

Sport Coaching, M.S.

Degree Offered

- Master of Science

Nature of the Program

The Master of Science in Sport Coaching (delivered online) is designed for professional learners interested in further developing their technical skills and enriching their capacity to support athletes in high-performance settings. The program is the ideal fit for those looking to better understand the profession of sport coaching and the factors that influence peak athlete performance in individual and team sports.

The curriculum incorporates a unique balance of theoretical and applied courses that are designed to meet the needs of coaches in today's dynamic sport industry. Each course builds upon a multi-dimensional framework that outlines the fundamental competencies that sport coaches must master to facilitate the long-term development of their athletes and teams. These competencies address the pedagogy of sport coaching, reflection and critical thinking, professionalism and ethics, and use of technology.

The primary goals of the Sport Coaching program are for students to graduate with the essential competencies necessary to work with athletes and teams in a variety of contexts and to enhance their professional skills as a sport coach.

Admissions for 2025-2026

CRITERIA

- Resume: including coaching background, sport participation, sport-related awards, and employment and/or experience (e.g., athletic administration, officiating, volunteering)
- Personal statement: 1-2 pages on professional goals and reasons for seeking admission

Note: Students who do not meet the 2.75 grade point average requirement may be admitted as a provisional graduate student only if their GPA is between 2.50 and 2.75. Provisionally admitted students are required to attain a 3.0 GPA in their first 9 hours of adviser approved course work in order to remain in the program and to be reclassified as a regular graduate student.

No more than twelve graduate hours may be taken toward the master's degree as a non-degree seeking graduate student.

Applications for admission are accepted on a rolling basis until August 1st for a fall term start, December 15th for a spring term start, and May 1st for a summer term start.

Major Code: 5529

Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required courses		
ACE 508	The Sport Coaching Profession (should be first course completed)	3
ACE 585	Applied Professional Development (should be last course completed)	3
Electives		24
Select eight of the following:		
ACE 518	Psychology of Coaching	
ACE 522	Motor Behavior for Sport Coaches	
ACE 539	Creating a Healthy Competitive Environment	
ACE 541	Positive Youth Development in Sport	
ACE 510	Training Theories for Coaches	
ACE 568	Sport Movement Analysis	
ACE 569	Strength and Conditioning Methods for Coaches	
ACE 530	Coaching Education Administration	
SM 571	Interscholastic Sport Organization and Administration	
SM 578	Leadership in Interscholastic Athletic Administration	
SM 545	Current Issues & Applications in Sport Management	

Major Learning Outcomes

SPORT COACHING

The goal of the program is for students to graduate with the essential skills and knowledge necessary to prepare them for a career in sport coaching.

Professional Knowledge - Understand advanced disciplinary knowledge and the primary modes of inquiry that form the basis for evidence-informed practice in their field.

Professional Practice - Apply evidence-informed strategies in their professional practice to meet the differentiated needs of the client groups and key stakeholders whom they serve.

Professional Leadership - Contribute to the leadership of communities of professional practice as collaborative learners who can facilitate their own continued development and that of others.