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Mercyhurst University Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training (BSAT) Program Mission

The mission of the professional athletic training program at Mercyhurst University is to provide



Candidates for selection to the athletic training educational program will be required to verify they understand and meet these technical standards; or they believe that, with certain accommodations, they can meet these technical standards.

The Mercyhurst University ADA representative will evaluate a student who states he/she could meet the program's technical standards with accommodation and confirm that the stated condition qualifies as a disability under applicable laws.

If a student states he/she can meet the technical standards with accommodation, Mercyhurst University will determine whether it agrees that the student can meet the technical standards with reasonable accommodation; this includes a review of whether the accommodations requested are reasonable, taking into account whether accommodation would jeopardize clinician/patient safety, or the educational process of the student or the institution, including all course work, clinical experiences and internships deemed essential to graduation.

Note: Students must sign the *Technical Standards Waiver Form* located on the Mercyhurst University portal indicating their understanding of this policy.

### Mercyhurst University BS in Athletic Training Program Academic Requirements

Students who intend on majoring in athletic training must pass a review board process following the freshman year or when all requirements for entrance into the major have been met. For more information on the review board process please see the *Prospective Student Handbook* located on the sports medicine department portal.

The professional athletic training program at Mercyhurst University is a caATE accredited program that adheres to the standards and guidelines set forth by the commission ([www.caate.net](http://www.caate.net)). The curriculum is specifically designed to ensure all didactic and psychomotor proficiencies are mastered by the student. Students must complete all required ATR and SPMD courses along with completion of the core requirements of Mercyhurst University (*See AT Curriculum*) in order graduate with a degree in athletic training.

Students majoring in athletic training must maintain an overall GPA of at least a 2.75 to continue in the major. This is to ensure that the necessary educational competencies and proficiencies are being met with a satisfactory level of proficiency. All required ATR and SPMD courses in the athletic training major must be successfully completed with a minimum grade of "C". No major course may be taken on a pass-fail basis and students who earn less than a C in any major course or lab must repeat the course or lab. Students who are not majors (including contract majors) may not take or challenge courses offered by the Sportsmedicine Department/Athletic Training faculty without written permission from the Department Chairperson and Athletic Training Program Director.

Students must complete all clinical education requirements. Clinical assignments are a component of ATR 200, 201, 300, 301, 461 and 404.

#### Probation

Students whose GPA falls below 2.75 will be placed on probation. Students on probation will be allowed to register for ATR and SPMD courses, continue clinical assignments and continue in the major. The student will then have two (2) terms (including summer terms) to raise their GPA to the required 2.75. Students on probation who do not have a GPA of 2.75 or higher after two (2) terms on probation will be dismissed from the program.

#### Re-Application

Students who are dismissed may re-apply to the program at any time. It is highly recommended that students wishing to re-apply to the program following dismissal seek academic advisement for an athletic training faculty member. Once the student has met the requirements a special review board session can be held to determine acceptance into the program. Special review board sessions will be held as needed and at the discretion of the program director.

Note: Student who are dismissed from the program and re-apply may need more than four (4) years to complete the program.

#### BOC Exam

Students successfully completing the Professional Athletic Training Program will be eligible to sit for the Board of Certification (BOC) Examination during the final semester of education. However, the Program

Director must "endorse" the student if taking prior to graduation. If a student should pass the exam prior to graduation, he/she is not permitted to act as a certified athletic trainer in any way, including (but not limited to) the following:

- Supervision of other undergraduate athletic training students;
- Coverage of practices/competitions alone;
- Per diem work as a certified athletic trainer;
- Sign-off of and/or administer competencies, proficiencies, practical exams, etc. for other students.

It is strongly suggested that students sit for the BOC exam prior to graduation. Traditional students are typically eligible for exam dates starting in the spring of their senior year. Transfer and non-traditional students may become eligible at other times and should consult with the program director on when to take the exam.

