any Leave of Absence is imposed. Students may obtain a copy of the policy from the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs or online at <http://www.une.edu/studentlife/handbook/>.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY and HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (OSHA)

Policy

Safety of the student, patients and other health care providers is critical to the health and well-being of all. Health care practitioners can reasonably anticipate that they will come in contact with blood and/or other

potentially infectious materials. Therefore, all students must complete the OSHA training prior to beginning their clinical rotations and must be compliant with OSHA and universal precaution requirements, including the use of gloves, care of sharp objects, use of eyewear, protective clothing, and other precautionary measures.

Procedure **Needlestick/Bodily Fluids**

If a needlestick or bodily fluid exposure occurs the student must follow this procedure:

1. Instantly cleanse the affected area and report any blood/body fluid exposure(s) to their Preceptor, the Coordinator of Clinical Education(s) and any hospital personnel (if instructed by their preceptor) **immediately**. (please see *Needlestick/Bodily Fluids Exposure Guidelines* in the Appendix and on Blackboard).
2. The protocol at the clinical site will govern the medical approach to that exposure. Immediate medical care and lab work will be done either at the rotation site or the nearest appropriate emergency department.
3. The student must also notify the Coordinator of Clinical Education within 2 hours of the exposure and complete and fax a copy of the *Student Exposure Form* located in the Appendix.
4. Additional care and follow up may be with the student's personal provider. Be advised that the school is not liable for health care costs accrued if an exposure occurs. Students are expected to submit claims to their own medical health insurance. Any and all expenses for the care and potential treatment are the responsibility of the student.

Exposures/Accidents or Injury

If a student sustains any accidents or injuries while at the clinical site (i.e., fall), the student must follow this procedure:

1. Notify your preceptor, and immediately seek medical attention commensurate with the nature of the injury, which may require a visit to the closest emergency room or an appointment with their personal provider. Clinical sites are under no obligation to provide the student with free medical care.
2. Students must notify the Coordinator of Clinical Education within 24 hours and complete and fax the Coordinator of Clinical Education a copy of a *Student Accident Report Form* located in the Appendix
3. Any and all expenses for the care and potential treatment are the responsibility of the student.

Needlestick/Bodily Fluids Exposure Guidelines

If a student believes he/she has been exposure, the student should:

1. **Immediately** cleanse the affected area:
 - Wash needlesticks and cuts with soap and water
 - Flush splashes to the nose, mouth or skin with water
 - Irrigate eyes with clean water, saline or sterile irrigants
2. **Immediately** report the exposure to the supervising physician or other supervisor and follow site established protocols.
3. **Immediately** seek medical evaluation and treatment. If there is no established protocol on site, seek treatment at the closest Emergency Department.
4. Notify the Coordinator of Clinical Education (crizzo@une.edu or 207.602.2465) within 2 hours.
5. Complete and submit the *Student Exposure Form* to the Coordinator of Clinical Education within 24 hours.

EMERGENCY CARDIAC CARE/FIRST AID POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Policy: Each student enrolled in the professional phase of the UNE MSAT Program must maintain current certification in both Standard First Aid and Emergency Cardiac Care throughout her/his experience in the clinical education portion of the program. Students who do not hold current certification in Emergency Cardiac Care and Standard First Aid (or similar) will **NOT** be allowed to participate in clinical rotations.

Procedure: The MSAT Program will make every effort to offer annual certification and re-certification opportunities for students at convenient locations/times.

It is the responsibility of the student to submit proof of this annual training to the program office each year.

1. Proof of current certification in Emergency Cardiac Care* that includes a minimum of the following:
 - a. Adult & Pediatric CPR
 - b. AED
 - c. 2nd Rescuer CPR
 - d. Airway Obstruction
 - e. Barrier Devices (e.g., pocket mask, bag valve mask)

*Courses that meet the minimum requirement include, but are not limited to American Heart Association ACLS, American Heart Association BLS Healthcare Provider, and American Red Cross CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer.

2. Proof of current certification in Basic First Aid* that includes a minimum of the following:
 - a. Burns & Wounds
 - b. Splinting & Bone/Joint Injuries
 - c. Sudden Illness
 - d. Shock
 - e. Controlling Bleeding
 - f. Head/Neck/Back Injuries
 - g. Heat/Cold Emergencies

*Courses that meet the minimum requirement include, but are not limited to American Red Cross First Aid Basics.

COMPORMENT

Policy: The UNE Athletic Training Education Program has a long tradition of exceptional professionalism. All students enrolled in the program are expected to comport themselves as mature, engaged adults when participating in AT Program-sponsored events. Profanity, harassment, physical or mental abuse of others, and disrespect toward faculty and/or supervisors will not be tolerated.

Procedure: Any student who is suspected of being in violation of this policy will be given a written warning by either the CCE or PD that shall include a specific description of the infraction and instructions regarding reconciliation. Students who continue to violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action that could include suspension from clinical experience and/or expulsion from the MSAT Program.

