

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
Department of Athletic Training  
Master of Science in Athletic Training Program  
Self-Study Document, Fall 2019

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The following is a summary of the self-study document, highlighting important points. For complete information, please refer to the full, self-study document itself.

**Mission Statement:**

The mission of the Weber State University Master of Science in Athletic Training Program is to provide a quality educational and research experience for students. Graduate students are presented with didactic and psychomotor experiences that will lead them to being able to exercise sound ethical judgment, achieve satisfying careers, and make positive contributions to their communities. In addition, the MSAT guides the student on the journey to become a lifelong learner through obligatory professional continuing education.

**Curriculum:**

The Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT) program learning outcomes are introduced, emphasized, and mastered within didactic lecture and laboratory courses as well as graduate practicum courses. Students enrolled in the MSAT program are required to take 32 credits of pre-requisite courses and 57 credits of MSAT courses.

**Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment:**

At the end of their study at WSU, students in this graduate program will

1. Students will promote healthy lifestyle behaviors with effective education and communication to enhance wellness and minimize the risk of injury and illness.
2. Students will implement systematic, evidence-based examinations and assessments to formulate valid clinical diagnoses and determine patients' plan of care.
3. Students will integrate best practices in immediate and emergency care for optimal outcomes.
4. Students will rehabilitate and recondition injuries, illnesses and general medical conditions with the goal of achieving optimal activity level based on core concepts (i.e., knowledge and skillsets fundamental to all aspects of therapeutic interventions) using the applications of therapeutic exercise, modality devices and manual techniques.
5. Students will integrate best practices in policy construction and implementation, documentation and basic business practices to promote optimal patient care and employee well-being.
6. Students will successfully pass the Board of Certification (BOC) Athletic Training exam.

Evidence of learning is provided in this report; all but one benchmarks for success were met in the 2018-2019 academic year.

**Academic Advising:**

In the Master of Science in Athletic Training, the academic advising is primarily done by the Program Director. Prior to enrollment the Program director will review and accept program prerequisites. Once on campus the process is fairly simple, because the students progress through the MSAT program as a cohort. However, the Program Director will advise students regarding which pre-requisite courses to take when if they have not been completed prior to beginning the MSAT program. In addition, the Program Director will advise students of other courses that may help them achieve their career goals such as EMT or other certification courses offered on/off campus.

**Faculty:**

The Master of Science in Athletic Training program has four full-time tenure-track faculty members and full-time 1 instructor.

**Program Support:**

The Athletic Training department currently has one non-exempt ¾ time staff administrative assistant and a work study student. The department also receives excellent support from the Stewart Library.

**Relations with External Community:**

The MSAT program maintains relationships with external communities primarily through student clinical rotation experiences. The Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) mandates that students have experience working with a variety of patient populations. The faculty have developed a large network of clinical rotation sites for our graduate students. Program faculty are also involved in professional organizations at the state, regional, and national levels.

**Student, Faculty, Contract/Adjunct Faculty and Staff Statistics:**

Our program has gender and ethnically diverse student population, aided by a number of international students each in each cohort. While our faculty is not ethnically diverse, we strive to involve a diverse group of other WSU faculty when possible. The student/faculty ratio data indicates good student to faculty ratios in all MSAT courses. Currently a high percentage of course are taught in overload because the program faculty also teach in the undergraduate Athletic Training and Athletic Therapy programs. The final BS in Athletic Training graduate in Spring 2020 which will decrease faculty course loads.

**Financial Analysis:**

Institutional research provided a financial analysis for the Master of Science in Athletic Training Program. The enrollment in the program had steadily increased since the last review, including both the student credit hours and full-time students (FTE), but in the most recent academic year we have seen a recent small decline due to the large number of new programs, both in Utah and in the region this was expect and we believe enrollment will stabilize over the next few years.

The cost per student FTE has declined, even though the direct instructional expenditures increased significantly. The MSAT program has generated an increasing amount of differential tuition each year, which helps support the instructional needs of the program. The revenue from the differential tuition has been used to increase MSAT student research support, fund student travel for conference presentation and attendance.

**Results of Previous Program Reviews:**

All of the recommendations made in the 2013 MSAT program review have been addressed. The MSAT program now has a full-time instructor/lab coordinator, an external review committee, we have moved all clinical tracking and evaluations to an online platform and we taken than steps to focus on the needs of our graduate students.

**Information Regarding Current Review Team Members:**

WSU faculty members outside the program within the Dumke College of Health Professions:

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