Clinical Education:

The professional athletic training program at Mercyhurst University prides itself on providing a high quality educational experience for its students. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE).

regarding PA State Background checks may be found below; *the cost and requirements evolve annually and may require more than one check and/or additional checks throughout the student's academic career.*

*Note: All students are required to provide an immunization record to the program director prior to beginning clinical assignments. Also, some clinical sites require additional documentation such as background checks and TB testing. It is the responsibility of the student to meet all criteria set forth by their clinical site. When applicable the clinical coordinator will make the student aware of all requirements upon initial assignment.*

## Clinical Assignments

In total students will complete five (5) clinical assignments and 1 senior capstone experience. Each clinical assignment has a minimum and maximum hour requirement for the semester (see *Clinical Sequence* document). Students will be assigned to clinical sites on the campus of Mercyhurst University and to affiliate off-campus (at least one) clinical sites. Students will have an equal mix of male and female populations and be exposed to upper extremity, lower extremity, equipment intensive and general medical experiences.

Clinical assignments are made by the clinical coordinator in conjunction with the program director. Assignments are based on student's academic progression, clinical preceptor availability and quality of the clinical site. Students are notified of their assignment and contact information for the assigned clinical preceptor via email or written letter approximately 30 days prior to the start of the assignment.

### *NOTE:*

*Students are responsible for transportation to and from off-campus affiliated sites. Students are expected to have access to transportation as noted in the Mercyhurst University Catalog. Additionally, any costs associated with travel to and from the assigned clinical site(s) will be the responsibility of the student. The student assumes all liability in the event of a motor vehicle accident. Unfortunately, no monetary compensation for traveling expenses is available; however, the Program will make reasonable attempts to accommodate student experiences if transportation is limited.*

### *Preseason Experiences*

*It shall be noted that in an effort to gain the most from the clinical experiences, all students starting in the sophomore year are required to participate in a preseason camp for their assigned clinical experience beginning on or around August 15th. Hours during pre-season camps may exceed 20 hours per week, but count toward the total number of hours required for the assignment. Housing and meals are provided for the students at no charge until classes resume.*

## Clinical Responsibilities of the Athletic Training Student (ATS)



2. During the orientation session you must complete the first page of your clinical binder (given out the first day of the corresponding course) including but not limited to: developing a weekly/monthly clinical schedule in conjunction with your clinical preceptor, and reviewing the site EAP, BBP, and institution policies relevant to athletic training students.
3. Be sure to have completed all necessary paperwork prior to the clinical assignment including providing immunization records and completing all appropriate background checks and clearances.
4. Make yourself available for the clinical assignment and consistently average the appropriate number of hours per week as denoted by the clinical experience level and in conjunction with the Mercyhurst University academic calendar. *Students should notify the clinical coordinator immediately if you feel coerced to be at your assignment longer than required or to be at your assignment during times outside of the academic year such as holidays or breaks between semesters.*
5. Be responsible for your transportation to your assigned clinical site/clinical preceptor and whenever possible carpool with other students assigned to the same clinical preceptor.
6. Communicate with the clinical preceptor consistently regarding daily clinical experience opportunities.
7. Practice competencies with clinical preceptors and peers on a frequent and consistent basis to develop proficiency.
8. Mentor and teach other students in the program and others interested in athletic training.
9. Apply critical thinking, communication, and problem solving skills during your clinical experiences.
10. Be prepared for proficiency assessments on a daily basis.
11. Perform skills on patients only once didactically assessed and when directly supervised by the clinical preceptor.
12. Be willing to learn about variations in applying techniques or skills.
13. Provide honest feedback of the program's clinical experience through the clinical preceptor evaluation completed at the end of the assignment, and through the weekly journal entries and SOAP note documentation.
14. Fulfill all requirements for each

- Completion of all required SOAP notes done over the duration of the clinical experience
- Completion of journal entries documenting your clinical experiences as well as your experiences as a young adult
- Completion of a midterm and final evaluation from your clinical preceptor
- Completion of an evaluation of your clinical preceptor at the conclusion of the clinical experience
- Completion of a clinical site evaluation at the conclusion of the clinical experience

### General Rules for Athletic Training Students

The following rules are to be followed by all Athletic Training Students while engaged in clinical assignments at Mercyhurst University and affiliated sites.

