



The Accelerated Special Consideration Programs for Athletic Training

Mercer University's **Accelerated Special Consideration Programs (ASCP) for Athletic Training** offer high-achieving, first-time students enrolled in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences & Sciences (CLASS) or the College of Health Professions (CHP) the opportunity to earn both a bachelor's degree and a Master of Athletic Training (MAT degree) in about 5 years, and give students the security of a guaranteed interview with the AT program at Mercer University's College of Health Professions (<https://chp.mercer.edu/admissions/admissions-requirements/athletic-training/>).

Eligibility. Students interested in earning special consideration status upon application to the CHP's Master of Athletic Training program should be deemed "calculus-ready" upon admission (have a math index of 980 or higher, have credit for pre-calculus through dual enrollment or CLEP credit, or achieve a score of 15 or higher on the math placement exam: <https://aas.mercer.edu/for-students/placement-exams/>).

Students must be enrolled in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences & Sciences (CLASS) or the College of Health Professions (CHP) on the Macon campus as first-time college students who have not attended other colleges or universities after high school graduation. Transfer students are not eligible for this program, and students may not decline transfer credit to gain eligibility.

Declaration of Intent. To be guaranteed an interview upon application to Mercer's AT program, students must read the program mission and description presented on the College of Health Professions Web site (<https://chp.mercer.edu/academics-departments/athletic-training/mat-program/>), and the "Technical Standards" described on the Mercer University College of Health Professions website (https://chp.mercer.edu/www/mu-chp/admissions/admissions-requirements/athletic-training/upload/MAT_Technical-Standards.pdf). Students who believe they have the abilities and attributes described therein, and are willing to work diligently to become the professional described in the profile, and who have achieved the minimum GPA's for this program by May of year 2, are invited to declare their intention to earn special consideration status upon application to the MAT program. Declaration forms can be downloaded from the *Pre-AT Track Page* on the GPS advising course on Canvas.

Declaration of Major. ASCP participants are required to declare a major within their respective college before completing 60 credit hours:

CLAS ASCP-AT participants must declare a major and minor offered by that college, and make progress toward completion of that major in the three undergraduate years (as approved by the major advisor). This major and minor forms a "back-up plan" for students to complete only in the event they do not gain early admission to the MAT program.

CHP ASCP-AT participants must declare Public Health as their major (no minor required).

Pre-professional Advising. ASCP-AT participants should maintain contact with their primary (departmental) advisor and with the pre-health professions advisor during their time as undergraduates, and must complete a successful advising session with representatives of the MAT program during the second year of their undergraduate program.

Coursework and Residency Requirements. ASCP-AT participants enrolled in the CLAS must complete a minimum of 90 hours of coursework in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences ("in residence"), to include the courses shown in Table 1 and courses to make progress toward the declared major, by May of year 3.

ASCP-AT participants enrolled in the CHP must complete 106 semester hours of coursework in the CHP and CLAS ("in residence"), to include the courses listed in Table 1, by December of year 3.

Suggested scheduling of these courses is shown in Table 2. No transfer hours are allowed after high school graduation for either group.

With the approval of the CHP Director of Admissions, dual enrollment, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate credit may be used to fulfill the pre-AT requirements, but cannot count toward the semester hours required in residence by the program. Physical education and military science courses also cannot be used to satisfy this requirement.

Academic Performance. To be guaranteed an interview upon application to the MAT program, students must maintain overall grade point averages (GPA's) of 3.2 or higher for the first 90 / 106 semester hours of coursework

(depending on the program), as well as 3.2 in all MAT prerequisites (indicated by **red type** on the checklists in Table 1). Grades of “C” or above must be earned in all pre-AT courses; if a course must be repeated, both grades earned will be averaged when calculating the student’s GPA’s. Students may not elect to be graded on an “S/U” basis in those math and science courses required for the ASCP. If accepted, students must adhere to the academic standards of the MAT program beginning year 4.

AT Observation Requirement. All ASCP-AT students complete 50 hours of clinical observation under the supervision of an athletic trainer before application to the MAT program.

Graduate Record Exam Requirement. To be guaranteed an interview upon application to the MAT program, students must take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test and submit the score as part of the graduate school application.

Application to the MAT Program. Students seeking special consideration status are required to submit an application to the CHP no later than January 1 of their third year. Students must submit a completed application to the Athletic Training Centralized Application Service (ATCAS; <http://atcas.liasoncas.org/>), which includes a GRE score and two letters of recommendation.