COMMUNICATION & SOCIAL MEDIA

Policy: Athletic training students in the Professional Phase of the program are expected to use the highest standard of professionalism when communicating with UNE faculty, staff, and administrators, as well as off-campus instructors, coaches, parents, patients and/or athletes. This includes communication via electronic methods such as email, text messaging, and social media platforms (e.g., Facebook, MySpace, Instagram, SnapChat).

Procedure: Students are expected to use the respondents' formal title (e.g., Professor, Mr., Mrs., Dr.) when addressing written and verbal correspondence unless instructed otherwise by the recipient.

Students are to avoid the use of colloquial and/or informal language when conducting official correspondence related to their enrollment in the program (e.g., e-mail and phone messages).

Students should take care to remove any and all inappropriate material from social media sites as this may negatively impact their reputation with current and future clinical instructors and employers.

Students should NOT discuss official program business that is considered confidential via social media networks.

Any student who is suspected of being in violation of this policy will be given a written warning by either the CCE or PD that shall include a specific description of the infraction and instructions regarding reconciliation. Students who continue to violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action that could include suspension from clinical experience and/or expulsion from the MSAT Program.

FRATERNIZATION

Policy: Fraternalization, dating, or other inappropriate behaviors with minors and/or student-athletes at any of our affiliated sites is at best unethical, and at worst illegal. Similarly, fraternizing with or dating adult student-athletes or clinical preceptors is strongly discouraged.

Procedure: Any student who is suspected of being in violation of this policy will be given a written warning by either the CCE or PD that shall include a specific description of the infraction and instructions regarding reconciliation. Students who continue to violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action that could include suspension from clinical experience and/or expulsion from the MSAT Program.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Policy: All information concerning athletes and/or patients must be strictly confidential. Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action that may include termination from the MSAT Program.

Procedure: Each MSAT student is required to review and sign the Student Oath of Confidentiality found in Appendix A of this handbook.

It is the responsibility of the student to submit proof of this acknowledgment to the program office.

DRESS CODE

Students enrolled in the Professional Phase of the MSAT Program are expected to dress professionally when attending classes, clinical experience sites and/or MSAT Program-sponsored events (e.g., guest lectures, practical examinations, community outreach events). Specifically, students should:

1. Wear a UNE MSAT Program polo shirt whenever possible (the program purchases one shirt per student per year in the professional phase of the program).
2. Wear a collared shirt in good condition when an MSAT Program polo shirt is unavailable. Shirts that project inappropriate or culturally offensive language and/or imagery may NOT be worn.
3. NOT wear blue jeans, cut-offs, jean shorts, or shorts that are unreasonably short.
4. NOT wear skirts, tank tops (unless specifically instructed to for the purposes of classroom or laboratory instruction), or any other clothing that inhibits movement.
5. NOT wear sandals, flip flops, or other open-toed shoes. Athletic or dress shoes are preferred.
6. NOT wear hats in the athletic training clinic or other indoor facilities. Hats that are in good condition and in good taste may be worn outdoors or in the ice arena.
7. Wear the program-provided nametag when visiting clinical settings (with the exception of athletic training clinics, unless required by the site supervisor).
8. Body art must be covered unless the clinical or educational situation suggests otherwise (e.g., teaching laboratory).
9. Visible body piercing must be limited to the ears and nose, and must be appropriate in size and shape so as not to interfere with patient care.

In general, students should dress as a respected member of the athletic training profession at all times when representing the UNE MSAT Program. In the event that both UNE and a particular clinical site have a dress code, the stricter of the two will be in effect for the duration of the student's clinical rotation assignment. Any student who arrives at an affiliated site or MSAT Program event unprofessionally dressed may be asked to leave and may be referred to the Clinical Education

Coordinator or Program Director for disciplinary action that could include suspension from clinical experience or expulsion from the AT Program.

SECTION TWO

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: PRE-PROFESSIONAL PHASE

The University of New England MSAT Program employs a two-tiered admissions process that consists of a pre-professional phase and a professional phase. High school seniors and transfer students from other institutions must meet the minimum requirements for admission/transfer as published by the [UNE Graduate Admissions Office](#).

Once accepted into the major, students may apply to the professional (graduate) phase of the program at the end of their third year of matriculation. Please refer to the "Admission/Retention Requirements: Professional Phase" for more information about this process.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: PROFESSIONAL PHASE

Because of the field-experience component of the Professional Phase of the MSAT Program, all first-year and transfer students are required to undergo a secondary admissions process during the second semester of their third year. Minimum requirements for acceptance into the Professional (graduate) Phase of the program are as follows:

1. Completion of the following courses with a "C" or better: BIO 208/209, EXS 310, EXS 320, and BIO 309
2. Completion of the following courses with a "C-" or better: CHE 110 and PHY 110
3. Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher*
4. Compliance with MSAT Program Technical Standards
5. Successful Personal Interview with Program Faculty
6. Compliance with program immunization requirements

