



## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

# Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training

*Prevention, recognition, care, and rehabilitation  
of injuries and illnesses*

## How Does the Program Work?

Any student may select athletic training as a major during the Preparation Stage. Freshmen and first semester sophomores take general education and introductory athletic training coursework including directed observation in athletic training settings. Once this phase is completed, formal admission into the WU-ATEP must be obtained in order to continue in the major. Once admitted into the Clinical Stage of the WU-ATEP, students take advanced coursework and a series of five clinical experience courses.

For more information, contact:  
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**WINTHROP**  
UNIVERSITY  
ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA

## The Major

The athletic training major is designed to provide the student with the didactic and clinical experiences necessary to become a certified athletic trainer. The major is divided into two stages. In the Preparation Stage the student enrolls in general education and introductory athletic training course work. This allows the student to explore the athletic training field. Once the Preparation Stage is completed, the student applies for formal admission into the Clinical Stage and, if admitted, enrolls in advanced coursework and clinical experiences.

## The Program

The Winthrop University Athletic Training Education Program (WU-ATEP) is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). Students are provided with high quality didactic and clinical education, which incorporates, at a minimum, the competencies and clinical proficiencies published by the CAATE. Majors achieve the knowledge, skill and competencies of an entry level athletic trainer and are prepared to sit for the Board of Certification exam. Upon graduation, students may enter a variety of employment settings or enter graduate school. WU-ATEP graduates are able to render care to a wide spectrum of individuals engaged in physical activity and are committed to intellectual growth as allied health care providers.

## Internships

Athletic training students obtain clinical experience with an assigned clinical instructor during each semester of

enrollment in the Clinical Stage. The clinical experiences are designed to allow the student to move from classroom theory and laboratory practice to application of skills with patients. Experience is gained in a variety of settings including equipment intensive and general medical.

## Student Organizations

The Athletic Training Club is open to all students with an interest in the athletic training profession. The club provides opportunities for professional exploration and community service. In recent semesters, the club has provided workshops for beginning students to develop skills and has raised funds to support student travel to professional conferences.

## Certification

Athletic training has been recognized by the American Medical Association as an allied health profession and is practiced under the supervision of a physician. In order to practice in most states, athletic trainers must pass the exam administered by Board of Certification, Inc. (BOC). Preparation for the BOC exam is a primary goal of the major.

## Careers

The certified athletic trainer is an essential member of the athletic health care team in a variety of settings including secondary schools, colleges and universities, professional sports teams, sports medicine clinics and industrial settings. Athletic trainers are also employed in the military and in non-traditional settings such as rodeo and dance medicine.

## Faculty

Faculty involved with the WU-AATEP include the program director and clinical coordinator who are both certified athletic trainers. In addition, experts in the areas of health, biomechanics, exercise physiology, and nutrition provide classroom and laboratory instruction. Clinical instructors who supervise all clinical experiences are licensed health care providers. The certified athletic trainers who supervise clinical experiences in the collegiate and high school settings are given training in the best ways to assist students in gaining clinical skills.

## Quotes from Students

"Athletic training is a tough major with the clinical hours on top of the classes, but the classes are interesting to learn about the different kinds of injuries, and the clinical hours are exciting to actually see all the different injuries and how each one can be treated. I also enjoy meeting the different athletes and seeing how different people react to different injuries."

"Being an athletic trainer isn't always about how much you know, but about how much you're willing to find out."

"Our clinical settings prepare us as far as leadership skills and various responsibilities that we will have to use in the future"

"Athletic training started as a major but has transformed into so much more for me."

"The athletic training program here at Winthrop University has provided me with the hands on experiences and put me in real life situations I would see in my job in the future."

"The classes are small so you can connect one on one with your professors."

"My experiences here as an athletic training major have opened my mind to several different aspects of the sporting realm. I've had good days, and bad days, but in the end I learned something everyday that I didn't know when I stepped into my event. The knowledge that I have attained, and friends I've made along the way are what I like about this field, and my mind has been completely opened to the many possibilities & opportunities this field gives me."



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