

KINESIOLOGY

Degree Requirements

Master of Science (M.S.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-600 Research Degree Policies. (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>)

The M.S. program of study in the Department of Kinesiology requires a minimum of 30 credits, including:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
6 credits from the six Department of Kinesiology areas of graduate study ¹		6
6 credits of classes offered outside the Department of Kinesiology ¹		6
KINES 590	Colloquium (two semesters)	2
Electives		
10 elective credits		10
Culminating Experience		
KINES 600	Thesis Research	6
Total Credits		30

¹ For all of which the student must receive a quality letter grade.

Each specialization may require additional, specific courses. At least 18 credits in the 500 and 600 series combined must be included in the program. A minimum of 12 credits in course work (400, 500, and 800 series), as contrasted with research, must be completed in the major.

M.S. degree students must complete Scholarship and Research Integrity (SARI) Training (10 hours) and demonstrate proficiency in the English language.

The M.S. degree also requires the formation of a master's committee, the writing of a satisfactory thesis accepted by the master's committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School, and the passing of a thesis defense. The final public oral examination, conducted by the student's committee members, must be scheduled and passed after all other work, including the M.S. thesis, has been completed.

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

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A program to meet the individual needs of each student is planned with the adviser in consultation with the Ph.D. committee members. Regardless of the area of study, the following are required of all Kinesiology doctoral degree candidates:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
15 credits from the six Department of Kinesiology areas of graduate study ^{1,2}		15
6 credits of classes offered outside the Department of Kinesiology ¹		6

KINES 590	Colloquium (all semesters until after the comprehensive exam has been passed)	Varies
Scholarship and Research Integrity (SARI) training (10 hours)		
Total Credits		21

¹ For all of which the student must receive a quality letter grade.

² A maximum of six (6) credits only from KINES 596 Independent Studies may count toward the 15 departmental credits required for the degree.

Beyond this minimum of 21 credits, the student's adviser, and Ph.D. committee in consultation with the student set the structure and content of the doctoral program. A student's Ph.D. committee can require additional course work depending on the student's background and research plans. A maximum of six (6) credits only from Independent Studies may count toward the 15 departmental credits required for the degree.

All doctoral students must pass a qualifying examination, a comprehensive written and oral examination, and a final oral examination (the dissertation defense). To earn the Ph.D. degree, doctoral students must also write a dissertation that is accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.