*Per WCHP policy, a student may be accepted with a GPA lower than 2.5 if s/he demonstrates strength in other areas. Decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ADMITTED TO THE PROFESSIONAL PHASE OF THE PROGRAM ON AN ANNUAL BASIS IS DICTATED BY THE NUMBER OF AVAILABLE CLINICAL EXPERIENCE SITES AND MAY VARY SLIGHTLY FROM YEAR TO YEAR. PLEASE CONTACT THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR MORE INFORMATION.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION: PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM

The Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT) Program at The University of New England is a rigorous and intense program that places specific requirements and demands on the students enrolled in the program. An objective of this program is to prepare graduates to enter a variety of employment settings and to render care to a wide spectrum of individuals engaged in physical activity. The technical standards set forth by the MSAT Program establish the essential qualities considered necessary for students admitted to this program to achieve the knowledge, skills, and competencies of an entry-level athletic trainer, as well as meet the expectations of the program's accrediting agency (Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education [CAATE]). The following abilities and expectations must be met by all students in the Professional Program. In the event a student is unable to fulfill these technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodation, the student will be subject to dismissal. Compliance with the program's technical standards does not guarantee a student's eligibility for the BOC certification exam.

Candidates for selection to the Professional Phase of the Program must demonstrate:

1. the mental capacity to assimilate, analyze, synthesize, integrate concepts and problem solve to formulate assessment and therapeutic judgments and to be able to distinguish deviations from the norm;
2. sufficient postural and neuromuscular control, sensory function, and coordination to perform appropriate physical examinations using accepted techniques; and accurately, safely and efficiently use equipment and materials during the assessment and treatment of patients;
3. the ability to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients and colleagues, including individuals from different cultural and social backgrounds; this includes, but is not limited to, the ability to establish rapport with patients and communicate judgments and treatment information effectively. Students must be able to understand and speak the English language at a level consistent with competent professional practice;
4. the ability to record the physical examination results and a treatment plan clearly and accurately;

5. the capacity to maintain composure and continue to function well during periods of high stress;
6. the perseverance, diligence and commitment to complete the athletic training program as outlined and sequenced;
7. flexibility and the ability to adjust to changing situations and uncertainty in clinical situations; and
8. affective skills and appropriate demeanor and rapport that relate to professional education and quality patient care.

Candidates for selection to the Professional Phase of the MSAT Program will be required to verify that they understand and meet these technical standards or that they believe that, with certain reasonable accommodations, they can meet the standards.

Candidates who would like to explore available reasonable accommodations prior to applying to the program are encouraged to contact the **Student Access Center** at 207/283-0170, ext. 2815.

No accommodation will be authorized that would jeopardize clinician/patient/athlete safety, cause an undue burden, lower programmatic standards or substantially modify the educational process of the student or the institution, including all coursework, clinical experiences and internships deemed essential to graduation.

All students applying for admission to the Professional Phase of the MSAT Program are required to submit proof of receipt and comprehension of these standards as part of the secondary admissions process. Compliance with the Technical Standards does not guarantee eligibility for the BOC Certification Examination.

RETENTION & PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS: PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM

Please click [here](#) for published information regarding the retention & progression requirements for the Professional Phase of the AT Program.

ACADEMIC REMEDIATION POLICY

Goal

To provide all students with the opportunity to 1) remediate academic performance that falls below program standards and 2) successfully complete the program.

Examination Remediation Policy

Any student enrolled in the graduate phase of the program (i.e., coursework at the 500-level and above) must earn a "B" or better on each examination to establish minimum competency. If a student fails to earn a "B," s/he is required to complete a minimum competency remediation process with the course instructor prior to the next examination. An examination may only be remediated once, and the maximum grade allowed is a "B." A student may only remediate two examinations per course. Failure to achieve minimum competency following remediation will result in the student's referral to the Student Development Committee (SDC) of the Department of Exercise and Sport Performance for review and action, which may include a recommendation for dismissal from the program.

Procedure

1. Any student who does not earn a "B" (84%) or higher on an examination must request remediation (e.g., via email) from the course instructor within 48 hours of grade release.
2. The course instructor will create a remediation plan to address minimum competency and share the plan with the student in writing within three (3) business days.
3. The student must complete the remediation requirements prior to the next scheduled examination in the course.
4. The instructor will enter the new grade as appropriate. The maximum grade allowed is a "B."

Course Remediation Policy

Any student enrolled in the graduate phase of the program (i.e., coursework at the 500-level and above) must earn a "B" or better (84%) in each required course (or a "P" in each Pass/Fail course). In the event that a grade of "B" or "P" cannot be achieved, the student will be issued a grade of "Incomplete," referred to the SDC, and a remediation plan will be developed in conjunction with the course faculty. Once reviewed and approved by all parties, the student will have two weeks to satisfactorily execute the plan after the beginning of the following

semester. The appropriate grade will then be submitted by the faculty member primarily responsible for the course. The highest grade permitted following successful remediation is a “B.”

