

# Milken Institute School of Public Health

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

## Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences

### Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science

2025 – 2026

#### Program Director

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Note: All curriculum revisions will be updated immediately on the website <http://publichealth.gwu.edu>.

#### Program Mission Statement

The mission of the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Exercise Science (EXSC) program is to advance the scientific basis of the benefits of regular physical activity and proper nutrition to health and function throughout the life-span. The BS in EXSC program trains students in the science and practice of exercise, physical activity, and health in the greater context of public health and human performance by developing critical thinking skills and fostering life-long learning.

#### Goals/Competencies of the BS Program in Exercise Science at GW

The goals of this program in Exercise Science are to ensure that the graduates are able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of systems and functions underlying physical activity, exercise, and health across levels of the human organism.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of human responses and adaptations to physical activity and exercise.
3. Develop critical thinking skills to evaluate, interpret, and synthesize physical activity, exercise, and health related interventions, outcomes, and research.
4. Utilize oral and written communication skills to summarize, critically evaluate, and discuss scientific evidence on key physical activity, exercise, and health related topics.
5. Develop and apply physical activity, exercise, and behavioral interventions to improve human health, function, and performance.
6. Translate physical activity and exercise science principles across public health settings.

#### Careers

The BS in Exercise Science prepares students for professional careers in the field and for entrance into professional graduate programs:

- Athletic Training
- Coaching
- Corporate Fitness and Wellness Programs
- Exercise Rehabilitation
- Health Promotion
- Medicine (Physician Assistant, Nursing, Physician)
- Nutrition
- Personal Training

- Physical Therapy
- Sport Psychology
- Strength and Conditioning
- Other health and public health professions

### Degree Requirements

All students accepted to the BS with a major in Exercise Science **complete 120 credit hours** and **maintain a minimum 2.5 grade point average in the core Exercise Science courses**. In addition, **students must earn a minimum of a C- in each exercise science core course**. There are four levels of requirements for the BS with a major in Exercise Science: University general education requirements, Exercise Science core requirements, guided electives, and general electives. University general education requirements are taken by all University undergraduate students and form the liberal arts education component of the BS degree with a major in Exercise Science. Students with a declared concentration must meet the requirements for the concentration in addition to the four levels of requirements listed above.

### SPH Double-Counting Policy

Students pursuing a second major may double-count up to three courses (maximum of 10 credits) toward their BS core requirements or guided electives. Students with a declared SPH major who pursue a minor may double-count up to two courses (maximum of 7 credits). Students may also double-count SPH undergraduate core courses toward another program's major or minor requirements, but only if the other program permits it. There are two exceptions to this policy:

- **Double-Counting Across SPH Programs:** Students who pursue a double major in two SPH programs will be permitted to double-count one additional course, for a maximum of 13 credits. SPH majors can similarly share three courses (maximum of 10 credits) with an SPH minor.
- **BS Nutrition, Minor in Food Leadership:** Students pursuing a minor in Food Leadership may only double-count EXNS 2119 Introduction to Nutrition Science (3 credits) toward both their BS in Nutrition requirements and the minor. No other Nutrition core requirements or guided electives may be double-counted.

## PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

### 2025-2026 DEPARTMENT OF EXERCISE and NUTRITION SCIENCES

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE in EXERCISE SCIENCE

University General Education Requirements (GenEd) Courses (See University Bulletin for GenEd's under University Regulations)			Credit
			s
<b>University Writing</b>	UW 1020 UNIVERSITY WRITING OR HONR 1015		4
<b>WID</b>	TWO WID COURSES; These may also be counted in another category		6
<b>Humanities</b>	ONE COURSE IN HUMANITIES <a href="http://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/general-education/">http://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/general-education/</a>		3
<b>Mathematics or Statistics*</b>	ONE COURSE IN EITHER MATH OR STATISTICS <i>Can be satisfied with STAT 1051 or STAT 1053 or STAT 1127</i>		3

<b>Science*</b>	ONE NATURAL OR PHYSICAL SCIENCE COURSE WITH LABORATORY EXPERIENCE <i>Can be satisfied with BISC 1111 which is required for the BS in Exercise Science</i>	4
<b>Social Science*</b>	TWO COURSES IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES <i>Can be satisfied with ANTH and COMM listed in the BS in Exercise Science requirements</i> <a href="http://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/general-education/">http://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/general-education/</a>	6
<b>TOTAL GenEd</b>		<b>26</b>

\*Specific course selection may count for both Gen Ed and Exercise Science Core.

