

Master of Science in Athletic Administration



Faculty

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PROGRAM DISTINCTIVES

Grace College is pleased to partner with the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) and the Canadian Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (CIAAA) to provide a master's degree in Athletic Administration that is convenient, practical and affordable for their members. The NIAAA and the CIAAA strive to develop current and future athletic administrators who can lead wholesome, value-added athletic programs. Grace College joins with the NIAAA and CIAAA to utilize the content of their Leadership Training Courses (LTCs) as part of its graduate offerings for athletic administrators. This master's degree will a) extend the content of the LTC modules through higher-level thinking and learning activities, and b) enable athletic administrators to receive degree credit for their mastery of the content and their application of that learning in practical ways through their current employment.

Purpose

Grace College is partnering with the NIAAA and the CIAAA to provide an outstanding Master of Science in Athletic Administration degree program incorporating the courses from both associations at a reasonable cost to the student.

Goals

- To provide education for professional athletic administrators to enhance the daily operations of athletics departments and deliver athletic programs that best serve students, schools, and communities,
- To prepare responsible athletic administrators to consider all aspects of liability related to athletic performance and maintain a strategic plan for managing risk and maintaining safety, equity, and integrity in the context of interscholastic athletic programs,
- To assist athletic administrators in securing, maintaining and managing safe, resilient and attractive indoor and outdoor athletic facilities and equipment that is readily available to students for athletic preparation and interscholastic competitive events, and
- To partner with the NIAAA and CIAAA to provide a Master's program that recognizes and incorporates their courses and provides a value added dimension at a very reasonable cost to the practicing athletic director as well as convenience.

Schedule

The MSAA program is an open enrollment program with all courses offered each semester and summer session.

Delivery Formats

The MSAA is an online program. The School of Professional and Online Education can provide further details about the program.

Information regarding the technology and user-skill requirements for the online MSAA program is available on the Office of Information Technology page of the institution's Web site.

MSAA Program Admission and Completion Requirements

Admission Requirements

1. A completed baccalaureate degree.

2. A minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.75.
3. Submit one personal reference letter.
4. Submit completed MSAA Application, official transcripts of all previous academic coursework, current resume.
5. Be a member of the NIAAA or the CIAAA
6. Have completed at least two LTCs
7. Be actively involved in an interscholastic athletic program

Application Expiration Date

Applications will expire one year from the date the application was received for admission. If applicants do not enroll in the program within that time period, they will be required to complete a new application.

Degree Requirements

1. Each course is 3 credit hours, resulting in 36 hours for the program.
2. A maximum of 3 credit hours may be transferred into the program from graduate programs at other institutions. For transfer credit to be granted, the course or courses must be substantially equivalent to a course or courses in the Grace College MSAA program.

Degree Completion Policy

Students enrolled in graduate programs are allowed seven (7) years from the beginning of their coursework to complete all degree requirements. Students may be asked to repeat courses that were taken more than five years prior to completing the program curriculum at the discretion of the Department Chair.

Tuition Costs and Refunds

For information about tuition costs and refunds please view the [tuition pricing sheet](#).

Grading Procedures

For information about grading policies and procedures, please view the institution's [Academic Policy Manual](#).

Notice of Nondiscrimination

Grace College and Seminary is a private, not-for-profit, faith-based exempt organization as described in Section 501 (c) 3 of the Internal Revenue code. In compliance with applicable federal and state laws, Grace College and Seminary does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability in its administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs and activities, or in employment.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the Notice of Nondiscrimination:

Carrie Yocum, Title IX Coordinator and VP of Administration and Compliance
Grace College and Seminary
McClain 102
200 Seminary Drive
Winona Lake, IN 46590
yocumca@grace.edu
574-372-5100 x6491

Inquiries may also be addressed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights at 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-1100.