1. When acting as a Mercyhurst University Athletic Training Student you should constantly behave in a professional manner. All ATS should abide by and follow the Code of Ethics established by the NATA. The student should also follow the guidelines for professional conduct that are set by his or her specific clinical preceptor.
2. Students are expected to be prompt and on time during all clinical experiences.
3. Students must be responsible and carry out all duties of an ATS as defined by the clinical preceptor.
4. Record and file all clinical hours in the clinical education binder.
5. Smoking, chewing tobacco, consumption of alcohol or drug use is STRICTLY forbidden.
  - *NOTE: Students that report to clinical assignments appearing intoxicated will be asked to leave and referred for disciplinary action which based on the level of infraction may be grounds for dismissal from the program.*
6. Never remove anything from the athletic training room without permission from your clinical preceptor or staff ATC.
7. Communicate with the clinical preceptor about the use of cell phones and other personal electronic devices during clinical assignments.
8. Refrain from crude and inappropriate language.
9. Adhere to the dress code of the assigned clinical site (see below for general guidelines).
10. Maintain appropriate personal hygiene.
11. Maintain appropriate and professional relationships with clinical preceptors, staff, and patients.





- Mercyhurst University Men's Basketball (LE), (M)\*
- Mercyhurst University Men's Lacrosse (UE), (LE), (EQ), (M)
- Mercyhurst University Women's Basketball (LE), (W)
- Mercyhurst University Wrestling (LE) or (UE), (M)
- Mercyhurst University Women's Ice Hockey (LE) or (EQ), (W) Mercyhurst University Spring Football (EQ), (M)
- Penn State Behrend Softball (UE) (F)
- Penn St Behrend Baseball (UE) (M)

\*\*General Medical includes 50 clinical hours observing various healthcare providers in the community. Experiences include the following:

- Family Medicine Observations
- Orthopedic Surgery Observations: totaling one day in the OR
- Millcreek Paramedic Services: 12-20 hours
- Ryan Kobel (Alleghany Health PT): 8-16 hours

- Mercyhurst University Football (EQ), (M)
- McDowell High School (AAAA)Football (EQ), (M)
- Fairview High School Football EQ/M
- Erie Otters Hockey Club (EQ), (M)
- Mercyhurst University Women's Hockey (F) (EQ)
- Mercyhurst University Men's Hockey (M) (EQ)

### Senior Capstone Experience

Minimum Hours: 100; Maximum Hours: 200

During the spring term (dates of experience to coincide with the academic calendar of Mercyhurst University) senior or third year students will engage in a senior capstone experience as part of ATR 404. During this time students are required to complete a minimum of 100 hours at a mutually agreed upon clinical site. The capstone experience is designed to allow the students to further experience the entire athletic training profession by engaging in aspects of athletic training they have not previously experienced (students have already taken ATR 364 , 461). In addition to clinical experiences the capstone experiences will encompass a required surgical observation, shadowing of physicians clinic at Mercyhurst University, case report presentations, and evidence of implementation of administrative competencies. The capstone experience is specifically designed to allow the student to choose an area or specialty that suits their interests. The capstone experience may begin prior to the spring term if necessary

*A Senior Capstone experience is based upon several factors, specifically:*

- Implementation of administrative tasks (students have completed ATR 364)
- Coordination of physician clinic and increased interaction with allied health professionals
- Knowledge of health insurance (students have completed ATR 364, 461)
- High demand for maturity of the student
- Future interests and goals of the student
- Special populations of interest to the student

*Senior Capstone Experiences can take plac*



preparing for the BOC examination. Students will engage with assigned preceptors at clinical sites to complete various hands-on skills that align with didactic content in concurrently and previously enrolled classes. The components being assessed in this course will include taping, bracing, and wrapping techniques previously discussed in ATR 501, as well as lower extremity











intervene as a trained rescuer according to the site's EAP. Any student who is left unattended must contact the clinical coordinator immediately. Preceptors are not permitted to be currently enrolled as students in the Mercyhurst University Athletic Training Program. Therefore, regardless of class/ level standing in the AT program, no AT student may act as a preceptor or evaluator of another AT student.