Procedure

1. Instructors of MSAT coursework will work with students on remediation of any assessments (e.g., exams) that fall below the level of a “B” per the established Examination Remediation Policy.
2. Instructors of MSAT coursework will notify the Program Director of any student who will not likely achieve a course grade of “B” or better or “P” as soon as reasonably possible.
3. The Program Director will refer the student to the SDC.
4. The faculty member of the course will issue a grade of “I” or “Incomplete” to any student who did not earn a “B” or better.
5. The SDC will convene and create a plan in conjunction with course faculty for the student to remediate sub-standard academic performance. This plan will be shared with the student in writing no greater than five (5) business days from the official end of the course.
6. The student will have two (2) weeks from the official beginning of the next semester to complete all required work outlined in the remediation plan.
7. If all required work in the remediation plan was completed to the satisfaction of course and program faculty, the instructor of record will enter the passing grade into the official record. The maximum grade allowed following course remediation is a “B.”
8. If the student is not able to successfully remediate the course, s/he will be referred to the Program Director for Program Dismissal.

UNIVERSITY STUDENT WITHDRAWAL AND REFUND POLICY

Please click [here](#) for published information regarding student withdrawal and refunds.

ACADEMIC MASTER PLAN

The Master of Science in Athletic Training program has been constructed as an entry-level, five-year program in a 3+2 format. Students can enter the program in one of two ways: as incoming freshmen or as post-graduate students who hold a Bachelor of Science degree and have successfully completed prerequisite coursework. **Incoming freshmen will earn both a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences (AT Track) and the MSAT, with courses in the fourth year counting toward both degree programs.**

The first three years represent the Pre-Professional Phase and consist of courses such as Biology (8 cr), Anatomy and Physiology (8 cr), Chemistry (4 cr), Physics (4 cr), English Composition (4 cr), Psychology (3 cr), Sociology (3 cr), Statistics (3 cr), Kinesiology/Biomechanics (3cr), Exercise Physiology (3 cr), Pathophysiology (3 cr), Public Speaking (3 cr), Public Health (3 cr), and Human Gross Anatomy w/cadaveric specimens (3 cr). Many of these courses have a laboratory component to facilitate greater understanding and application of the material on the part of the students.

Woven throughout the Pre-Professional phase are not only courses that fulfill the UNE College of Arts and Science Core Curriculum such as creative arts and humanities electives (9 cr), but also courses that are unique to our College of Health Professions. IHS 130 First Year Experience, for example, is a class that is required of all health professions students and was designed to explore the emotional, social, and academic considerations for a successful transition into college. It clarifies the roles and responsibilities of the various health professions and inculcates teamwork for positive working relationships. IHS 310 Ethical Practice in the Health Professions also educates students in specific interprofessional cohorts about ethical theory and how it relates to the important work in the various health disciplines.

The sole Pre-Professional course that incorporates athletic training knowledge and skills is ATC 100 Intro to Athletic Training (3cr). ATC 100 is meant to provide a foundation of the history of athletic training and its basic skills in order to build/maintain students’ enthusiasm for the profession. Although skills such as taping/wrapping are introduced, students are not expected to achieve mastery and all content that relates specifically to an Athletic Training Educational Competency is re-introduced and evaluated at the graduate level of the program. This course is open to non-athletic training majors as well.

Internal candidates for the Professional (Graduate) Phase of the program must apply during the spring of year three and may receive conditional acceptance pending successful completion of all prerequisite coursework. External candidates must apply and have successfully fulfilled all admission criteria by February 15th of any given year.

Once accepted, the graduate program begins in the fall of the fourth year with ATC 500 Foundations of Athletic Training (3cr) and a six-credit course in the evaluation of athletic and orthopaedic injuries. All previous information on preventative taping/wrapping is reintroduced in ATC 500 and critical information regarding the prevention and management of common athletic injuries is taught.

The program also includes enhanced versions of courses such as ATC 515 Physical Agents in Athletic Health Care (3cr), ATC 530 Rehabilitative Techniques in Athletic Health Care(3cr), ATC 540 General Medical Conditions in Athletic Health Care (3cr), ATC 545 Pharmacology in Athletic Health Care (3cr), and ATC 625 Psychosocial Interventions in Athletic Health Care (3cr). These courses mirror closely their original undergraduate versions in terms of athletic training educational competencies, with the added rigor and focus of evidence-based and interprofessional practice necessary for graduate-level work.

New courses were also added to the curriculum in year four. ATC 520 Clinical Reasoning in Athletic Training (3cr) is designed to serve as a springboard for the evidence-based requirement of the program and will provide the background and opportunity for students to think critically about the body of knowledge in athletic training and the ways in which they would like to enhance/add to it. ATC 535 Athletic Performance and Conditioning (3cr) was also created and added to year four, and it incorporates essential competencies related to the training and reconditioning of athletic and active populations and expands upon them using current best practices in the fields of Sport Nutrition and Strength & Conditioning. Students are prepared to challenge the National Strength & Conditioning Association's Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist examination upon completion of this course, if they choose.

