



April - 2016

To: Prospective Athletic Training Students:

On behalf of the VSU Athletic Training Program faculty, I would like to share with you information regarding the current status and future of the VSU Undergraduate Athletic Training Program. The current Athletic Training Program is a four year program, involving one year of admissions requirements, and three years of didactic and clinical learning once admitted into the program. **It is our intent that the fall 2016 student cohort will be the last baccalaureate degree class for the Athletic Training Program at VSU. Students that begin the admissions process in fall 2016 would be afforded four years to complete the program and, in turn, are eligible to sit for the BOC exam. Therefore, the final graduating class from the VSU Athletic Training Undergraduate Program would be in spring 2020. Spring 2020 falls within the program's current accreditation cycle. The VSU Athletic Training Program faculty will continue providing didactic and clinical learning opportunities for students until the completion of spring 2020.**

In the late spring of 2015, the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), along with other groups from the Strategic Alliance, sent word that athletic training education would transition from the current bachelor's degree level to a master's degree level. An absolute timeline has not been established but the move to an Entry Level Master's degree program will soon be a requirement. As you know, the current VSU Athletic Training Program curriculum is structured under the bachelor's degree format. The CAATE and Strategic Alliance have communicated that the transition from a bachelor's degree to program to an entry level master's degree program will not be a simple degree elevation, but will require significant changes to the academic and clinical structure of athletic training education. While some information is available regarding the transition, and some athletic training programs have begun the transition process, there appears to be many unanswered questions regarding the structure and protocol for entry level master's programs. At this time, Valdosta State University is still contemplating if it will transition to an entry level master's program. This decision is one that will ultimately be decided by administrators of Valdosta State University and the Board of Regents.

The VSU Athletic Training Program faculty have already begun to address current and future needs at Valdosta State University and the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. We are currently working on an undergraduate program curriculum that would not only satisfy a need within the university and the college, but would also allow for an undergraduate option for students that wish to enter an entry level master's program. As it was mentioned earlier, we are still contemplating the transition to an entry level master's program. The VSU faculty intend to keep you updated regarding the changes as much as possible. **If you have any questions, please contact me at 229-333-5354 or cconner@valdosta.edu.**

Sincerely,

Chuck Conner

Director – VSU Athletic Training Program

Athletic Training Program Only Course Offering
Pre-Admission Athletic Training Courses and
Athletic Training Courses upon Admission

May 12, 2016

| PRE-REQUISITES | CORE COURSES | CREDIT HOURS | <u>ONLY/LAST</u> SEMESTER COURSE WILL BE OFFERED |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------|---|
| | Area F – Major Specific (Year 1) | | |
| Declared AT Major | HSAT 2050 (Introduction to Athletic Training) (Fall / Freshman: Required for Admissions Process) | 2 | FALL 2016 |
| | ATP Pre-Admission Courses: Spring / Freshman (Year 1) | | |
| “C” or above in HSAT 2050 | HSAT 4300 (Injury Care and Prevention) (Spring / Freshman: Required for Admissions Process) | 4 | SPRING 2017 |
| “C” or above in HSAT 2050 | HSAT 3430 (Kinesiology) (Spring / Freshman: Required for Admissions Process) | 3 | SPRING 2017 |
| | ATP Major Courses: Fall / Sophomore (Year 2) | | |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 4360 (Evaluation of Head, Neck, Trunk) | 4 | FALL 2017 |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 4490 (Rehabilitation Techniques in Athletic Training) | 4 | FALL 2017 |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 3440 (Clinical Competencies I) | 2 | FALL 2017 |
| | ATP Major Courses: Spring / Sophomore (Year 2) | | |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 4350 (Evaluation of Extremities) | 4 | SPRING 2018 |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 4491 (Procedures and Protocols in Athletic Training) | 3 | SPRING 2018 |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 3441 (Clinical Competencies II) | 2 | SPRING 2018 |
| | ATP Major Courses: Fall / Junior (Year 3) | | |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 4450 (Sports Related Illness) | 3 | FALL 2018 |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 4600 (Ethics / Psychosocial Issues) | 3 | FALL 2018 |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 4440 (Clinical Competencies III) | 2 | FALL 2018 |
| | ATP Major Courses: Spring / Junior (Year 3) | | |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 3020 (Assessment in Athletic Training) | 3 | SPRING 2019 |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 4400 (Modalities and Pharmacology) | 4 | SPRING 2019 |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 4441 (Clinical Competencies IV) | 2 | SPRING 2019 |
| | ATP Major Courses: Fall / Senior (Year 4) | | |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 4250 (Organization and Administration) | 3 | FALL 2019 |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 3200 (Nutrition) | | FALL 2019 |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 4442 (Clinical Competencies V) | 2 | FALL 2019 |
| | ATP Major Courses: Spring / Senior (Year 4) | | |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 4700 (Professional Preparation) | 2 | SPRING 2020 |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 4443 (Clinical Competencies VI) | 2 | SPRING 2020 |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 3500 (AT Special Topics) | 2 | SPRING 2020 |
| Official Admission into ATP | HSAT 3420 (Exercise Physiology) | 3 | SPRING 2020 |

