

ATHLETIC LEADERSHIP M.A.

Overview

The Master of Arts in Athletic Leadership provides current and aspiring coaches and administrators, at all levels, the opportunity to obtain a graduate education focused on leadership, ethics, and coaching development within the current landscape of athletics. This graduate program is designed to promote personal and professional growth in leadership, coaching integrity, and community influence using most of the standards of the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (N.A.S.P.E.) (<http://pgpedia.com/n/national-association-sport-and-physical-education>) and the university's commitment to preparing caring, competent, and connected graduates. This program will promote the university mission of educating students to meet the challenges of our times. Intercollegiate athletics is a core component of the college experience and developing leaders within context this promotes multiple aspects of the Rider mission that include good decision-making, ethical lifestyles, and tolerance and respect for others.

Curriculum Overview

There are two models for the degree program, both requiring 36 credit hours. The first model is a "4+1" program for undergraduates in which the four (4) courses (501, 502, 504, and 513) can be completed by rising seniors; the remaining 27 hours will be completed post-graduation. The second model is a traditional master's program consisting of 36 credits. The program allows the possibility of receiving credit for up to six (6) hours of the coaching/athletic administrative depending upon prior professional experience (e.g., 2 years of full-time coaching or athletic administrative experience).

Degree Offered

- M.A. in Athletic Leadership

Contact

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Program Website: M.A. in Athletic Leadership (<http://www.rider.edu/academics/colleges-schools/college-continuing-studies/programs-offerings/degrees-certificates-working-adults/ma-athletic-leadership>)

Associated College: College of Continuing Studies (<http://www.rider.edu/academics/colleges-schools/college-continuing-studies>)

Related Programs:

- Allied Health Studies (<http://catalog.rider.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/continuing-studies/bachelors-degree-programs/allied-health-studies>)
- Health Sciences (<http://catalog.rider.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/majors-minors-certificates/healthsciencesbs>)
- Sport Management (<http://catalog.rider.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/business-administration/majors-minors-certificates/sport-management>)

- Sports Media (<http://catalog.rider.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/sports-media>)
- Sports Studies (<http://catalog.rider.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/business-administration/majors-minors-certificates/sport-studies>)

Program Requirements

(36 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
Core Requirements		15
ATHL 501	Seminar in Sport Psychology	
ATHL 502	Evaluating Athletic Interventions	
ATHL 532	Athletic Administrative Internship	
ATHL 533	Special Topics Seminar	
Select seven (7) courses from the following:		21
ATHL 503	Seminar in Strength, Speed, and Conditioning	
ATHL 504	Seminar in Atheletic Training	
ATHL 505	Seminar in Sports Media and Communication	
ATHL 506	Seminar in Facility Management	
ATHL 507	Seminar in Athletic Governance and Policy	
ATHL 508	Seminar in Athletics and Risk Management	
ATHL 509	Seminar in Legal and Ethical Issues in Athletics	
ATHL 510	Seminar in Athletic Coaching	
Total Credits		36

Athletic Leadership 4 + 1 Undergraduate Program Information

(12 credits as an undergraduate, then 27 credits to complete the graduate requirement)

Program Overview

This program is for undergraduate students who wish to continue into the M.A. in Athletic Leadership. Rising seniors may complete four (4) courses of the program:

- ATHL 501
- ATHL 502
- ATHL 504
- ATHL 533

The remaining 27 credits will be completed post-graduation and upon acceptance into the M.A. in Athletic Leadership.

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Courses and Descriptions

ATHL 501 Seminar in Sport Psychology 3 Credits

This course covers psychological and social-psychological antecedents and consequences of exercise, physical activity, and sports participation. Emphasizes theory and research on personality, motivation, arousal, cognition, attributions, attitudes, self-efficacy, leadership effectiveness, and group dynamics. Emphasis is placed on applications for maximizing effectiveness while serving in the position of coach or administrator.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of Program Director or approval by CCS.

ATHL 502 Evaluating Athletic Interventions 3 Credits

This course in research methods prepares the student to understand materials and issues associated with but not limited to the logic of the scientific method, research design, and qualitative and statistical analysis of data. Students will be afforded the opportunity to conduct research in the course on topics.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of Program Director or approval by CCS.

ATHL 503 Seminar in Strength, Speed, and Conditioning 3 Credits

Emphasis will be placed upon assessment, description, and analysis of sport movement and designing training programs to enhance performance variables. While this course will assist those who desire to sit for the National Strength and Conditioning Association's (NSCA) Certified Exam, it is NOT a preparation course for the NSCA-CSCS exam.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of Program Director or approval by CCS.

ATHL 504 Seminar in Athletic Training 3 Credits

Introduces the profession of athletic training and the basic principles of preventative care commonly used in the profession. Topics will include athletic training facility organization and procedures; protective sports equipment; construction of protective devices; and application of protective taping, braces, wrapping, and protective pads. Areas to be studied include the role of the athletic trainer in sports medicine, mechanisms of athletic injuries, tissue response to injury, blood-borne pathogens, introductory techniques of the assessment and evaluation of athletic injuries and emergency procedures.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of Program Director or approval by CCS.