Interview Requirement. Students who adhere to all guidelines for their respective program will be guaranteed an interview with representatives of the CHP’s MAT program. Students must not underestimate the impact that the interview has on their candidacy for graduate school, and should prepare accordingly.

If Early Acceptance is Achieved. Students who have been accepted to the MAT program through one of the ASCP’s must take appropriate action to complete their undergraduate degree.

CLAS. Students who have been accepted to the MAT program through the ASCP must submit the following to the registrar by the end of the last semester enrolled in the CLAS: 1. A “Non-Returning Form” to indicate that enrollment in the CLAS has ended and why (students who do not complete this process may have a hold placed on their accounts, which prevents registration for MAT courses), and 2. A new “Major Declaration Form” to indicate a change of program from whatever degree they declared to “B.S. in Health Science” (no minor required, but may be claimed), and 3. Apply for graduation in May, year 4, with the University Registrar by the deadline in the fall semester of that year. The deadline and other information about graduation, as well as the graduation application and other required forms, can be found on the Mercer Web site: <https://registrar.mercer.edu/graduation-information/>.

CHP. To receive the B.S. in Public Health degree from the CHP in December of year 4, students must apply for graduation with the University Registrar before the beginning of the fall term in year 4. The deadline and other information about graduation, as well as the graduation application, can be found on the Mercer Web site: <https://registrar.mercer.edu/graduation-information/>.

Table 1. Required Coursework for the Accelerated Special Consideration Programs for Athletic Training

<i>Courses Required by Both Programs</i>																
<p>Integrative Studies Courses/ Communication (11 semester hours)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> INT 101: Understanding Self & Others <input type="checkbox"/> INT 201: Building Community <input type="checkbox"/> INT 301: Engaging the World <p>First-Year Student Requirement (1 semester hour)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> UNV 101 <p>Religious Heritage (3 semester hours)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> _____ (See the respective college's catalog for a list of classes that fulfill this requirement) <p>Behavioral Science (3 semester hours)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> PSY 101: Introductory Psychology <p>Mathematical/ Quantitative Reasoning (3 semester hours)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> STA 126: Statistics <p>Scientific Reasoning/ Athletic Training Prerequisites (24 semester hours)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> CHM 111: General Chemistry I <input type="checkbox"/> BIO 211: Introductory Biology I <input type="checkbox"/> PHY 141: Introductory Physics I <input type="checkbox"/> BIO 202: Human Anatomy & Physiology I <input type="checkbox"/> BIO 203: Human Anatomy & Physiology II <input type="checkbox"/> GHS 101: Nutrition 																
Subtotal 45 hr																
<i>Program-Specific Courses</i>																
<i>CLAS – B.S. in Health Science</i>	<i>CHP – B.S. in Public Health</i>															
<p>Foreign Language Competency (0-8 semester hours)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> FRE, GER, GRK, LAT, CHN, or SPN 111 <input type="checkbox"/> FRE, GER, GRK, LAT, CHN, or SPN 112 <p><i>Or</i> Earn an acceptable score on the appropriate foreign language exam to place into FRE, GER, GRK, LAT, CHN, or SPN 251 or above, or provide evidence of comparable competency in a language that is not taught at Mercer</p> <p>Creative Expression (3 semester hours) (See the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences General Education Requirements for a list of classes that fulfill this requirement)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Elective _____ <p>Western Heritage (3 semester hours) (See the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences General Education Requirements for a list of classes that fulfill this requirement)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Elective _____ <p>Additional Courses to Make Progress Toward the Major and Meet the Minimum 90 Credit Hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ 	<p>Humanities/ Fine Arts (3 semester hours) (Choose one: ART 106, 107, 115, 116, 223, 224, 226, 254, 335; ENG 224, 226, 263, 264; FLL 195; HIS 105, 176; JMS 225; MUS 151; PHI 190, 230; REL 210, 270; THR 115, 218; WLT 101. The 3 hr may also be completed by taking three 1-hr music ensemble courses: MUS 182, 192, and/or 192)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Elective from list above: _____ <p>Additional Behavioral/ Social Sciences (6 semester hours; Choose from electives: AFR 190, 210; ANT 101; COM 230, 250; ECN 150, 151; GEO 111; GHS 200; JMS 101, 240; PHI 237; POL 101; POL/IAF 253; SOC 210; WGS 180)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> SOC 101: Introductory Sociology <input type="checkbox"/> Elective from list above: _____ <p>Public Health Studies (39 semester hours)</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> PBH 101</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> PBH 305</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> PBH 404</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> PBH 105</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> PBH 307</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> PBH 405</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> PBH 200</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> PBH 400</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> PBH 407</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> PBH 202</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> PBH 402</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> PBH 490</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> PBH 301</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Experiential Requirement (0 credit hours; A minimum of 30 clock hours in public health community service must be completed for the BSPH, and a minimum of 50 clock hours of athletic training observation are required for admission to the MAT program.)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 101	<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 305	<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 404	<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 105	<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 307	<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 405	<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 200	<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 400	<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 407	<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 202	<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 402	<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 490	<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 301		
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<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 202	<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 402	<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 490														
<input type="checkbox"/> PBH 301																
Subtotal 45 hr	Subtotal 61 hr															
Required Minimum in Residence = 90 semester hours	Required Minimum in Residence = 106 semester hours															

