



TLU

ATHLETIC TRAINING



Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology | Master of Athletic Training

What is an Athletic Trainer?

Athletic Trainers (ATs) are health care professionals who work under the direction of a physician to provide preventative services, emergency care, clinical diagnosis, therapeutic intervention, and rehabilitation of injuries and medical conditions. Athletic trainers treat a host of patients including professional, college, high school and youth athletes, dancers, musicians, firefighters, and military personnel. They also work in a variety of locations including schools, physician clinics, hospitals, police and fire stations, and manufacturing plants.



Becoming an Athletic Trainer

To become a certified athletic trainer, a student must graduate from an accredited, professional athletic training program and pass a test administered by the Board of Certification (BOC).

In conjunction with the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), anyone pursuing an athletic training degree is required to be enrolled in a master's program. The Athletic Training program at TLU offers a unique 5-year experience leading to concurrent Bachelor of Kinesiology and Master of Athletic Training degrees.

Why TLU Athletic Training?

At TLU, athletic training students are regularly exposed to clinical and situational learning throughout all levels of the program. The TLU athletic training program focuses on involving

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Athletic training courses are some of the smallest classes offered at TLU. Curriculum courses taken in the professional phase of the program typically have less than 10 students.

→ Emergency Care, Diagnosis, & Rehab

students in all aspects of patient care decisions, as it prepares them for their allied health career. Experiences include travel with individual teams, evaluation of injuries, creating rehabilitation programs, and communicating with coaches and other athletics staff. Athletic training students gain further clinical experience by observing surgical procedures and working in physician offices, physical therapy clinics, and area high schools.

The first year of the program focuses on making sure students have a successful transition to college and begin athletic training academic coursework in addition to their general education. During the sophomore and junior years, students may begin an optional pre-professional program where they will learn foundational athletic training knowledge and gain experience in the TLU athletic training clinic. The last two years are dedicated to graduate-level athletic training coursework along with clinical experiences designed to provide patient care opportunities. As part of the final, culminating semester, students select and participate in a full-time clinical education setting while completing online courses. During this immersive period, they are assisting in actual patient care situations and preparing themselves for work after graduation. Once the professional phase is completed, students are eligible to become nationally certified athletic trainers through the Board of Certification (BOC) and for Texas state licensure.

TLU athletic training educational experiences often transcend TLU.

Our athletic training students regularly attend and present at national and regional athletic training conferences, and are routinely engaged in varying professional advancement opportunities.



Our Alumni At Work

TLU graduates are ready for clinical practice on day one of initial employment and consistently indicate so on alumni surveys. TLU athletic training graduates are working in the NFL and at the Division I-III college levels, as well as in high schools, hospitals and rehabilitative clinics.

CAATE Accredited Athletic Training Program

TLU's Athletic Training Program gained accreditation in 2005 and received a 10-year accreditation award in 2010-2011 through 2020-2021. In 2015, TLU's Department of Athletic Training became the first program in Texas to offer a 5-year master's degree.

For more information, visit caate.net.





Photo Courtesy of the Houston Texans.

Travis Turner '10
Houston Texans
Assistant Athletic Trainer

After receiving his bachelor's degree in athletic training in 2010, Travis Turner went on to complete a master's program at West Virginia University where he was named the 2012 Most Outstanding Athletic Training Graduate.

He spent one season as an intern with the St. Louis Rams and two with the Houston Texans, including the 2013 season when the group was named NFL athletic training staff of the year. In 2015, Turner became a full-time assistant athletic trainer for the Texans.

"TLU professors allow you to start gaining clinical knowledge on day one. My entire time in the program, I was accumulating hands-on knowledge that other, bigger universities don't offer. TLU allowed me to start ahead and continue to stay ahead in my ability and clinical skills."

Visit Days

Students who are interested in a career in athletic training are encouraged to visit campus to talk to TLU's athletic training faculty and students, ask questions, attend a class and tour the athletic training clinic.

Individual and group athletic training visits can be scheduled in either the fall or spring semesters. Visitors typically are able to tour the campus, meet with an admissions representative, and observe TLU Athletic training staff and students in the athletic training clinic during the afternoon.

Home Football Game Visit

During the fall football season, prospective students are welcome to visit during one of TLU's Saturday home football games. You will get to know our staff and current students, and observe the hands-on opportunities TLU athletic training students are engaged in.

Interested students should contact the Athletic Training Program Director for dates, times and other details, or go to tlu.edu/visit and schedule an individual visit.

For more information, please contact Program Director Professor Brian Coulombe at bcoulombe@tlu.edu and visit tlu.edu/athletictraining.

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