Year four of the MSAT program is also critical in that students will be given their first opportunity to work directly with athletes and patients under the supervision of a clinical preceptor. ATC 525 Clinical Practicum I (5cr) and ATC 550 Clinical Practicum II (4cr) immerse the student in the field of athletic training for a minimum of 225 hours and 180 hours, respectively. Clinical assignments include the UNE Athletics Department, local high schools and colleges, as well as various other health care settings in and around Southern Maine. All experiences are monitored closely by the program's Clinical Education Coordinator and specific educational and behavioral outcomes are measured.

Summer I of the program incorporates ATC 600 Administration of Athletic Training Programs (3cr) – a graduate version of a course formerly taught in the BSAT program – along with new courses such as ATC 605 Manual Therapies in Athletic Health Care (3cr) and ATC 615 Diagnostic Techniques in Athletic Health Care (2cr). ATC 605 will expand on theories and techniques related to the students' use of their hands to diagnose and treat various musculoskeletal conditions and incorporate appropriate material from the disciplines of massage therapy, osteopathy, and physical therapy. ATC 615 will provide students with entry-level knowledge of the latest techniques and tools used to diagnose injuries, such as X-Ray, MRI, CT Scan, fluoroscopy, and diagnostic ultrasound.

The final year of the MSAT program aims to culminate the graduate experience through courses like ATC 630 Athletic Training Practicum III (6cr) and ATC 640 Athletic Training Practicum IV (4cr). ATC 630 is an immersive, unopposed, full-time clinical rotation with a minimum of 240 hours that can occur in either semester at UNE affiliated clinical sites. ATC 640 (180 hours) is more consistent with previous clinical practica in the curriculum in that it will place the students at an affiliated site while they are completing other coursework on our Biddeford campus. ATC 625 Psychosocial Interventions in Athletic Health Care (3cr) is an enhanced version of the previous undergraduate course in titled Psychology of Sport and Exercise that now focuses exclusively on athletic training educational competency related to the psychosocial interventions required of practicing athletic trainers. It will be delivered in an online format to allow flexibility for the immersive experience.

Lastly, graduate students will have the opportunity to refine and present clinical case studies and/or original research in a Senior Capstone (1cr) experience during the final semester. The total number of credits for the five-year MSAT program is 159, with 62 being delivered at the graduate level. External candidates who already have a BS degree will only be required to complete years four and five consisting of 62 credits.

CURRICULUM PLAN

BSHS/MS in Athletic Training

Revised December 2020

FALL I		SPRING I		Total
Course	Cr	Course	Cr	
BIO 104 General Biology w/lab	4	EXS 120 Personal Health & Wellness	3	
PSY 105 Intro. To Psychology	3	MAT 120 or MAT 150 Statistics	3	
ENG 110 English Composition	4	SOC 150 Intro to Sociology	3	
IHS 130 First Year Experience	3	CAS Core #1 of 3 – Creative Arts Elective	3	
		CAS Core #2 of 3 – Expl. In Human. Elective	3	
	14		15	29

FALL II		SPRING II		Total
Course	Cr	Course	Cr	
BIO 208 Anatomy & Physiology I w/lab	4	BIO 209 Anatomy & Physiology II w/lab	4	
CHE 110 General Chemistry I w/lab	4	PSY 250 Lifespan Development (Fulfills SGA Requirement)	3	
PUB 200 Public Health	3	SPC 100 Effective Public Speaking	3	
ATC 105 Intro to AT w/lab	3	NUTR 220 Nutrition	3	
PSY 205 Abnormal Psychology	3	EXS 180 Motor Learning & Performance	3	
	17		16	33

FALL III		SPRING III		Total
Course	Cr	Course	Cr	
ATC 300 Special Topics in AT (Elective)	1	ATC 333 Human Gross Anatomy w/lab	3	
PHY 110 Physics I w/lab	4	ATC 420 Research Methods	3	
CAS Core #3 of 3 – Adv. Studies Elec	3	EXS 320 Exercise Physiology	3	
EXS 310 Kinesiology & Biomechanics	3	IHS 310 Ethical Practice in the Health Professions	3	
Free Elective	3	BIO 309 Pathophysiology	3	
	14		15	29

TRANSITION/ADMISSION TO PROFESSIONAL PHASE & GRADUATE COURSEWORK

FALL IV		SPRING IV		Total
Course	Cr	Course	Cr	
ATC 500 Fundamentals of Athletic Training	3	ATC 515 Physical Agents in Athletic Health Care	3	
ATC 508 Evaluation of Athletic & Ortho Injuries	6	ATC 520 Clinical Reasoning in Athletic Training	3	
ATC 540 Gen Medical Conditions in Athletic Health Care	3	ATC 535 Athletic Performance and Conditioning	3	
ATC 525 Athletic Training Clinical Practicum I (225 hrs)	5	ATC 550 AT Clinical Practicum II (180 hrs)	4	
		ATC 545 Pharmacology in Athletic Health Care	3	
	17		16	33

