



University Council

February 9, 2024

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2023-2024

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Graduate Student Representative – Kelsey Wohlford

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the Mary Frances Early College of Education for a new Area of Emphasis in Adapted Physical Education under the major in Kinesiology (M.S.) will be an agenda item for the February 16, 2024, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair

cc: Provost S. Jack Hu

Dr. Marisa Pagnattaro

PROPOSAL FOR AREA OF EMPHASIS

1. **School/College:** Mary Frances Early College of Education
2. **Department/Division:** Kinesiology
3. **Major:** Kinesiology (M.S.)
4. **Area of Emphasis Title:** Adapted Physical Education
5. **CIP:** 31059901
6. **Campus:** Athens
7. **Proposed starting date:** Fall 2024
8. **Area of Emphasis Description:**

The Area of Emphasis in Adapted Physical Education is designed for individuals interested in the study and practice of teaching or coaching physical education, sport, or physical activity to individuals with disabilities. The program is specifically tailored for both future and practicing teachers and coaches and will improve students' knowledge of physical activity and sport instruction for disability populations in K-12 physical education and community-based contexts.

According to [recruiter.com](https://www.recruiter.com), demand for Adapted Physical Education (APE) Specialists is expected to increase, with an expected 6,750 new jobs filled by 2029. This represents an annual increase of 2.28 percent over the next few years.

The highest number of Adapted Physical Education Specialist positions per state are as follows:

California	7,950
Florida	2,920
New York	2,300
Virginia	2,140
Texas	1,610
Michigan	1,470
Georgia	1,320

Additionally, according to O*NET:

Georgia Employment Trends 25-2059.01 - [Adapted Physical Education Specialists](#) In Georgia:

Employment data for **Special Education Teachers, All Other.**

Employment (2020): 1,280 employees

Projected employment (2030): 1,400 employees

Projected growth (2020-2030): 9%

Projected annual job openings (2020-2030): 110

In the United States:

Employment data for **Special Education Teachers, All Other.**

Employment (2022): 43,900 employees

Projected employment (2032): 45,200 employees

Projected growth (2022-2032): 3% Average

The demand for APE Specialists is primarily due to federal mandates. Federal law mandates that physical education be provided to students with disabilities. All schools must have specialists who can

provide specially designed instruction in physical education that has been adapted or modified so that it is as appropriate for a student with a disability as it is for a student without a disability. The APE teacher is a direct service provider, as opposed to a related service provider, because physical education for children with disabilities is a federally mandated component of special education services [U.S.C.A. 1402 (25)]. This means that physical education needs to be provided to the student with a disability as part of the special education services that the child and family receive. On the contrary, physical therapy and occupational therapy are related services. These therapies are provided to a child with disabilities only if he or she needs them to benefit from instruction.

Adapted physical educators provide APE instruction and services to students with disabilities who qualify for special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (commonly referred to as IDEA; IDEA, 2004). They also provide APE services to students who receive accommodations and services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (1973). They may also aid physical educators and athletic coaches in making reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA; ADA, 1990).

Given that all states must comply with these mandates, the state, regional, and national need for APE Specialists is not expected to decrease in the near future.

9. Major Requirements:

The Area of Emphasis in Adapted Physical Education is open only to individuals who have a current Georgia T-4 or other state certification in Health and Physical Education and Special Education. The program requires a minimum of 36 hours to complete.

Core Courses (12 hours)

- EDSE 6010, Instructing Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (3 hours)
- EDSE 7050E, Positive Behavior Supports (3 hours)
- KINS 7620-7620L, Pediatric Adapted Physical Education (3 hours)
- KINS 7680, Adapted Sport and Physical Activity (3 hours)

Teaching Field Courses (15 hours)

- KINS 6360, Curriculum and Assessment in Physical Education (3 hours)
- KINS 6750S, Service Learning in Kinesiology (3 hours)
- KINS 7040, Approaches to Sport Pedagogy (3 hours)
- KINS 7800, Practicum in Kinesiology (6 hours)

Research and Leadership (6 hours)

- KINS 7150, Research Methods in Kinesiology (3 hours)
- KINS 7605, Motivation in Physical Activity, Exercise, and Sport (3 hours)

Elective (a minimum of 3 hours in consultation with advisor)

- EDSE 6020, Inclusion of Students with Special Needs: PreK-Grade 5 (3 hours)
- EDSE 6030, Inclusion of Students with Special Needs: Grades 6-12 (3 hours)
- EDSE 6050, Managing Severe Aggressive Behavior in the Classroom and Community (3 hours)
- EDSE 7100, Foundations and Assessment in Early Childhood Special Education (3 hours)
- EDSE 7130, Behavioral Disorders (3 hours)
- EDSE 7160, Communication and Language Development in Young Children (3 hours)
- KINS 6000, Directed Study in Kinesiology (1-3 hours)
- KINS 6305, Physical Education in the Elementary School (4 hours)
- KINS 6330, Physical Education for the Middle/Secondary School (3 hours)
- KINS 6340, Basic Curriculum and Teaching Procedures in School Health Education (3 hours)
- KINS 6760, Motor Skill Behavior (3 hours)

Documentation of Approval and Notification

Proposal: Area of Emphasis in Adapted Physical Education under the major in Kinesiology (M.S.)

College: Mary Frances Early College of Education

Department: Kinesiology

Proposed Effective Term: Fall 2024

Approvals:

- Kinesiology Department Head, Dr. Jamie Cooper, 9/25/2023
- Mary Frances Early College of Education Associate Dean, Dr. Stacey Neuharth-Pritchett, 9/25/2023
- Mary Frances Early College of Education Dean, Dr. Denise Spangler, 9/25/2023
- Graduate School Associate Dean, Dr. Anne Shaffer, 11/9/2023