Community Lifestyle Pledge

Students agree to show respect for the faith commitment that Grace practices and agree to abide by certain of the institution's community guidelines (avoidance of disrespecting others, sexual misconduct, illegal drugs, gambling, coarse or obscene language, tobacco, alcoholic beverages, and such conduct) while on campus or engaged in Grace activities. The student understands that this extends to any advocacy initiatives in which the individual might participate while a Grace student.

Classification of Graduate Students

Full-time Students: Full-time students are those enrolled in a degree, diploma, or certificate program for at least 6 semester hours of credit during a regular semester.

Part-time Students: Part-time students are those enrolled in a degree, diploma, or certificate program for at least 3 hours of credit during a regular semester.

Auditors: Students who desire to hear the lectures in a course without undertaking the coursework for credit may be admitted as auditors to selected courses by making proper application with the Online Admissions Office. Though no credits or grade points are involved, auditors are required to pay the appropriate fees and to meet class attendance requirements. Those who do not meet attendance requirements will receive the "grade" of "W," whether or not they have officially withdrawn.

Auditing is not permitted for some courses. (This policy is at the discretion of the department or professor involved.) For some courses, auditing is permitted only if the student completes the course assignments as specified by the professor. An auditor may enroll for only one semester as a "full-time" auditor.

HLC Criteria as Applied to the School of Professional and Online Education

Faculty teaching in the School of Professional and Online Education should have completed a program of study in the discipline or subfield in which they teach, and/or for which they develop curricula, with the coursework at least one level above that of the courses being taught or developed/or a current teaching or administrator license in the field. The School of Professional and Online Education can determine that a faculty member is qualified based on experience that the institution determines is equivalent to the degree it would otherwise require for a faculty position.

Faculty teaching in the School of Professional and Online Education GRADUATE programs should hold a terminal degree in the program in which they are teaching. If a faculty member holds a master's degree or higher in a discipline or subfield other than that in which he or she is teaching, that faculty member should have completed a minimum of 18 graduate hours in the discipline or subfield in which they teach. See the SPOE Process for Exceptions.

School of Professional and Online Education Process for Exceptions

HLC Assumed Practice B.2 allows an institution to determine that a faculty member is qualified based on experience that the institution determines is equivalent to the degree it would otherwise require for a faculty position. This experience should be tested experience in that it includes a breadth and depth of experience outside of the classroom in real-world situations relevant to the discipline in which the faculty member would be teaching. An institution that intends to use tested experience as a basis for hiring faculty must have a well-defined policy and procedure for determining when such experience is sufficient to determine that the faculty member has the expertise necessary to teach students in that discipline.

Deans and faculty leaders assess faculty members' qualifications. Endorsements are considered when potential instructors do not have the academic credentials required by the Higher Learning Commission.

These endorsements are dependent on the relevancy of the experience both to the degree level and to the specific content of the course for which the faculty member is responsible. These endorsements come in two forms: Endorsement by Equivalency and Endorsement by Exception. These endorsements are used when credentialing part-time instructors.

ENDORSEMENT BY EQUIVALENCY is used when it is evident that an instructor has credentials that are “equivalent to” the degree required of our faculty in that content area. This endorsement is in line with HLC guidelines that allow an individual’s knowledge and expertise to be determined by his or her tested experiences outside of the classroom in real-world situations relevant to the discipline in which the faculty member would be teaching. For example, an instructor can be credentialed to teach if that instructor has a minimum of ten years of industry-specific experience. Such life experience can qualify as an equivalent to academic credentials for the purpose of teaching, based on the judgment of knowledgeable faculty in the discipline. This endorsement is used when in faculty judgment it is not necessary for an instructor to pursue further studies to teach at the college in the approved area.

ENDORSEMENT BY EXCEPTION is used when an instructor has demonstrated adequate knowledge and experience but has not met our standard for credentials. An example of such a situation would be the instructor who has a bachelor’s/master’s degree in a different teaching field, but has some certifications, professional affiliations, and a minimum of five years’ industry-specific or teaching experience.

Note about the Catalog

Each program at the institution maintains a catalog in which basic academic information related to the program’s goals, expectations, admission, policies, accreditation, and other pertinent information is described. This applies to undergraduate, non-traditional (e.g., online, adult degree completion), graduate, and seminary programs.

