

# PRE-ATHLETIC TRAINING ADVISING



To be an athletic training you must complete an accredited program, and pass qualifying exams. There are 363 CAATE-accredited athletic training programs (undergraduate and graduate). By going to <http://caate.net/> and then going to "Accredited Programs" on the main menu, a searchable database of programs is available.

WWU does not offer a CAATE-accredited athletic training program. WWU students wishing to become an athletic trainer must continue their education at a CAATE-accredited program at another school.

## WWU Pre-Athletic Training Advisors for all majors:

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A student at WWU who wishes to be an athletic trainer has three options.

1. Complete an undergraduate degree at WWU and then enter a graduate (masters degree) Athletic Training program. In this case, the graduate school will list their prerequisite courses required for admission, which you must complete in your undergraduate degree (see example below). Graduate program descriptions must be read very carefully to determine if they accept students who do not already have an athletic training certification. Approximately 20 graduate athletic training programs will accept students who have undergraduate degrees in areas other than athletic training.
2. Complete an undergraduate degree at WWU and then enter an undergraduate Athletic Training program (the majority of the programs). In this case, you must contact the undergraduate school to determine if they accept students who have already completed a degree into their program, and what course preparation they recommend.
3. Do not complete a degree at WWU and to transfer to a CAATE-accredited undergraduate athletic training program to obtain their bachelor's degree in Athletic Training.

**Option #2** above is felt to be a poor path to take, as it maximizes your time in school for the level of degrees you obtain (i.e., you end up with only a bachelor's level degree)

**Option #3** above is useful only for students who have not yet started at WWU, or who have completed only a few quarters here.

Students are encouraged to review prerequisite courses early in their academic planning and to develop a plan of study within the first quarter of entry to Western.

Pre-Athletic Training, and Athletic Training, are not majors at WWU. A Western major that covers some or all of the prerequisites is: Kinesiology /Movement Studies.

## Program Checkpoints:

### Freshman/Sophomore Years:

- Meet with a Pre-Athletic Training advisor to complete a plan of study.
- Complete<sup>1</sup> :
  - MATH 114 or equivalent intermediate algebra Math Placement Test score (pre-requisite for Chem 161) (see GUR note<sup>2</sup>).
  - Chem 161 (see GUR note<sup>3</sup>) (pre-requisite for Biol 349)
  - PSY 101 (see GUR note<sup>4</sup>).
  - BIOL 101 (pre-requisite for Biol 348 and HLED 350).
  - HLED 350 (3) Nutrition.
  - Statistics (MATH 240, KIN 307, or BIOL 340).
  - Other GURs.

### Junior Year:

- Work on completing:
  - BIOL 348, BIOL 349 (see **warning below**<sup>5</sup>).
  - Other Athletic Training school prerequisites<sup>6</sup>. (e.g., KIN 304, KIN 413, KIN 311 or 312, KIN 410, HLED 345)
  - Volunteer experience hours under supervision of an Athletic Trainer.
  - Major requirements.
- Prepare for the Graduate Records Examination (GRE), if needed for schools you are preparing for.

### Senior Year:

- Complete remaining Athletic Training school prerequisites.
- Complete major requirements.
- Two quarters before graduation, meet with major faculty advisor for major evaluation and apply for graduation.
- Take the GRE in the fall, if needed for schools you are preparing for.
- Request letters of recommendation from professors, administrators and professionals.

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<sup>1</sup> This example of courses to take is based on the requirements for California Baptist University & Montana State University Billings direct entry masters AT programs. Other programs will have different pre-requisites. You must examine the requirements of AT programs you wish to qualify to apply to, and ensure you complete their requirements by discussing these requirements with your advisor so they can be included in your plan of study

<sup>2</sup> Math 112 contributes one course of two needed to fulfill QSR GUR requirement, Math 114 fulfills QSR GUR requirement.

<sup>3</sup> Chemistry 161 contributes toward fulfilling the Natural Sciences GUR requirement.

<sup>4</sup> PSY 101 contributes to fulfillment of SSC GUR requirement.

<sup>5</sup> **Only HHD and Biology/Anthropology majors are allowed to resister for Biol 348 at WWU.** Students in other majors requiring Biol 348 for professional school may be granted an override if they request one from the instructor **at least three weeks prior to phase I of registration.**

<sup>6</sup> You must examine the requirements of AT schools you wish to qualify to apply to, and ensure you complete their requirements by discussing these requirements with your advisor so they can be included in your plan of study.