#### Travel Policy

Traveling as part of the clinical assignment is not a requirement of the clinical education sequence. However, *In the event the student is able to travel with the assigned clinical preceptor it is highly recommended.*

Please see the official policy on traveling in the Appendix.

When such opportunities arise students must adhere to the following guidelines

- Make sure students have their own personal health insurance card with them.
- When traveling only count clinical hours during the event and treatments, not travel time.
- Consuming alcohol is discouraged, even for students who are 21 or older. Underage drinking is not tolerated under any circumstances.
- If a player is injured enough to remain in a hospital, the ATS should return home with the team.
- If there are any serious problems that need to be addressed, here are important phone numbers to remember:
  - Program Director: Josh Long MS, ATC
  - Numbers: (814) 824 2403 (office); (440) 479-2639 (cell)
  - Email: [jlong2@mercyhurst.edu](mailto:jlong2@mercyhurst.edu)
  
  - MSAT Clinical Coordinator: Derek Beeler PhD, ATC
  - Numbers: (814) 824 2926 (office); (219) 241 9822 (cell)
  - Email: [dbeeler@mercyhurst.edu](mailto:dbeeler@mercyhurst.edu)
  
  - BSAT Clinical Coordinator: Melissa Lustic-Long MS, ATC
  - Numbers: (814) 824-2928(office); (440) 339-9357 (cell)
  - Email: [mjlong@mercyhurst.edu](mailto:mjlong@mercyhurst.edu)

#### Clinical Preceptor / ATS Ratio

The program at Mercyhurst University strives to maintain a very low clinical preceptor/ATS ratio. At off campus affiliated setting the ratio will be no greater than 4:1 (most experiences are 1:1 or 2:1) and on campus the ration will be no greater than 6:1 (most experiences are 3:1 or 2:1).

#### Transfer Student Policy

\*At this time, the BS in AT Program will not be accepting any student transferring into the University.

Should a transfer student wish to major in Athletic Training, the student will be directed to the Pre-Athletic Training major, with the intent of applying for the MS in Athletic Training.

Transfer students wishing to major in

5. Credit will generally be granted for those courses that are reasonably equivalent in content and subject matter to existing Mercyhurst University courses.
6. No more than 6 credits in physical education activity courses are transferable.
7. No more than 12 credits of University courses taught at the high school are transferable. A minimum grade of C is required.
8. A student applying for transfer into an education major must complete the student teaching requirement through Mercyhurst University.
9. Orientation, internship, co-op, and practicum credits are not transferable. Acceptance of Credits from Other Institutions. Students transferring to Mercyhurst are required to identify all accredited and unaccredited post-secondary institutions they have attended, and ensure that transcripts from each institution are sent directly to the Admissions Office. Failure to do so can result in disciplinary action. This information affects financial aid decisions as well as academic assessment.

For such students, an admissions decision will be made, in part, on the student's previous performance. Mercyhurst will review courses in which the student has earned a C or better from accredited institutions and identify placement in the student's course of study at Mercyhurst. All courses considered for meeting requirements in the major will be reviewed by the department chair within the student's first term of study.

