What Can I Do With A Major In: Athletic Training

Western Carolina University Center for Career and Professional Development
828.227.7133, careers.wcu.edu

DESCRIPTION
Athletic trainers specialize in preventing, diagnosing, and treating muscle and bone injuries and illnesses. Exercise physiologists develop fitness and exercise programs that help patients recover from chronic diseases and improve cardiovascular function, body composition, and flexibility.

WHAT JOBS ARE AVAILABLE?
- Athletic Coach
- Dietitian
- Massage Therapist
- Recreational Therapist
- Exercise Physiologist
- Emergency Room Tech
- Health Facilities Surveyor
- Emergency Medical Tech
- Podiatrist
- SPA Manager
- Athletic Director
- Nutritionist
- Outdoor Education Teacher
- Sports Physician
- Conditioning Coach
- Paramedic
- Strength Coach
- Registered Nurse
- Athletic Trainer
- Physician Assistant
- Physical Therapist
- Orthopedist
- Fitness Consultant
- Facility Coordinator
- Athletic Therapist
- Chiropractor
- College Level Assistant
- High School Trainer

WHO EMPLOYS STUDENTS WITH THIS MAJOR?
Colleges | Universities | Hospitals | Industry | Military | Performing Arts | Physician Offices
(Primary Care and Orthopedics) | Professional Athletics | Rehabilitation Clinics | Secondary Schools

INTERNSHIP INFORMATION
At Western Carolina University there are numerous internship opportunities for students. In some cases internships are established through a faculty member in the student's major. Oftentimes students find part-time jobs in an area related to their field of study. When this happens, students should discuss with their academic advisor the possibility of receiving college credit. Generally, three hours of general elective credit can be earned for a minimum of 200 hours of experience.

Interested in the courses you will be taking as an Athletic Training Major, see the eight semester plan here

WHAT SKILLS ARE LEARNED IN THE CLASSROOM AND CLINICALS?
- cognitive, behavioral, and psychomotor skills necessary for a successful entry-level practice as an athletic trainer
- ability to comprehend, apply and evaluate the clinical information relative to his/her role as an entry-level athletic trainer
• demonstrate technical proficiency in all skills necessary to fulfill the role of an entry-level athletic trainer
• demonstrate personal behaviors consistent with professional and employment expectations for the entry-level athletic trainer
• the ability to apply leadership and decision-making skills to include ethics, group dynamics, management of human behavior, team-building and professional conduct
• ability to understand the administrative functions of health care managers including, budgets, finance, strategic planning, risk management, legal environment of health care, principles of supervision, cost control, and revenue and cost forecasting
• able to effectively communicate via oral and written means, including computer presentations and documentation in medical records

KNOWLEDGE
• Demonstrate the ability to apply leadership and decision-making skills to include ethics, group dynamics, management of human behavior, team-building and professional conduct.
• Understand administrative functions including, budgets, finance, strategic planning, risk management, legal environment of health care, principles of supervision, cost control, and revenue and cost forecasting.
• Proficient in locating, reading, and interpreting medical literature.

PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES
• National Athletic Trainer’s Association: http://www.nata.org/
• NC Athletic Trainer’s Association: http://ncathletictrainer.org/
• College Athletic Trainer’s Society: https://www.collegeathletictrainer.org

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
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