COMPLETION OF BS IN HEALTH SCIENCES DEGREE (120 Credits)

SUMMER I		Credit
Course		
ATC 530 Rehab Techniques in Athletic Health Care		4
ATC 600 Administration of Athletic Training Programs		3
ATC 605 Manual Therapies in Athletic Health Care		3
ATC 615 Diagnostic Techniques in Athletic Health Care		3
		13

FALL V		SPRING V		Total
Course	Cr	Course	Cr	
ATC 610 Graduate Seminar in AT (Online)	2	ATC 640 AT Clinical Practicum IV (180 hours) in either semester	4	
ATC 630 AT Practicum III (240 hrs) Immersive rotation (full-time, >30 hrs/week) in either semester	6	ATC 625 Psychosocial Interv. In Athletic Health Care (Online)	3	
		ATC XXX Senior Capstone	1	
	8		8	16
		*Five-year program total (62 at graduate level)		159

PARTICIPATION IN VARSITY ATHLETICS

Please click [here](#) to access the MSAT Program's policy regarding students' participation in varsity athletics:

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Each student is assigned to a faculty advisor at the time of enrollment into the program. This person continues as the advisor for the duration of student's time in the Department, unless the student or advisor requests a change through the Department Chair.

For more information about academic advising policies and procedures, please contact the program director.

STUDENT ACCESS CENTER

UNE seeks to promote respect for individual differences and to ensure that no person who meets the academic and technical standards requisite for admission to, and continued enrollment at, the University is denied benefits or subjected to discrimination at UNE solely by reason of his or her disability. Any student eligible for academic accommodations due to a documented disability is encouraged to speak with the professor in a timely manner. Registration with UNE Student Access is required before accommodation requests can be granted. Student Access on the Portland campus is located in the lower level of Ginn Hall and may be reached by calling 221-4418. Student Access on the Biddeford campus is located in the lower level of Stella Maris Room 131 and may be reached by calling 602-2815.

<http://www.une.edu/studentlife/student-access-center>

SECTION THREE

CLINICAL EDUCATION OVERVIEW

Students enrolled in the Master of Science in Athletic Training Program at the University gain valuable clinical experience under the supervision of Certified Athletic Trainers and other qualified healthcare providers beginning in their second year of matriculation. One of the hallmarks of our program, graduates typically have over 900 hours of practical experience when they leave. After successfully completing coursework in anatomy & physiology, bloodborne pathogens training, First Aid, and CPR for the Professional Rescuer, students may apply to the professional component of the program and begin their five-semester progression through the Clinical Practicum course sequence.

Clinical Practicum I (ATC 525) and II (550) establish fundamental knowledge and skill base in areas such as emergency management of catastrophic athletic injuries, proper fitting and use of protective and prophylactic equipment, anthropometric measurement, advanced taping and wrapping techniques, and basic evaluative skills such as goniometry. The required number of hours for these courses are 225 and 180 per semester, respectively, and each student is assigned to one of our Clinical Preceptors for the duration of the semester.

ATC 630 and ATC 640, Clinical Practicum III and IV, will challenge each student to integrate injury assessment knowledge and skills with rehabilitation techniques and clinical decision making, while increasing the student's exposure to the athletic training profession by requiring a full 420 hours of clinical experience in the fall of her/his final year.

Settings for this clinical experience include high schools, colleges/universities, hospitals, outpatient sports medicine clinics, physical therapy settings, primary care offices, pediatric facilities, professional sports, professional dance centers, and occasionally industrial locations. Students are also exposed to a wide variety of allied health care providers such as physicians, physician assistants, nurses, EMTs, and physical therapists.

Evaluation of student performance occurs at all levels of the clinical experience plan, with preceptors evaluating professional behaviors and clinical proficiency. Formative evaluations are done at the mid-semester point of the rotation, followed by a graded, summative evaluation at the close of the semester. The grades are then incorporated into the overall grade for the corresponding Clinical Experiences course. Additionally, progress is monitored through the use of Journaling in which students are asked to reflect on their learning in a confidential dialogue with the CCE.

Students are also given the opportunity to provide AT Program faculty with formative evaluations of their supervising preceptor and site. The Coordinator of Clinical Education and Program Director strongly consider student feedback when making decisions about the addition/retention of affiliated sites and preceptors.

AFFILIATED SITES

The MSAT Program is very fortunate to have a wide variety of clinical sites nationwide available for clinical experience. Please click [here](#) to see a list of our current clinical sites.