ATP = Athletic Training Program

Athletic Training Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) (as of May 12, 2016)**1. What is the last semester that a student can begin the Athletic Training Admissions Process?**

A student must be registered for HSAT 2050 (Introduction to Athletic Training) for Fall Semester 2016. HSAT 2050 will not be offered again after Fall Semester 2016. HSAT 2050 is the first pre-admission course that a student must take in order to be eligible for the other two pre-admission courses (HSAT 4300 and HSAT 3430).

2. What happens if a student makes below a final grade of “C” in HSAT 2050 (Introduction to Athletic Training)?

The student would not be eligible for the two additional pre-admission courses (HSAT 4300 and HSAT 3430) offered Spring Semester 2017. A major change will be required.

3. What happens if a student makes below a final grade of “C” in HSAT 4300 (Injury Care and Prevention) and/or HSAT 3430 (Kinesiology)?

The student would not be eligible for admission into the Athletic Training Program because a minimum final grade of “C” is one of the requirements for admission. A major change will be required.

4. What happens if a student is eligible but does is not admitted into the Athletic Training Program after passing all three pre-admission courses (HSAT 2050 – Fall 2016; HSAT 4300 and HSAT 3430 – Spring 2017)?

Because those courses are not being offered again, reapplication for admission is not an option. The student would need to change his/her major. The Career Opportunities Department offers Career Counseling for student who need to change their major.

5. What happens if a student makes below a “C” in an Athletic Training Course (an HSAT course) once the student is admitted into the program (years 2-4)?

Courses that students would take once admitted into the program would begin in Fall Semester 2017. Because the courses would not be offered again (see [Athletic Training Program Only Course Offering](#)), the student would not be able to complete the program and would not be eligible to take the Board of Certification (BOC) Exam. In order to matriculate through the program within the four years provided, students must make a “C” or better in each class. The student would need to change his/her major.

6. What happens if a student’s overall GPA fall below a 2.75 and the student is placed on probation?

Because a student placed on probation is not eligible for a clinical education course (HSAT 3440, 3441, 4440, 4441, 4442, 4443), the student would miss the opportunity to take the clinical education course the semester that he/she is on probation. Because the clinical education course would not be offered again (see [Athletic Training Program Only Course Offering](#)), the student would not be able to complete the program and would not be eligible to take the Board of Certification (BOC) Exam. The student would need to change his/her major.

7. What happens if a student is taking courses within the Athletic Training major and the student stops taking classes for a semester or longer because of personal reasons, program suspension, or any other reasons (to include medical)?

The Athletic Training Undergraduate Program is scheduled to end after the completion of Spring Semester 2020. If a student does not matriculate through the Athletic Training major courses (see [Athletic Training Program Only Course Offering](#)), as the courses are offered for the last time, the student would not be able to complete the program and would not be eligible to take the Board of Certification (BOC) Exam.

8. What should a student do if he/she is not admitted into the program or is unable to complete the program by Spring Semester 2020 because of the issues listed above?

The student should make an appointment with the Athletic Training Program Director. The student and the AT Program Director, along with assistance from VSU Centralized Advising and/or Career Opportunities will discuss options for the student.