Prerequisite Requirements: Please note that these are prerequisites for required core courses, rather than prerequisites to apply to the program.

<i>Required Course</i>	<i>Prerequisite(s)</i>
EXNS 2116	PSYC 1001
EXNS 2119	BISC 1111
EXNS 3110	EXNS 3311 (co-requisite)
EXNS 3311	EXNS 2210, 2211
EXNS 3312	EXNS 3311 and EXNS 2119
EXNS 3313	EXNS 2210 or ANAT 2181 or BISC 2581

## Exercise Science Core

BS in Exercise Science Core Courses (same for all concentrations)		
Course Number	Course Title	Credits
EXNS 1103	Professional Foundations in Exercise Science	1
EXNS 2116	Exercise and Health Psychology	3
EXNS 2119	Introduction to Nutrition Sciences	3
EXNS 2210	Applied Anatomy & Physiology I & Lab	4
EXNS 2211	Applied Anatomy & Physiology II & Lab	4
EXNS 3110	Field Experience in Exercise and Nutrition Sciences	2
EXNS 3111W	Exercise and Nutrition Sciences Research Methods	3
EXNS 3311	Exercise Physiology I & Lab	4
EXNS 3312	Exercise Physiology II & Lab	4
EXNS 3313	Kinesiology	4
PUBH 1010	First Year Experience Course	1
PUBH 1101	Introduction to Public Health	3
PSYC 1001	General Psychology	3
ANTH* G	1002 or 1003 or 1004 (satisfies Social Science & Global/Cross Cultural Perspective requirement)	(G)
BISC 1111*G	Intro Biology: Cells & Molecules	(G)
COMM* G	1040 or 1041 (satisfies Social Science & Oral Communication requirement)	(G)
STAT*G	STAT 1051 or 1053 or 1127	(G)
<b>Total Exercise Science Core (*G = excluding GenEd requirements)</b>		<b>39</b>
<b>Students must maintain/earn a minimum of 2.5 GPA in the Exercise Science Core Courses and earn a C- or better in each core course to graduate</b>		

## Concentration Requirements:

### No Concentration

BS Exercise Science - No Concentration Must Fulfill the Following Degree Requirements	
➤ All General Education Requirements (GenEd) & WID Courses	26 Credits
➤ All Core Exercise Science Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C- or better required in core Exercise Science courses</li> </ul>	39 Credits
➤ Guided Electives Planned with Advisor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please see the "Guided Electives" worksheet for a list of approved courses</li> </ul>	41 Credits
➤ General Electives	14 Credits*
<b>Total Exercise Science No Concentration Requirements</b>	<b>120</b>

## Pre-Athletic Training/Sports Medicine Concentration

Pre-Athletic Training/Sports Medicine Concentration Requirements		
Course Number	Course Title	Credits
CHEM 1111	General Chemistry I	4
EXNS 1113	Medical Terminology	3
EXNS 3123W	Psychology of Injury and Rehabilitation	3
EXNS 3125	Athletic Training Practicum	3
PHYS 1011	General Physics I	4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Selective Courses:</b> Choose two-three courses from the following list: (6-8 credits): CHEM 1112-General Chem II (4) PHYS 1012-General Physics II (4) EXNS 2110-Injury Prevention and Control (3) EXNS 2121-Orthopedic Taping and Bracing (1) EXNS 3328-Scientific Principles of Strength & Conditioning (3) EXNS 4103-Training & Conditioning Program Design & Application I (4) EXNS 3117-Injury Assessment (4)		6-8
<b>Total Pre-Athletic Training/Sports Medicine Concentration Requirements</b>		<b>23-25</b>