CLINICAL HOUR REQUIREMENT / RELIEF DAY POLICY

The MSAT Program believes strongly that the experience a student gains through his/her clinical experience is a critical component to his/her education. With respect to the required hours for successful completion of the Clinical Experience coursework, the MSAT Program is dedicated to ensuring that student experiences are centered on quality versus quantity. During the first two Clinical Practicum courses (ATC 525/550), students are required to obtain a minimum of 10 hours per week and between 135 and 225 hours throughout the course of the semester. It is also MSAT Program policy that students exceed no more than 30 hours per week and 275 hours per semester. During the immersive experience (ATC 630/640), it is expected that students will acquire approximately 40 hours per week. In addition to the policy with regard to hours, students are required, during ALL clinical rotations to have comparable days off. In accordance with CAATE standard IV M.1&2 and similarly to Article 17.1.6 of the NCAA Operating Bylaws, all Athletic Training Students are required to a minimum of one relief day from clinical experience per calendar week.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Candidates for selection into the Professional Phase of the MSAT Program must demonstrate compliance with WCHP immunization requirements. A copy of the WCHP Immunization Form must be on file with Student Health Services **prior to** the start of the clinical rotation. **Any student identified as being non-compliant with respect to immunizations will be suspended from the clinical site until s/he can demonstrate current immunization status.** This has the potential to prevent the student from meeting the requirements for successfully completing the clinical practicum course. Because the immersive rotation provides opportunities for a student to gain clinical experiences outside of the state of Maine, s/he must ensure that s/he meets the appropriate immunization requirements for health care workers of the state and/or clinical site where the training will occur. Please click [here](#) for the WCHP Immunization Compliance Policy, and [here](#) for the WCHP Immunization Form.

TRANSPORTATION

Because the MSAT Program employs multiple off-campus sites for clinical experience, each athletic training student admitted to the Professional Phase of the program must have her/his own transportation. Although every effort is made to accommodate students with extenuating circumstances (in-season athletes are commonly assigned to the UNE Athletic Training Clinic, for example), driving distances/times of 30 miles/40 minutes are not uncommon. Any student who is having difficulty attending her/his clinical experience site should contact the [Coordinator of Clinical Education](#).

APPLICATION OF THERAPEUTIC MODALITIES and OTHER SKILLS

MSAT students may apply therapeutic modalities (e.g., ultrasound, electrical muscle stimulation, moist heat) to athletes/patients ONLY when under the direct supervision of program faculty or a preceptor. Only those students who have successfully completed the corresponding proficiency evaluation for a modality may use it. All safety precautions and contraindications must be adhered to at all times, and no athletic training student may change and/or modify a treatment without permission from her/his supervising preceptor. Similarly, students are not to perform any skills or techniques without prior instruction and evaluation by a faculty member or preceptor.

SUPERVISION

In order to ensure athlete/patient safety, while athletic training students are on clinical experience, he/she will be directly supervised by a preceptor as designated by the MSAT Program. Direct supervision is defined as: *"The Preceptors must be physically present and have the ability to intervene on behalf of the athletic training student and the patient."* In order for this to occur, a Preceptor must provide *"constant visual and auditory interactions between the ATS and the Preceptor."*

On such occasions when the preceptor must leave the students unsupervised (e.g., to tend to an athlete on another field) the athletic training students may only provide medical care in accordance with their training and certification in First Aid and Emergency Cardiac Care.

FINANCIAL RENUMERATION

In accordance with CAATE Standards, no student will receive any financial remuneration during the clinical education experience, with the exception of scholarships.

HARASSMENT & DISCRIMINATION

Harassment and/or discrimination of other students, athletes, patients, staff, etc. is a severe breach of professional ethics. Harassment and discrimination can take many forms including but not limited to sexual harassment (including sexual preference discrimination), gender discrimination, racial/ethnic discrimination, religious discrimination, sport-based discrimination, socioeconomic discrimination, etc. No form of harassment or discrimination will be tolerated and students engaging in such discrimination in classes or clinical experiences will be immediately removed from the experience. An ongoing pattern of harassment / discrimination may be grounds for dismissal from the ATP.

Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures

Any suspected instances of sexual harassment should be reported to the Coordinator of Clinical Education (CCE).

Sexual harassment includes any behavior of a sexual nature that is, or may be perceived as, being unwelcome or offensive. Sexual harassment, by its very nature, violates the basic right of each individual to be treated as a person worthy of respect, and is in direct contradiction to the UNE mission. It is also a violation of state and federal laws. A link to the UNE Title IX sexual harassment grievance policy can be found [here](#).

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Once a student has been admitted into the Professional Phase of the MSAT Program, s/he will be assigned to a preceptor before the start of each semester. Once assigned, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

1. Contact the preceptor as soon as possible to establish a meeting.
2. Review her/his schedule with the Preceptor and identify days/times for participation at the site.
3. Review the Educational Objectives for the assigned rotation with the preceptor.
4. Arrive on time, dress appropriately, and behave professionally at all times.
5. Inform the Preceptor of scheduled absences at least two weeks in advance, and unscheduled absences 24 hours in advance, whenever possible.*
6. **Students may not miss more than six (6) clinical experience days per academic year, no more than three (3) per semester.** Students should follow the procedures as listed above. Missing more than six days (extenuating circumstances would need to be discussed with the Program Director and Coordinator of Clinical Education) could result in failure of the course.
7. '
8. Communicate with the Preceptor as s/he would an employer.
9. Assume full responsibility for the learning that takes place during the rotation.
10. Report any issues/situations that could negatively affect the learning experience to the Coordinator of Clinical Education.
11. Serve as a mentor for underclassmen assigned to the same site.