No more than seventy five credits (total) can be transferred, and no more than fifty percent (50%) of the student's total credits can be transferred. Mercyhurst University and the Office of Academic Affairs and/ or department chair, will accept a maximum of 15 credits from non-regionally accredited post-secondary institutions which are accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and legally authorized to grant specialized associatJETQq0 0





### *Goals of Alpha Theta*

1. Provide opportunities for students to attend local, regional and national conferences and symposia
  - a. Provide funds for students to present their undergraduate student research
2. Provide service to the community
3. Provide an avenue for student to get involved with the larger professional organizations of athletic training and to promote the profession throughout the community

### *Induction into Iota Tau Alpha- Alpha Theta*

Iota Tau Alpha is a nationally recognized honor society for athletic training students sponsored and recognized through the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA). Students in the top 30% of their graduating cohort are eligible for induction in the spring semester of the junior (Level 2) year. Induction into Iota Tau Alpha requires students to meet specific academic, scholarly, and service related criteria. Official induction into Iota Tau Alpha is for members of Alpha Theta that have met these requirements.

### Athletic Training Club

The Athletic Training Club, once a combined entity with ITA, is a campus-recognized club open to any student interested in athletic training.

### *Membership*

The Athletic Training Club is a *Recognized Student Club and Organization (RSCO)*. Any member of the Mercyhurst community is permitted to join. Students majoring in athletic training are strongly encouraged to participate in the organization.

### Professional Memberships and ATrack

All students are strongly encouraged to maintain a student NATA membership. Membership in PATS and EATA is highly suggested, as well.

The Professional Program uses ATrack Online to log clinical hours, mid-semester and final clinical evaluations, student evaluations or Preceptors and Clinical Sites, and will be phasing into use for tracking competency and proficiency completion. All students are required to purchase a one-time, lifetime membership to ATrack Online. The program director will provide any necessary instructions for ordering.

All preceptors, excluding General Medical and select Capstone (ATR404) preceptors, will also be required to have an account with ATrack Online, which will be provided by the Mercyhurst Professional Program.





3. Shorts: Casual shorts of appropriate length are permitted. This is simply measured by the length of your arm by your side. Remember, this isn't a fashion statement. It's a professional setting where the focus shouldn't be on what you look like, rather it is on the skills that you are refining and service that you are providing. No jean shorts, cut-offs, or extremely tight or baggy shorts permitted.
4. Footwear: Shoes and socks are to be worn at all times. No sandals, Crocs, Birkenstocks, etc. Please consider functionality when selecting shoes.
5. Hats + Sunglasses: No hats or caps are to be worn in the athletic training rooms, but can be worn on fields. Please remove sunglasses when inside, unless a documented need is on file with the University.
6. Jewelry: No excessive jewelry is to be worn, i.e. long, bulky necklaces, chains, or hoop earrings. Please consider functionality of jewelry when selecting piercings and styles (i.e. naval rings).

#### Athletic Event Attire (game day):

Consult the staff athletic trainer for any changes in the dress code.

For practices, please wear neutral or appropriate colored shorts or pants, along with a Mercyhurst T-shirt, or plain shirt (no other advertising).

*Specific rules on dress are at the discretion of the clinical preceptor.* Students should discuss proper dress code expectations during the orientation session at the beginning of each clinical assignment.

Athletic Training clothes can be ordered throughout the year through the Jungle Flash Store. Students will be expected to purchase the appropriate amount and variety of clothes through the flash store website.

#### Additional Student Fees and Financial Responsibilities

The Athletic Training Program, being an allied health professional program does have some additional associated costs. These include professional membership fees, background checks, and estimated cost of AT gear/supplies. Below are listed the additional costs, however, these are estimates based on the previous year and could fluctuate year to year based on market variability:

- (Strongly recommended) Accepted students may choose to become members of the NATA (\$65 approximate cost for first-time; \$85 for renewals)
- Current American Red Cross Professional Rescuer certification (\$32 approximate cost per year).
- ATrack Expense (one-time): \$90

- All students must obtain the following clearances once admitted into the program:  
     PA Child Abuse History Clearance - \$13;  
     PA State Criminal Record Check - \$0-13;  
     FBI Criminal Background Check - \$23.85 (Total up to \$50)
- Students are expected to purchase a sling/waist med pack and incur some cost on MU gear relative to financial availability. (\$100 average)

Students are responsible for all costs associated with transportation to and from their clinical sites.