Grace makes every attempt to provide information that, at the time of publication, most accurately describes the policies, procedures, and requirements of the institution and its individual programs.

The provisions of the academic catalogs are, therefore, to be considered a guide and not to be regarded as a contract between any student and the institution. Course content and institutional policies governing admissions, tuition, and campus life are under constant review and revision.

Grace reserves the right to change any statement contained within the catalog at any time and without prior notice including academic provisions, policies, or requirements (e.g., modifications to classes, fees, personnel, academic policies, and programs) and the right to withdraw or amend the content of any courses described in the catalogs as may be required or desirable by circumstances. Grace will, however, make every attempt to give students reasonable prior notice to changes in policies and other catalog content when possible and rarely implements policy changes during an academic year.

Courses of study for non-traditional, graduate, and seminary programs and check sheets for undergraduate students may undergo revisions; however, these are typically implemented in the fall of the new academic year.

All students are expected to be familiar with the catalog(s) associated with their selected program(s) of study with the understanding that policies and procedures of their selected program(s) may change from year-to-year. The current year’s catalog should, in most situations, be considered the catalog applicable to the student.

In some programs, students are asked to acknowledge in writing their receipt of the program’s catalog.

Changes to an academic catalog that are necessary following the start of the fall semester will be noted as an addendum to the original catalog.

Archived catalogs are maintained on the institution's Web site.

It is each student's responsibility to schedule regular meetings with his or her academic advisor and to be knowledgeable about institutional requirements, academic regulations, and calendar deadlines specified in the catalogs and academic program publications. Students should read the catalog carefully and consult with an advisor to determine how these policies relate to their individual circumstances.

Contact

For additional information about admission requirements or course enrollment and completion, please contact the School of Professional and Online Education, Grace College, 200 Seminary Drive, Winona Lake, IN 46590 (telephone: 888.249.0533.0012) or email online@grace.edu. For more information, visit: <http://www.grace.edu/academics/school-professional-online-education/master-science-athletic-administration>

COURSES

Grace College Courses	NIAAA/CIAAA LT Courses	Grace College Requirement
AAD 6010 Foundations of Athletic Admin	LTC 501, 502, 608	Project
AAD 6020 Risk Management & Ethical Issues	LTC 504, 506, 508	Project
AAD 6030 Athletic Finance & Marketing Mgmt.	LTC 511, 611, 618	Project
AAD 6035 Athletic Program Assessment	LTC 707, 719	Project
AAD 6040 Team Cohesion and Character Dev	LTC 720, 721	Project
AAD 6050 Facility Planning & Management	LTC 615, 616, 619	Project
AAD 6060 Facility & Event Management	LTC 621, 622, 707	Project
AAD 6070 Athletic Organization & Admin	LTC 625, 630, 700, 701, 719	Project
AAD 6080 Sport Med & Strength Training Prog	LTC 617, 620, 627	Project
AAD 6090 Educational Athletics	LTC 703, 705, 720, 721	Project
AAD 6100 Athletic Decision-Making	LTC 709, 714, 719, 799	Project
AAD 6110 Current Issues & Trends	LTC 710A, 710B, 723	Project
AAD 6120 Practical Application	Work Experience	Project
AAD 6130 Capstone	Work Experience	Project

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

AAD 6010 Foundations of Athletic Administration

This course will present a philosophy of the leadership and organization of interscholastic athletic programs, principles, strategies and methods of athletic administration, frameworks to identify and unify the athletic community through character-based standards, and best practices in fundraising, marketing, and promotion of athletic programs and events. Three hours.

Incorporates NIAAA LT Courses: LTC 501, 502, 608

AAD 6020 Risk Management and Ethical Issues

This course will guide students in utilizing institutional and established legal guidelines to consider all aspects of liability related to athletic performance, and creating and maintaining a strategic plan for managing risk and maintaining safety, equity, and integrity in the context of interscholastic athletic programs. Three hours.

