Ph.D. Kinesiology: Specialization in Sport Management

For nearly 30 years, Texas A&M University has been preparing Ph.D. students to excel in the scholarship of sport. Texas A&M offers a Ph.D. in Kinesiology with a concentration in Sport Management. Our faculty and students study sport management in ways that impact individuals, organizations and communities both locally and globally. Using an appropriate array of theoretical, methodological and practical bases, our aim is to expose graduate students to a wide variety of perspectives and methods, then train them to understand and apply their knowledge base to critical areas of inquiry within sport management.

Our curriculum is built on four main areas, each of which combine coursework with individual application for tailored education of each student:

- Scholarship of sport management
- Scholarship of theoretical specializations
- Methods of inquiry
- Teaching and career preparation

Our faculty represent globally noted scholars in the areas of marketing, finance, diversity, social justice, gender equity, sport development, legal aspects of sport, sport for development, organizational behavior and leadership. Each faculty member engages with students to develop lines of inquiry that will both prepare them for future careers in the academy and contribute to the growing body of sport management knowledge.

The Center for Sport Management Research and Education as well as the Laboratory for Diversity in Sport and the Laboratory for the Study of Intercollegiate Athletics also provide opportunities for students to engage in studies that will impact sport management theory and practice.

The broad collective knowledge base of faculty and access to world-class opportunities on and off campus, combined with individual mentorship for each student makes Texas A&M one of the strongest and most attractive universities for training and inspiring scholars in sport management.

Preparing Leaders In The Field

“Texas A&M provided me with the opportunity and the resources that I have needed to be successful as a Ph.D. student. My experience here has helped prepare me for life as a student, scholar, and global citizen.”

- Anthony Weems, current student
Throughout my doctoral studies, I had the opportunity to learn from leading experts in the field of sport management and related disciplines, engage in intellectually stimulating classroom discussions and have a mentor who both led by example and gave me the freedom and support to pursue my independent research endeavors.

E. Nicole Melton, Ph.D.  
Former Student  
Undergraduate Program Director  
University of Massachusetts - Amherst

Core Courses

Students will take a minimum of 46 hours from the following courses:

• SPMT 681 Research Seminar (Statistics; Qualitative Research)
• SPMT 682 Doctoral Seminar in Organizational Theory
• SPMT 682 Doctoral Seminar in Sport Marketing
• SPMT 682 Doctoral Seminar in Social Issues in Sport
• SPMT 682 Sport Management Research Colloquium
• HLKN 690 Theory of Kinesiology Research
• SPMT 685 Directed Studies
• SPMT 684 Teaching Internship
• SPMT 691 Dissertation

Supporting Specialization

Students with select a minimum of nine elective hours outside the department to develop a content specialization.

Areas include, but are not limited to the following:

• Education and Human Resource Development
• Educational Psychology
• Management
• Marketing
• Psychology
• Sociology

Research and Hour Requirements

The PhD requires a minimum of 67 hours beyond a masters or 96 hours beyond the baccalaureate degree. Depending on the preparation and experience, doctoral students may be required to complete undergraduate or graduate leveling work in addition to the minimum Ph.D. requirements.

Prior to scheduling the dissertation proposal meeting, each student will: (a) have presented, as sole or first author, at least one presentation at a state, regional, or national conference; and (b) will be an author on at least one research paper submitted to a peer-reviewed national or international journal.