Any student who fails to meet expectations for comportment and/or clinical progression will be subject to administrative action using the following procedure:

1. The Preceptor will discuss the situation with the student directly about the specific behaviors that require correction and expectations for resolution. If no resolution is achieved;
2. The Preceptor will contact the student and the Coordinator of Clinical Education (CCE) in writing about the infraction and the student will be required to meet with the CCE and to discuss the situation and outline specific goals for restitution. A photocopy of these goals will be placed in the student's file. If no resolution is achieved;
3. The student will be suspended from clinical experience rotation until such time as the situation can be resolved satisfactorily. The student will be referred to the Program Director for disciplinary action that may include expulsion from the MSAT Program.



Department of Exercise and Sport Performance
Athletic Training Program

Student Oath of Confidentiality

Athletic Training is an allied healthcare profession. Medical records are established and confidentiality must be maintained. There should never be discussion about an injury or injured athlete/patient with anyone other than the medical staff. This excluded group includes parents, professors, the public, other students, and the community, unless the athlete/patient has granted written consent.

As an athletic training student, I understand that I have an obligation to all student-athletes, coaches, myself, and patients at the University of New England and our affiliated sites to withhold any information that I acquire socially or professionally which is considered confidential. I am aware that any breach of this oath will jeopardize my retention in the major of athletic training at the University of New England.

This oath extends throughout my matriculation in the Athletic Training Education Program at the University of New England.

Name (Printed)

Signature/Date

STUDENT EXPOSURE FORM

This form is to be complete when there has been a student needlestick or bodily fluid exposure and submitted (via fax 207.602-5991 or e-mail crizzo@une.edu) to the Coordinator of Clinical Education within 24 hours of the exposure. Students must also directly report the exposure incident to the Coordinator of Clinical Education within 2 hours of the exposure.

Date: _____

Name of Student: _____

Date and Time of Exposure: _____

Name of Site: _____

Name of person notified at the site: _____

Date and time of site notification: _____

Name of witness(es) if any to the incident: _____

Please provide a detailed description of Incident, including how the exposure occurred and location (body part).

Did you receive medical evaluation and/or treatment? Yes No

Was the AT program (Coordinator of Clinical Education) notified? Yes No

Student Signature: _____

Coordinator of Clinical Education / Faculty Signature: _____

STUDENT ACCIDENT REPORT

Immediately notify the Coordinator of Clinical Education (crizzo@une.edu or phone 207-602-2465) of the event and submit this report to the Program (Fax 207-602-5992) within 24 hours an accident/injury occurring while on a clinical rotation site. *(This form is not for needlestick or body fluids exposures)*

Student Name _____

STUDENT STATEMENT:

_____ was injured at _____
(print name) (location)

on _____ at _____.
(date) (time)

Please describe in full detail how the accident occurred.

Did you receive medical evaluation and/or treatment? Yes No

Was the AT program (Coordinator of Clinical Education) notified? Yes No

Date and time AT program was notified: _____

Did you miss time from Clinical rotation? Yes. No

If yes, how many days? ___

NOTE: If your absence from a clinical rotation will exceed two (2) days, you will need a medical note from the physician who saw and examined you in an office/clinic or hospital and the date you can resume clinical activities. **You may not return to rotations until we have this note.**

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Needlestick/Bodily Fluids Exposure Guidelines

If a student believes he/she has been exposure, the student should:

1. Immediately cleanse the affected area:

- Wash needlesticks and cuts with soap and water
- Flush splashes to the nose, mouth or skin with water
- Irrigate eyes with clean water, saline or sterile irrigating solution

2. If the exposure occurs during the academic year at an IGEP site, **immediately** report the exposure to the faculty member in attendance and proceed to step #3 below.

If the exposure occurs during the clinical year at a rotation site, **immediately** notify the supervising physician or other site supervisor and follow site established protocols.

3. **Immediately** seek medical evaluation and treatment. If there is no established protocol on site, seek treatment at the closest Emergency Department.

4. Within 2 hours, notify the Coordinator of Clinical Education, (crizzo@une.edu or phone 207-602-2465).

5. Complete and submit the *Student Exposure Form* to the Coordinator of Clinical Education as described above within 24 hours.

SECTION IV

STATEMENT OF RECEIPT AND UNDERSTANDING

Once you have read the Student Handbook, please read the following statement. If you agree, sign and date it, and submit it to the program office. It is the responsibility of the student to submit proof of this acknowledgement to the program office.

Master of Science in Athletic Training Program Student Handbook: Statement of Receipt & Understanding

I, _____, have received and reviewed the
UNE MSAT Program Student Handbook, and I
understand my responsibilities as described therein. I agree to
conduct myself in accordance with the standards, policies, and
procedures outlined in the handbook, and I further understand that
failure to comply with these standards may result in expulsion from
the program.

Signature: _____

Date: _____