### Participation in Athletics by Mercyhurst University Athletic Training Students

The Professional Athletic Training Program at Mercyhurst University fully understands the commitment student-athletes must make to both their education and their athletic pursuits. Many student-athletes have successfully completed the program however it takes a strong level of commitment, organization and communication on behalf of the student to successfully complete the program while participating in varsity athletics.

Students accepted into the Professional Athletic Training Program are permitted to participate in varsity athletics during the academic year. However, due to the difficulty of the student-athlete to adequately meet the demands of clinical education (completing required competencies and clinical proficiencies), and the demands of participating in varsity athletics only the competitive season of the student's sport will be acknowledged as excused absences from clinical assignments.

Therefore:

1. The student must be available for clinical experience assignments at all times outside of the primary competitive season. To offset the amount of hours

Disciplinary Board

## Insurance

### *Injury During Clinical Rotations*

Student athletes and AT students are covered by the school's insurance as secondary accident and medical insurance. If a student is injured while traveling to an away sporting event or while covering a sporting event, the University insurance will be used as a secondary policy and the student's own policy or parent's policy as primary coverage. If such a need arises the student is responsible for contacting the program director immediately.

### *Student Professional Liability Insurance*

Athletic Training students have Student Professional Liability Insurance (SLI) through Liberty Insurance Underwriters, Inc. Coverage limits are \$2 million per occurrence and \$4 million aggregate. In the event a student acts outside of his/her scope as an AT student, malpractice/liability coverage may be compromised.

## Grievances

If a student has a grievance with their clinical preceptor, the student will complete the Grievance Form (found on the AT Blackboard page and/or on the Atrack site) and turn in to the Clinical Education Coordinator. The CEC and Program Director will meet to discuss the situation and make a decision within one week of the situation occurring, and will include a meeting with the preceptor. Details of the alleged scenario will be questioned, but the plaintiff will not be identified.

The Program will always err on the side of caution in favor of the student.

If the student feels he/she is in danger in any way, he/she will be excused from clinical hours with that preceptor and will be reassigned for the remainder of the term. When pertinent, the CEC must report cases of sexual harassment, abuse, gender-

# APPENDIX



# Mercyhurst University Professional Athletic Training Program

## Infectious and Communicable Disease Policy

It is the policy of the Professional Athletic Training Program at Mercyhurst University not to discriminate against any applicant, employee or student who has or is suspected of having a communicable disease. As long as an applicant, employee, or student is able to satisfactorily perform the essential functions of the program as an employee or student, and there is no medical evidence indicating that the employee's or student's condition is a threat to the health or safety of the individual, coworkers, students, athletes, or the public, an employee or student shall not be denied employment, continued active student status, nor shall an applicant be denied employment, nor shall a student be denied admission to the campus or classes based on whether or not he/she is suspected of having a communicable disease. The program will consider the educational, employment, or student status of individuals with a communicable disease or suspected of a communicable disease on an individual, case-by-case basis following procedures outlined by the University.

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This action plan is as follows:

### COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Student Health Services, as an agent for Mercyhurst University, monitors communicable disease cases that may affect the well-being of students' faculty and staff. In the event of a communicable disease event, SHS consults with and receives guidance from Erie County Health Department, PA department of health as well as the CDC (Center for Disease Control). The consulting agency is determined by the disease presented, the number of cases, and the guidelines and recommendations established by state and federal laws. Disease events are co-managed by the SHS and the consulting agency to ensure the safety of individual and the campus community. As an agent of Mercyhurst University, SHS informs the college administration, faculty, staff and students, as needed to provide education to limit the impact of a communicable disease event. SHS works with the offices of public relations, the president and student affairs to create methods of communications such as the use of e-mail, faculty announcements, awareness statements for coaches and other administrative staff, articles for student newspapers and residence hall awareness campaign as recommended by the Erie County health department and the PA department of health.

