

KINESIOLOGY

Department of Kinesiology

School of Public Health Building
301-405-2450

<http://sph.umd.edu/department/knes> (<http://sph.umd.edu/department/knes/>)

The Department of Kinesiology studies the complex role of physical activity in human health and performance across the lifespan. We offer a Bachelor of Science degree in which students gain conceptual and experiential knowledge in the anatomical, physiological, psychological, sociological, and historical perspectives on physical activity, movement, exercise and sport. Today there are close to 900 undergraduates majoring in Kinesiology who will go on to further study in health professions (such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, medicine), sport-related professions (sport management, sport marketing, coaching), fitness-related professions (exercise leader, personal trainer) and other public health and physical activity-related careers. Our students are prepared to pursue graduate programs in Kinesiology and related fields. We offer a vibrant departmental Honors Program to students who excel in our program and seek research experience.

A brief description of the program follows. Students should obtain a current Student Handbook for the Kinesiology degree on the web at www.sph.umd.edu/department/knes (<https://sph.umd.edu/department/knes/>).

Programs

Major

- Kinesiology Major (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/public-health/kinesiology/kinesiology-major/>)

Advising

There are a variety of advisors available to assist you with your degree progress and future plans. Kinesiology advisors assist with registration procedures, program updates, university resources, career guidance, and related issues. Students are strongly encouraged to follow their approved academic plan for timely progress throughout the degree program. Changes in the academic plan should be discussed with an academic advisor.

Walk-in hours are available each semester and advertised through the KNES listserv. Students are encouraged to use the online advising appointment process or email an advisor at advisingknes@umd.edu.

Advising is mandatory for new students, student-athletes, and students on academic probation. However, it is highly recommended all students meet with an advisor regularly. Additionally, meeting with a pre-health or career advisor in addition to an academic advisor is strongly encouraged.

To learn more about advising for Kinesiology students visit <http://sph.umd.edu/department/knes/advising>

Dr. Elizabeth Brown, Instructor, Advisor & Internship Coordinator, ebrown2@umd.edu

Dr. Joanne Klossner, Instructor, Advisor & Internship Coordinator, jklossne@umd.edu

Polly Schurer, Director of Undergraduate Studies, pollys@umd.edu

Lindsey Winter, Advisor/Prospective Student Coordinator, lmrodkey@umd.edu

Schedule an appointment online: <https://sph.umd.edu/department/knes/advising> (<https://sph.umd.edu/department/knes/advising/>)

Opportunities

Undergraduate Research Experiences

Undergraduate research experiences are strongly encouraged.

Research internships are available from 1 to 3 credits and are recommended at the junior or senior level, following the completion of most kinesiology core courses but requests can be made to participate earlier.

Additional information is available on the UMD Undergraduate Research website (www.ugresearch.umd.edu/) (<http://www.ugresearch.umd.edu/>) or by contacting the director of the undergraduate programs (301-405-2480).

Internships

Internships are strongly encouraged to assist students in connecting and applying academic and conceptual knowledge to the real world. Most students consider internships during their junior and senior years (or earlier in certain situations) following the completion of related kinesiology core and options courses.

From a practical perspective, internships are invaluable in helping students focus on career options, gain experience, establish professional contacts and, perhaps most importantly, deciding whether a particular field is truly a good fit both professionally and personally. Students can take up to 15 credits of internship credits.

Additional information is available on the department website (<http://sph.umd.edu/department/knes/internships>) (<http://sph.umd.edu/department/knes/internships/>) or by contacting a member of our advising team.

Honors Program

The Department of Kinesiology Honors Program provides an opportunity for students to engage in challenging educational experiences related to the study of human movement, sport, and exercise. Students with strong intellectual interests and the ability to pursue those interests at a high level are eligible for this program. The goal of the Honors Program is to nurture these students and encourage them to pursue their interests in a range of intellectual topics. The Honors Program in the Department of Kinesiology is primarily designed for junior and senior level students to encourage them to engage in scholarly independent study and discussions.

Admission to the Honors Program is based on a multifaceted set of criteria and administered through the Departmental Honors Committee.

Students interested in entering the Honors Program should visit the following website: <https://sph.umd.edu/department/knes/honors-program/> (<https://sph.umd.edu/department/knes/honors-program/>)

Admission to the Honors Program is based on a multifaceted set of criteria and administered through the Departmental Honors Committee. Students interested in entering the Honors Program should submit a written request to the Chair of the Honors Program, described below in detail. Each application will be treated on an individual basis; therefore the Honors Committee may take work experience, leadership, motivation and maturity into consideration. Contact the Director for more information. The applicant must meet the following minimum requirements and is expected to participate in the Honors Program for a minimum of 3 semesters:

1. An overall GPA of 3.50 on a minimum of 45 credits. (Exception: Students who are close to achieving a 3.50 GPA may submit additional materials to the Honors Committee for consideration.)
2. Have a 3.50 GPA in courses taken within the Department of Kinesiology, to include at least 9 credits from the following courses: KNES287, 293, 300, 350, 360, 370, 385.

For information on departmental scholarships, please visit the department website: <https://sph.umd.edu/department/knes/financial-support> (<https://sph.umd.edu/department/knes/financial-support/>).

Student Societies and Professional Organizations

Kinesiology Student Organization (KSO)

The mission of this Kinesiology Student Organization is to increase networking within the department (students, faculty, alumni), expose members to a variety of resources to help them succeed, and to enhance the overall sense of community through social events and community service. This is a student run organization that values opinions and ideas from everyone in the kinesiology community.

E-mail ksound@gmail.com to subscribe to the group's list-serve.

Pre-Physical Therapy Association

The Pre-Physical Therapy Association is a student organization that is directed towards students who are seeking a career or are interested in physical therapy. This organization is designed to prepare students for entrance into a professional curriculum for physical therapy at institutions that offer professional advanced degrees. Our goal is to be an effective organization that guides its members to become competitive candidates for PT school. We prepare our members by organizing meetings regarding GREs, PT school applications, resumes, community service, different paths in the PT field, plus much more.

Phi Alpha Epsilon

Phi Alpha Epsilon (PAE) is a local honorary society open to undergraduate and graduate students in Kinesiology, Behavioral and Community Health, Family Science, and Public Health Science. The organization was founded in the fall of 1952 by students and faculty of the college that would recognize academic achievement and promote professional development. Members make a commitment to provide service to the college, university, and community.

Scholarships and Financial Assistance

The Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA) administers all types of federal, state and institutional financial assistance programs and, in cooperation with other university offices, participates in the awarding of scholarships to deserving students. For information, visit: www.financialaid.umd.edu (<http://www.financialaid.umd.edu>) or www.scholarships.umd.edu (<http://www.scholarships.umd.edu>)