BS Exercise Science - Pre-Athletic Training/Sports Medicine Concentration Must Fulfill the Following Degree Requirements	
➤ All General Education Requirements (GenEd) & WID Courses	26 Credits
➤ All Core Exercise Science Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C- or better required in core Exercise Science courses</li> </ul>	39 Credits
➤ Pre-Athletic Training/Sports Medicine Concentration Requirements	23-25 Credits
➤ Guided Electives Planned with Advisor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please see the “Guided Electives” worksheet for a list of approved courses</li> </ul>	16-18 Credits
➤ General Electives	14 Credits*
<b>Total Exercise Science Pre-Athletic Training/Sports Medicine Concentration Degree Requirements</b>	<b>120</b>

## Pre-Medical Professionals Concentration

Pre-Medical Professionals Concentration Requirements		
Course Number	Course Title	Credits
BISC 1112	Intro Biology: The Biology of Organisms/Lab	4
CHEM 1111	General Chemistry I	4
CHEM 1112	General Chemistry II	4
CHEM 2151	Organic Chemistry I	3
CHEM 2153	Organic Chemistry I Lab	1
CHEM 2152	Organic Chemistry II	3
CHEM 2154	Organic Chemistry II Lab	1
MATH $\geq$ 1220* <sup>G</sup>	Calculus with Precalculus I (or higher-level MATH)	3
PHYS 1011	General Physics I	4
PHYS 1012	General Physics II	4
<b>Total Pre-Medical Professionals Concentration Requirements</b>		<b>31</b>

Additional Courses Recommended for Pre-Medical Professionals		
English or Writing <sup>a</sup>	Required/Strongly Recommended	6
PUBH 2142 or STAT 1051, 1053, or 1127 <sup>b</sup>	Required/Strongly Recommended	3
BISC 3261 or CHEM 3165: Intro to Biochemistry or Biochemistry 1 <sup>c</sup>	Required/Strongly Recommended	3
BISC 2202: Cell Biology <sup>c</sup>	Helpful/Not Required	3
BISC 2207-8: Genetics <sup>c</sup>	Helpful/Not Required	3-4
BISC 2322: Human Physiology <sup>c</sup>	Helpful/Not Required	3
BISC 2337W: Intro Microbiology <sup>c</sup>	Helpful/Not Required	4
<b>Total PMP Additional Recommended Courses</b>		<b>25-26</b>

<sup>a</sup> May be fulfilled with UW20/WID courses; also meets GenEd requirements

<sup>b</sup> This course is also required for BS Exercise Science major

<sup>c</sup> This course is a guided elective for BS Exercise Science major

BS Exercise Science - Pre-Medical Professionals Concentration Must Fulfill the Following Degree Requirements	
➤ All General Education Requirements (GenEd) & WID Courses	26 Credits
➤ All Core Exercise Science Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C- or better required in core Exercise Science courses</li> </ul>	39 Credits
➤ Pre-Medical Professionals Concentration Requirements	31 Credits
➤ Guided Electives Planned with Advisor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please see the "Guided Electives" worksheet for a list of approved courses</li> </ul>	10 Credits
➤ General Electives	14 Credits*
<b>Total Exercise Science Pre-Medical Professionals Concentration Degree Requirements</b>	<b>120</b>

## Pre-Physical Therapy Concentration

Pre-Physical Therapy Concentration Requirements		
Course Number	Course Title	Credits
BISC 1112	Intro Biology: The Biology of Organisms/Lab	4
CHEM 1111	General Chemistry I	4
CHEM 1112	General Chemistry II	4
MATH => 1220	Calculus or pre-calculus I (or higher-level math	3
PHYS 1011	General Physics I	4
PHYS 1012	General Physics II	4
PSYC 2013 or PSYC 2011	Developmental Psychology OR Abnormal Psychology	3
<b>Total Pre-Physical Therapy Concentration Requirements</b>		<b>26</b>

BS Exercise Science - Pre-Physical Therapy Concentration Must Fulfill the Following Degree Requirements	
➤ All General Education Requirements (GenEd) & WID Courses	26 Credits
➤ All Core Exercise Science Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C- or better required in core Exercise Science courses</li> </ul>	39 Credits
➤ Pre-Physical Therapy Concentration Requirements	26 Credits
➤ Guided Electives Planned with Advisor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please see the “Guided Electives” worksheet for a list of approved courses</li> </ul>	15 Credits
➤ General Electives	14 Credits*
<b>Total Exercise Science Pre-Physical Therapy Concentration Degree Requirements</b>	<b>120</b>