Communicable diseases are defined as those diseases that can be transmitted from one person to another such as pandemic flu, tuberculosis, meningitis, chicken pox, SARS, hepatitis and others. Individuals contracting communicable disease should report the case to student health services immediately by calling (814) 824-2431. SHS Services will work with the Erie County Health Department and the PA department of health to provide preventive measures to those

who were exposed: such as immunization, distribution of antibiotics or antiviral medications as necessary to prevent further spread of the disease. If quarantine of exposed individuals is needed a building on campus will be dedicated for this purpose, food and other needed items will be provided by the campus food service or the Red Cross.

#### Communicable Disease Response Incident Action Plan (Example Pandemic Flu)

Pre-Level 1 Actions – This plan is intended to address a variety of communicable disease outbreaks. In the majority of situations, there will not be advance time to prepare for the first case of human to human transmission. It is therefore imperative that campus departments initiate various "pre-level 1" actions to assure that they are prepared in the event that an infectious disease is confirmed that may have the potential to spread to campus in a very short time frame. The following actions are

# Mercyhurst University Professional Athletic Training Program

## DRUG EDUCATION, SCREENING AND REHABILITATION POLICY

### I) PURPOSE

Mercyhurst University recognizes the threat that drug abuse presents to the health and welfare of the student athlete and the integrity of intercollegiate athletics. To deter the use of illicit drugs by members of intercollegiate athletic teams, Mercyhurst University has developed a mandatory drug education, screening and, where necessary, rehabilitation program. All student members of the athletic program, to include *men and women athletes, student athletic managers, student athletic trainers, and cheerleaders* shall be required to participate in a substance abuse education program. Through this program, participants will receive instruction about the hazards of substance abuse and misuse. Testing shall be conducted primarily during the conventional academic year unless follow-up testing is required subsequent to a previous positive test. The Drug Education, Screening and Rehabilitation Program are sponsored by the Mercyhurst University Athletic Department with coordination through the team physician and the Athletic Training staff.

### II) PROHIBITED DRUGS

Use of any of the following drugs, except those prescribed by a qualified physician to treat an individual's medical condition, by any member of athletic team representatives of Mercyhurst University, whether such use occurs before, during or after the team's season, is prohibited: anabolic steroids, cocaine, amphetamines, marijuana, opiates, barbiturates and any other mind-altering or illicit drug. For further information, a list of drugs prohibited by the National Collegiate Athletic Association is obtainable from the Athletic Director or Athletic Training staff.

### III) SCREENING

Drug screening shall consist of standardized urinalysis, which shall be administered on a random basis during the academic year, or as determined by the team physician or staff certified athletic trainer. Each urine specimen will be identified by number only and will be analyzed by the hired agency for the presence of prohibited drugs. All of the test results shall be reported to the team physician and the head certified athletic trainer who shall review such tests results to determine which, if any, of the test results are positive. A positive test is one in which a prohibited drug is found in the urine specimen.

Testing will be unannounced and performed at any time on a random selection basis - one athlete per team, the entire team, or by specific sport as determined by the team physician, head trainer or athletic director, the randomly selected athlete, by specific sport, that is tested will be chosen unbiased by number code. Should an individual exhibit physical signs of possible substance abuse, the staff athletic trainers and the team's head coach will discuss these signs and symptoms with the team physician or staff athletic trainer who will then have the authority to select that person for screening in the interest of the individual's physical welfare. Failure to execute the required consent form or to undergo drug testing at any time will render the student immediately ineligible to practice or represent Mercyhurst University in the



director. The Athletic Department requires compliance with the Alcohol Policy that has been formulated through the Office of Student Affairs.



