

KINESIOLOGY, PHD

The Department of Kinesiology's mission is to create, interpret, transmit, and apply knowledge related to movement, exercise, and human occupation with the ultimate goal of enhancing human health, productivity, and quality of life.

The PhD degree in Kinesiology can be pursued through one of its named options. These named options are formal sub-majors documented on the transcript.

- Biomechanics (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-biomechanics-phd/>)
- Exercise Physiology (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-exercise-physiology-phd/>)
- Exercise Psychology (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-exercise-psychology-phd/>)
- Motor Control and Behavior (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-motor-control-behavior-phd/>)
- Occupational Science (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-occupational-science-phd/>)
- Physical Activity Epidemiology (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-physical-activity-epidemiology-phd/>)

ADMISSIONS

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Students apply to the PhD in Kinesiology through one of the named options:

- Kinesiology: Physical Activity Epidemiology, PhD (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-physical-activity-epidemiology-phd/>)
- Kinesiology: Exercise Physiology, PhD (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-exercise-physiology-phd/>)
- Kinesiology: Exercise Psychology, PhD (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-exercise-psychology-phd/>)
- Kinesiology: Occupational Science, PhD (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-occupational-science-phd/>)
- Kinesiology: Biomechanics, PhD (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-biomechanics-phd/>)
- Kinesiology: Motor Control and Behavior, PhD (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-motor-control-behavior-phd/>)

FUNDING

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GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

[The Bursar's Office provides information about tuition and fees associated with being a graduate student.](#) [Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid.](#) [Further funding information is available from the Graduate School.](#)

Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

Prospective students should see the program website (<https://kinesiology.education.wisc.edu/tuition-and-financial-support/>) for funding information.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum degree requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#requirementstext>) and policies (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiestext>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirements	Detail
Minimum Credit Requirement	51 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	32 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	26 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/).
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	See Named Options for policy information.
Other Grade Requirements	See Named Options for policy information.
Assessments and Examinations	See Named Options for policy information.
Language Requirements	No language requirements.

NAMED OPTIONS

A named option is a formally documented sub-major within an academic major program. Named options appear on the transcript with degree conferral. Students pursuing the PhD in Kinesiology must select one of the following named options:

View as listView as grid

- **KINESIOLOGY: BIOMECHANICS, PHD** ([HTTPS://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/GRADUATE/KINESIOLOGY/KINESIOLOGY-PHD/KINESIOLOGY-BIOMECHANICS-PHD/](https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-biomechanics-phd/))
- **KINESIOLOGY: EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY, PHD** ([HTTPS://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/GRADUATE/KINESIOLOGY/KINESIOLOGY-PHD/KINESIOLOGY-EXERCISE-PHYSIOLOGY-PHD/](https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-exercise-physiology-phd/))
- **KINESIOLOGY: EXERCISE PSYCHOLOGY, PHD** ([HTTPS://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/GRADUATE/KINESIOLOGY/KINESIOLOGY-PHD/KINESIOLOGY-EXERCISE-PSYCHOLOGY-PHD/](https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-exercise-psychology-phd/))
- **KINESIOLOGY: MOTOR CONTROL AND BEHAVIOR, PHD** ([HTTPS://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/GRADUATE/KINESIOLOGY/KINESIOLOGY-PHD/KINESIOLOGY-MOTOR-CONTROL-BEHAVIOR-PHD/](https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-motor-control-behavior-phd/))
- **KINESIOLOGY: OCCUPATIONAL SCIENCE, PHD** ([HTTPS://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/GRADUATE/KINESIOLOGY/KINESIOLOGY-PHD/KINESIOLOGY-OCCUPATIONAL-SCIENCE-PHD/](https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-occupational-science-phd/))
- **KINESIOLOGY: PHYSICAL ACTIVITY EPIDEMIOLOGY, PHD** ([HTTPS://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/GRADUATE/KINESIOLOGY/KINESIOLOGY-PHD/KINESIOLOGY-PHYSICAL-ACTIVITY-EPIDEMIOLOGY-PHD/](https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-physical-activity-epidemiology-phd/))

POLICIES

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Students should refer to one of the named options for policy information:

- Kinesiology: Physical Activity Epidemiology, PhD (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-physical-activity-epidemiology-phd/>)
- Kinesiology: Exercise Physiology, PhD (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-exercise-physiology-phd/>)
- Kinesiology: Exercise Psychology, PhD (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-exercise-psychology-phd/>)
- Kinesiology: Occupational Science, PhD (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-occupational-science-phd/>)
- Kinesiology: Biomechanics, PhD (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-biomechanics-phd/>)

- Kinesiology: Motor Control and Behavior, PhD (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/kinesiology/kinesiology-phd/kinesiology-motor-control-behavior-phd/>)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Take advantage of the Graduate School's professional development resources (<https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/>) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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1. Demonstrate academic mastery in at least one of the broad areas of specialization represented in the Department of Kinesiology.
2. Demonstrate a broad understanding of major current and past theories, research findings, methodologies, and techniques in their area of specialization both orally and in writing.
3. Retrieve and examine scientific literature, evaluate evidence for and against hypotheses, identify knowledge gaps, strengths and weaknesses in existing literature, synthesize knowledge, and develop conclusions.
4. Formulate ideas, concepts, designs and/or techniques beyond the current boundaries of knowledge with their area of specialization.
5. Demonstrate a broad knowledge of the field of kinesiology extending beyond their area of specialization.
6. Develop and complete original research that makes a substantive contribution in advancing their area of specialization.
7. Develop testable hypotheses and predictions for their own realistic and feasible research projects.
8. Conduct independent research and analyze and interpret resulting data.
9. Clearly communicate their ideas in both oral and written form through the preparation and defense of a dissertation.
10. Foster ethical and professional conduct.
11. Use scientific rigor when designing experiments, collecting and analyzing data, interpreting and reporting results.