Incorporates NIAAA LT Courses: LTC 504, 506, 508

AAD 6030 Athletic Finance and Marketing Management

This course will assist students in understanding athletic finance and budgeting. It will also guide students in the development of an athletic marketing plan. Three hours.

Incorporates NIAAA LT Courses: 511, 611, 618

AAD 6035 Athletic Program Assessment and Enhanced Leadership

This course has two main objectives-to assist the student in developing and implementing a program assessment for an interscholastic athletic program including policies related to program assessment, procedures for implementing program assessment, and forms to support program assessment, and to review and discuss various concepts related to enhanced leadership. Three hours.

Incorporates NIAAA LTC Courses 707, 719

AAD 6040 Team Cohesion and Athletic Character Development

This course has two main objectives-to review and discuss the various ways to build a cohesive athletic team, and to develop successful strategies to build character within the student-athletes. Three hours.

Incorporates NIAAA Courses 720, 721

AAD 6050 Facility Planning and Management

This course will guide students in the development of an athletic facility master plan. Further, it assists students in understanding the role the athletic director plays in management of the athletic physical plant. Three hours.

Incorporates NIAAA LT Courses: LTC 615, 616, 619

AAD 6060 Facility and Event Management

This course presents opportunities for students to analyze best practices and challenges to securing, maintaining, and managing safe, resilient, and attractive indoor and outdoor athletic facilities and equipment that is readily available to students for athletic preparation and interscholastic competitive events. Three hours.

Incorporates NIAAA LT Courses: LTC 621, 622, 707

AAD 6070 Athletic Organization and Administration

This course will assist the athletic leader in developing an athletic operational manual. Further, this course will guide the athletic leader through the organizational and administrative policies and procedures of a typical interscholastic athletic department. Three hours.

Incorporates NIAAA LTC Courses: LTC 625, 630, 700, 701, 719

AAD 6080 Sport Medicine and Strength Training Administration

This course outlines the policies and procedures in operating and administering sport medicine and strength training programs. Further, the course will guide the athletic leader through the development of policy and procedural manuals for each area. Three hours.

Incorporates NIAAA LTC Courses: LTC 617, 620, 627

AAD 6090 Educational Athletics

This course guides the athletic leader through the development of policies and procedures related to the educational aspects of sport programs. Three hours.

Incorporates NIAAA LTC Courses: LTC 703, 705, 720, 721

AAD 6100 Athletic Decision Making

A review of methods used to collect information to support business decisions, such as surveys, focus groups, competitive studies, and benchmarking. Topics include designing procedures to obtain unbiased data, scaling methods, and analysis and interpretation of data to produce credible results and recommendations. Emphasis is placed on intelligence necessary to support strategic planning activities and initiatives. Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to discern when to use qualitative techniques and the limitations of qualitative studies, design a study around research questions, choose appropriate samples from the population, and prepare the research instruments, prepare to conduct in-depth interviews and focus groups, analyze data and correlate results of qualitative studies. Three hours.

Incorporates NIAAA LT Courses: LTC 709, 714, 719, 799

AAD 6110 Current Issues and Trends

This course involves research on a current topic in athletic administration focusing on solutions and remedies to the issues addressed. Three hours athletic need or issue. Three hours.

Incorporates NIAAA LT Courses: LTC 710A, 710B, 723

AAD 6120 Practical Experience I, and AAD 6130 Practical Experience II

This course requires the student to complete a project that is applicable and practical to the athletic department in which they are involved. Three hours.

AAD 6130 Capstone

This course is the capstone course for all students in the Athletic Administration Concentration. The capstone is a special project conducted within an existing athletic setting. It may be arranged within the organization in which the student is employed or in another organization which agrees to work with the student on a project of mutual interest. The capstone experience affords each student an opportunity to apply the skills, knowledge, and abilities gained through the leadership core and concentration-area content courses in a process that will generate a solution(s) to or facilitate substantive consideration of a current interscholastic athletic need or issue. Three hours.