

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF KINESIOLOGY & SPORT MANAGEMENT

Doctor of Philosophy in Kinesiology
with Emphasis in Sport Management

Approved (Fall 2023)

Introduction

This emphasis area prepares students for teaching and research careers in sport management. Graduates are trained for post-doctoral appointments and positions in universities, industry, and research institutions. The program prepares students to conduct research in applied and basic areas of sport management. Emphases in the applied areas are in organizational and group diversity, the under-representation of women and ethnic minorities in sport organizations, organizational effectiveness, organizational structure and strategy, organizational change, sport marketing, and consumer behavior. Emphases in the basic areas focus on relational demography, intergroup processes, and sport consumer behavior. Specific areas of research correspond to those of the sport management faculty.

The Center for Sport Management Research and Education, and the laboratories subsumed under that entity—the Laboratory for the Diversity in Sport and the Sport Marketing Laboratory—provide support to the sport management program. Research in these entities focuses on applied issues in the university athletic context and on diversity issues within organizations for sport and physical activity, respectively. In addition to the work in the laboratories, supplementary experiences are available with various sport entities, including the Department of Athletics, the Department of Recreational Sports, and professional sport organizations/tournaments.

Sport Management PhD Curriculum

Course		Hours
Sport Management Core (46 hours)		
SPMT 689	Sport Management Research Colloquium	3
SPMT 689	Theory & Theory Development in Sport Management	3
SPMT 689	Research Methods in Sport Management	3
SPMT 689	Proposal Development in Sport Management	3
SPMT 684	Teaching Internship	3
SPMT 685	Directed Studies	13
SPMT 691	Dissertation	18
Research Design and Methods (12 hours)		
Statistics Core—Choose ONE of the following (3 credits)		
EPSY 641	Experimental Design in Education II	3
STAT 652	Statistics in Research II	3
Qualitative Core—Choose ONE of the following (3 credits)		
EDCI 605	Qualitative Research Methods in Curriculum and Instruction	3
EDCI 661	Mixed Methods Research in Curriculum and Instruction	3
EHRD 651	Models of Epistemology...	3
EHRD 655	Qualitative Research Methods	3
EPSY 633	Qualitative Research Design and Data Collection	3
Advanced Research Methods		
Negotiated between student and their faculty advisor		6
Supporting Electives/Cognate		
Students will select a minimum of nine elective hours outside of the department with approval from their faculty advisors.		9
TOTAL CREDIT HOURS NEEDED FOR GRADUATION		67

Program Delivery & Progression

- Students admitted as a cohort in the Fall semester (only) and must take the courses in the following progression:
 - Fall #1 – SPMT 689 – Sport Management Research Colloquium
 - Spring #1 – SPMT 689 – Theory & Theory Development in Sport Management
 - Fall #2 – SPMT 689 – Research Methods in Sport Management
 - Spring #2 – SPMT 689 – Proposal Development in Sport Management

Research Experience Requirement

- Prior to scheduling the comprehensive exam (#3 below), each student will have completed the following (minimum):
 1. Three presentations (including one as a sole or first author) at a state, regional, national, or international academic conference
 2. Publish a research paper in a peer-reviewed journal.
 3. Submitted one research paper as a sole or first author to a peer-reviewed journal.

Student Progress Evaluation

- Students will be evaluated at the following times with the following procedures:
 1. Every student will complete an exam (or equivalent) following the completion of their second semester (Spring #1) and prior to their third semester (Fall #2). This exam will ensure adequate comprehension of sport management research and theory/theory development within sport management.
 - Students who fail will be allowed to complete our Master's degree program but will not be allowed to continue in the PhD program.
 2. Every student will develop a research proposal at the completion of their fourth semester (Spring #2) and prior to their fifth semester (Fall #3).
 - Students who develop low quality/unpublishable proposals will be allowed to complete our Master's degree program but will not be allowed to continue in the PhD program.
 3. Upon completion of all their course work (sans SPMT 691 – Dissertation) and prior to their dissertation proposals, all students will complete the comprehensive exam. The comprehensive exam will be a multi-day experience wherein students will complete/develop the following:
 - (1). Candidate portfolio – includes the following:
 - a) Research statement – outline of student's research domain(s), methods, theoretical approach(es), outputs, and importance of their topic(s)
 - b) Teaching statement – outline of the student's teaching philosophy
 - c) Curriculum Vita
 - d) Copies of research outputs
 - e) Copies of completed exam and research proposal approval forms with advisor and committee signatures
 - f) Three letters of faculty support for candidacy (two internal, one external)
 - (2). Candidate interview presentation – Students will develop a job talk style presentation that addresses the following:
 - a) Research philosophy and approach(es)
 - b) Teaching approach
 - c) Student's contributions to the profession (research, teaching, and service)