Students seeking special consideration status who use **dual enrollment and/or AP credits** to satisfy some of the pre-AT and/or general education requirements must take additional courses in order to complete the minimum hours in-residence at Mercer. Physical education and military science courses may not be used to satisfy the requirement for minimum hours in residence.

Courses listed in red are those used to calculate the prerequisite GPA

Table 2. Suggested Scheduling of the Required Coursework for the ASCP-AT's

A. CLAS ASCP-Bachelor of Science in Health Science

YEAR 1	FALL		SPRING		SUMMER	
	Course	Hr	Course	Hr	Course	Hours
	CHM 111	4	BIO 211	5		
	INT 101 or FLL 1	4	STA 126 or Gen Ed (RH?)	3		
	Gen Ed (PSY 101 or WH?)	3	INT 101 or FLL 1	4		
	STA 126 or Gen Ed (RH?)	3	Approved Major Course	3		
	UNV 101	1				
	TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS	15	TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS	15	SEMESTER HR	
YEAR 2	FALL		SPRING		SUMMER	
	Course	Hr	Course	Hr	Course	Hours
	BIO 202	4	BIO 203	4		
	Gen Ed (PSY 101 or WH?)	3	PHY 141 or Approved Major Course	3-4		
	INT 201 or FLL 2	4	INT 201 or FLL 2	4		
	GHS 101 or Gen Ed (CE?)	3	GHS 101 or Gen Ed (CE?)	3		
	TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS	14	TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS	15	SEMESTER HR	
YEAR 3	FALL		SPRING		SUMMER	
	Course	Hr	Course	Hr	Course	Hours
	PHY 141 or Approved Major Course	3-4	PHY 141 or Approved Major Course	3-4	AT 530	4
	INT 301 or Gen Ed	3	INT 301 or Gen Ed	3		
	Approved Major Courses	9	Approved Major Electives	9		
	TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS	15-16	TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS	15-16	SEMESTER HR	4
YEAR 4	FALL		SPRING		SUMMER	
	Course	Hr	Course	Hr	Course	Hours
	AT Coursework		AT Coursework			
	TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS		TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS		SEMESTER HR	

Courses in bold are only offered during the semester shown.

B. CHP ASCP-Bachelor of Science in Public Health

YEAR 1	FALL		SPRING		SUMMER	
	Course	Hr	Course	Hr	Course	Hours
	PBH 101	3	PBH 105	3		
	PBH 200	3	STA 126	3		
	CHM 111	4	CHM 112	4		
	INT 101	4	Humanities/FA	3		
	UNV 101	1	PSY 101	3		
	TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS	15	TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS	16	SEMESTER HR	
YEAR 2	FALL		SPRING		SUMMER	
	Course	Hr	Course	Hr	Course	Hours
	PBH 202	3	PBH 301	3	BIO 211 (session I)	5
	PBH 307	3	PBH 305	3	(BIO 212 session 2?)	(5?)
	Other Beh Sci	3	PBH 404	3		
	INT 201 or PHY 141	4	INT 201 or PHY 141	4		
	SOC 101	3	GHS 101	3		
	TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS	16	TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS	16	SEMESTER HR	5-10
YEAR 3	FALL		SPRING		SUMMER	
	Course	Hr	Course	Hr	Course	Hours
	PBH 400	3	PBH 405	3	AT 530	4
	PBH 402	3	PBH 490	3		
	PBH 407	3	BIO 203	4		
	BIO 202	4	Religious Heritage	3		
	(BIO 212?)	(5?)	INT 301	3		
	TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS	13-18	TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS	16	SEMESTER HR	4
YEAR 4	FALL		SPRING		SUMMER	
	Course	Hr	Course	Hr	Course	Hours
	AT 511	2				
	AT 521	4				
	AT 531	4				
	TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS	10	TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS		SEMESTER HR	