## Strength & Conditioning Concentration

Strength & Conditioning Concentration Requirements		
Course Number	Course Title	Credits
EXNS 1117	Principles of Coaching	3
EXNS 2118	Sport and Nutrition	3
EXNS 2117	Sport Psychology	3
EXNS 3328	Scientific Principles of Strength & Conditioning	3
EXNS 4103	Training & Conditioning Program Design & Application I	4
EXNS 4104	Training & Conditioning Program Design & Application II	4
EXNS 3123W	Psychology of Injury and Rehabilitation	3
EXNS 3110	Field Experience in Exercise and Nutrition Sciences	4
<b>Total Exercise Science Strength &amp; Conditioning Concentration Requirements</b>		<b>27</b>

BS Exercise Science - Strength & Conditioning Concentration Must Fulfill the Following Degree Requirements	
➤ All General Education Requirements (GenEd) & WID Courses	26 Credits
➤ All Core Exercise Science Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● C- or better required in core Exercise Science courses</li> </ul>	39 Credits
➤ Strength & Conditioning Concentration Requirements	27 Credits
➤ Guided Electives Planned with Advisor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Please see the "Guided Electives" worksheet for a list of approved courses</li> </ul>	14 Credits
➤ General Electives	14 Credits*
<b>Total Exercise Science Strength &amp; Conditioning Concentration Degree Requirements</b>	<b>120</b>

**Note:** No more than 3 credits of Lifestyle, Sport, and Physical Activity (LSPA) courses may count toward the 120 credits required for the bachelor's degree.

\*Students may take more than 14 general elective credits, but this is the minimum number required for graduation



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## EXERCISE SCIENCE GUIDED ELECTIVES 2025-2026

The courses listed below have been identified as highly relevant to the BS in Exercise Science curriculum.

Guided elective credits are required to be selected from this list.

General electives can also be selected from this list, or any other undergraduate course at the university.

**NOTE:** Courses offered online may only be taken in the summer term.

### ANTHROPOLOGY

ANTH 1005	Biological Bases of Human Behavior	4
ANTH 2502	Anthropology of Science and Technology: Twenty-First-Century Brave New Worlds	3
ANTH 3413	Evolution of the Human Brain	3
ANTH 3504	Illness, Healing, and Culture	3

### BIOCHEMISTRY

BIOC 3261	Intro Medical Biochemistry	4
BIOC 3262	Biochemistry Lab	2
BIOC 3560	Diet, Health, & Longevity	3

### BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

BISC 1112	Intro Biology: The Biology of Organisms	4
BISC 2202	Cell Biology	3
BISC 2207	Genetics	3
BISC 2208	Genetics Laboratory	1
BISC 2213	Biology of Cancer	3
BISC 2214	Developmental Biology	3
BISC 2220	Developmental Neurobiology	3
BISC 2320	Neural Circuits & Behavior	3
BISC 2322	Human Physiology	3
BISC 2336	Introductory Microbiology	3
BISC 2337	Introductory Microbiology Laboratory	1
BISC 2337W	Introductory Microbiology	4
BISC 2581	Human Gross Anatomy	3
BISC 3122	Human Physiology	3
BISC 3123	Human Physiology Laboratory	1
BISC 3165	Biochemistry I	3

BISC 3166	Biochemistry II	3
BISC 3209	Molecular Biology	3
BISC 3208	Molecular Biology Laboratory	1
BISC 3261	Introductory Medical Biochemistry	4
BISC 3262	Biochemistry Lab	2
BISC 3263	Special Topics in Biochemistry	2
BISC 3320	Human Neurobiology	3

## CHEMISTRY

CHEM 1111	General Chemistry I	4
CHEM 1112	General Chemistry II	4
CHEM 2151	Organic Chemistry I	3
CHEM 2153	Organic Chemistry I Lab	1
CHEM 2152	Organic Chemistry II	3
CHEM 2154	Organic Chemistry II Lab	1
CHEM 3165	Biochemistry I	3
CHEM 3166 or CHEM 3166W	Biochemistry II	3
CHEM 3262	Biochemistry Lab	2
CHEM 3263W	Special Topics in Biochemistry	2

## EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

EHS 1002	CPR & First Aid	1
EHS 1040	EMT Basic	3
EHS 1041	EMT Basic Lab	1
EHS 1058	EMT Instructor Development	2
EHS 2108	Emergency Medical Clinical Scribe	3
EHS 2110	Emergency Department Critical Care Assessment and Procedures	4

## EXERCISE & NUTRITION SCIENCES

EXNS 1112	Current Issues in Coaching	3
EXNS 1113	Medical Terminology	3
EXNS 1114	Community Nutrition	3
EXNS 1117	Principles of Coaching	3
EXNS 1119W	Children and Sport	3
EXNS 1199	Topics in EXNS	1-3
EXNS 2110	Injury Prevention and Control	3
EXNS 2117 or 2117W	Sport Psychology	3
EXNS 2118	Sport and Nutrition	3
EXNS 2120	Assessment of Nutritional Status	3
EXNS 2121	Orthopedic Taping & Bracing	1
EXNS 2122	Food Systems in Public Health	3
EXNS 2123	Nutrition and Chronic Disease	3
EXNS 2124	Lifecycle Nutrition	3
EXNS 2126W	International Nutrition	3

EXNS 3101 <sup>1</sup>	Independent Study	3
EXNS 3102	Applied Sport Psychology	3
EXNS 3110 <sup>1</sup>	Field Experien in Exercise and Nutrition Sciences (beyond the required credits for graduation)	1-9
EXNS 3114W	Cultivating Food Justice in Urban Food Systems	3
EXNS 3117	Injury Assessment	4
EXNS 3118	Therapeutic Modalities in Sports Med.	4
EXNS 3119	Therapeutic Exercise in Sports Medicine	4
EXNS 3121	Medical Issues in Sports Medicine	3
EXNS 3123W	Psychology of Injury and Rehabilitation	3
EXNS 3328	Scientific Principles of Strength and Conditioning	3
EXNS 3995 <sup>1</sup>	Undergraduate Research	3
EXNS 4103	Training and Conditioning Program Design and Application I	4
EXNS 4104	Training and Conditioning Program Design and Application II	4
EXNS 4199	Topics in Exercise and Nutrition Sciences (ONLY: Metabolism in Exercise and Nutrition Sciences or Childhood Obesity Prevention)	3

### HEALTH & WELLNESS

HLWL 1101	Special Topics	1-3
HLWL 1102	Stress Management	3
HLWL 1106	Drug Awareness	3
HLWL 1108	Weight & Society	3
HLWL 1109	Human Sexuality	3
HLWL 1114	Personal Health & Wellness	3
HLWL 1117	Lifetime Fitness	3

### HEALTH SCIENCES

HSCI 2100	Writing and Composition in the Health Sciences	3
HSCI 2101	Psychological Aspects of Health (Residential and Online*)	3
HSCI 2102	Pathophysiology (ONLINE* ONLY)	3
HSCI 2110	Disease Prevention/Health Promotion (ONLINE* ONLY)	3
HSCI 2112 or 2112W	Writing in the Health Sciences	3
HSCI 2117	Introduction to Statistics for the Health Sciences (ONLINE* ONLY)	3

### PHYSICS

PHYS 1011	General Physics I	4
PHYS 1012	General Physics II	4

### PSYCHOLOGY

PSYC 2011 or PSYC 2011W	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSYC 2013	Developmental Psychology	3
PSYC 2014	Cognitive Psychology	3
PSYC 2015	Biological Psychology	3

<sup>1</sup> Only six credits of EXNS 3101, EXNS 3110, or EXNS 3995 count toward guided electives. An additional 3 credits in these courses will count towards the general electives.

PSYC 2570	Peer Education	3
PSYC 2571	Helping Skills	3
PSYC 3128	Health Psychology	3

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

PUBH 1102	History of Public Health	3
PUBH 2110	Public Health Biology	3
PUBH 2112	Principles of Health Education and Health Promotion	3
PUBH 2113	Impact of Culture Upon Health	3
PUBH 2117	Service Learning in Public Health	3
PUBH 2142	Introduction to Biostatistics in Public Health	3
PUBH 3130	Health Services Management and Economics	3
PUBH 3131	Epidemiology: Measuring Health and Disease	3
PUBH 3135W	Health Policy	3
PUBH 3151W	Current Issues in Bioethics	3