ATHL 505 Seminar in Sports Media and Communication 3 Credits

Seminar in Sports Media and Communication is a critical examination of the symbiotic relationship between the mass media and professional sports franchises and major college athletic programs. This course deals with the workings and processes behind executing the proper techniques of sports information and media relations, as well as an analysis of the culture of sports in modern society. Students will develop a practical focus on sports information and promotion, including the role of the sports information director and events promoter, with emphasis on advanced concepts of public relations, publicity and marketing.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of Program Director or approval by CCS.

ATHL 506 Seminar in Facility Management 3 Credits

Seminar in Facilities Management and Event Planning provides an examination of principles and techniques of planning and operating sport facilities. Emphasizes the principles and concepts of organization and administration including communication, personnel management, management of physical resources, and risk management. Examines a variety of sport operations such as indoor stadiums, athletic field complexes, and managing recreation and intramural activities.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of Program Director or approval by CCS.

ATHL 507 Seminar in Athletic Governance and Policy 3 Credits

Students in this course will explore principles, techniques, and process related to the management of college athletics. It is important in today's dynamic environment of collegiate athletics that students value effective leadership and management principles. Through analyzing case studies, students will demonstrate problem solving related to handling athletic personnel and program issues. Studying collegiate athletic administration involves interpreting NCAA By-laws, including a comparison between Division I, II, and III compliance regulations. To ensure readiness for athletic management, students will evaluate the duties of an athletic director and create a strategic plan for an athletic department, including a mission statement and comprehensive budget. Lastly, students will characterize the critical steps to getting hired in collegiate athletics. Students will also prepare a portfolio, including an application letter and resume customized for applying for a position in athletic administration at the collegiate level. At the end of the course, students will understand the primary duties of the athletic director and the intricacies of managing an intercollegiate athletic program.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of Program Director or approval by CCS.

ATHL 508 Seminar in Athletics and Risk Management 3 Credits

Students in this course will explore proactive approaches to managing risks associated with conducting health, physical education, recreation and outdoor education programs. This course will emphasize safety as a foundation of quality program planning. Students will study governing associations and leadership/management skills required to be successful in the world of college athletics.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of Program Director or approval by CCS.

ATHL 509 Seminar in Legal and Ethical Issues in Athletics 3 Credits

The purpose of the course is to familiarize the students with the business of sports and various issues related to sports management. Legal, ethical, economic, social and managerial issues related to sports will be addressed. Sports law issues which will be covered include tort law, contract law, employment discrimination, antitrust law and constitutional law. Also covered will be the structures and authority of the organizations involved in amateur and professional athletics.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of Program Director or approval by CCS.

ATHL 510 Seminar in Athletic Coaching 3 Credits

The learning experiences in this course are afforded through a variety of instructional approaches. This will ensure opportunities to meet the course objectives. Course content includes, but is not limited to, the following: philosophical foundations of coaching, integrity; program mission and priorities; scientific basis of sport; basic conditioning and training principles; basic wellness; psychological foundations of coaching; leadership strategies; communication; team dynamics and cohesion; personality, basic traits and states influencing performance; pedagogical principles of sport; learning motor skills; process of coaching; managerial functions of coaches-planning, controlling, evaluating; event/facility/equipment management; legal duties and risk management; promotions, marketing, fundraising for coaches; multitask management, self-management; intangibles in coaching.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of Program Director or approval by CCS.

ATHL 531 Athletic Coaching Internship 3 Credits

The learning experiences in this course are afforded through a variety of instructional approaches. This will ensure opportunities to meet the course objectives. Course content includes, but is not limited to, the following: philosophical foundations of coaching, integrity; program mission and priorities; scientific basis of sport; basic conditioning and training principles; basic wellness; psychological foundations of coaching; leadership strategies; communication; team dynamics and cohesion; personality, basic traits and states influencing performance; pedagogical principles of sport; learning motor skills; process of coaching; managerial functions of coaches-planning, controlling, evaluating; event/facility/equipment management; legal duties and risk management; promotions, marketing, fundraising for coaches; multitask management, self-management; intangibles in coaching.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of Program Director or approval by CCS.

ATHL 532 Athletic Administrative Internship 3 Credits

The internship affords students professional experience with an organization where the course theory can be applied to best practices. The internship is developed in consultation with the student, the student's academic advisor and the Internship. A learning/work plan is prepared by the student for approval by the site supervisor, both of whom share responsibility for the internship.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of Program Director or approval by CCS.

ATHL 533 Special Topics Seminar 3 Credits

This course will provide students the opportunity to survey the various sub-disciplines related to coaching and athletic administration, and their methods of inquiry. The course will place emphases on critically appraising research literature, and data collection, data organization and analyses for various research questions.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of Program Director or approval by CCS.