Both men and women may be sexually harassed. Victims of sexual harassment may include heterosexuals, bisexuals, and homosexuals. Most reported cases involve women being harassed by men who are in a position of power over them, either on the job or in the classroom. Sexual harassment may also occur between peers or between individuals of the same sex. Anyone can be a victim of sexual harassment.

Female Athletic Training students have the potential to be the most sexually harassed individuals on a University campus. Being aware of this, a female Athletic Training Student needs to protect herself by watching what she wears, what she says, and how it is being said to make sure that someone making advances does not misinterpret it. Be careful not to put yourself in dan.05 555TreW\* nBT/TT0 1us4 ( .17 Td93 ( ( pu)34 (/P AMCID 3 >>BDC q0 0 612 792 reW\* nBT/T6 (o)492

3.) *Keep records*, such as a journal and any letters or notes received. Note the dates, places, times, witnesses and the nature of the harassment – what was said and done and how you responded.

4.) *Talk to someone*. Talk to a faculty member, coworker, or other trusted individual about what has happened. You should also speak to the Sexual Harassment officer, whose name is listed below, or an advocate. The Sexual Harassment Officer can help you determine what your rights are. An advocate can help give you emotional support as well as help and information about institutional procedures.

#### VII) SEXUAL HARASSMENT OFFICER

Faculty, staff, and students may contact Tine Fryling, Preston 115, Mercyhurst University, (814) 824-2352 for the following assistance:

*Information and consultation*

*Informal complaints and resolution*

*Formal complaints*

#### VIII) ASSURANCE OF PRIVACY

All discussions with advocates and/or the Sexual Harassment Officer are completely confidential



# Mercyhurst University Professional Athletic Training Program

## Blood-Borne Pathogens Policy Mercyhurst University Athletic Training Program and Mercyhurst University Athletics

While risk of one athlete infecting another with HIV/AIDS during competition is close to non-existent, there is a remote risk that other blood borne infectious diseases can be transmitted. For example, Hepatitis B can be present in blood as well as in other body fluids. Procedures for reducing the potential for transmission of these infectious agents should include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. The bleeding must be stopped, the open wound covered and if there is an excessive amount of blood on the uniform it must be cleaned or changed before the athlete may participate.
2. Routine use of appropriate barriers such as gloves, eye and face protection, gowns, or other precautions to prevent skin and mucous-membrane exposure when contact with blood or other body fluids is anticipated.
3. Immediately wash hands and other skin surfaces if contaminated (in contact) with blood or other body fluids. Wash hands immediately after removing gloves.
4. Clean all contaminated surfaces and equipment with an appropriate disinfectant before competition resumes.
5. Practice proper disposal procedures to prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpels, and other sharp instruments or devices. Place all these items in sharps containers located at locations on campus such as student health services and the athletic training rooms.
6. Although saliva has not been implicated in HIV transmission, to minimize the need for emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, mouthpieces, resuscitation bags, or other ventilation devices should be available for use.
7. Certified athletic trainers, athletic training students, team physicians, and coaches with bleeding or oozing skin conditions should refrain from all direct athlete care until the condition resolves.
8. Contaminated towels, jerseys, and equipment should be properly disposed of in biohazard bags and containers, or placed in clearly marked biohazard bags and washed separately with hot water (>160 degrees F), detergent, and bleach.
9. Individuals washing contaminated towels, equipment, or jerseys should wear gloves and exercise proper precautions.
10. Follow acceptable guidelines in the immediate control of bleeding and when handling bloody dressings, mouth-guards, and other articles containing body fluids.
11. Properly dispose of all infected dressings, tape, bandages, gloves, and other non-sharps materials in clearly marked biohazard waste bags and boxes.
12. It is recommended that college personnel who may come in frequent contact with contaminated articles and athletes should receive the Hepatitis B vaccination series. These individuals include athletic trainers, athletic training students, team managers, coaches, athletes, and laundry personnel.
13. Any athlete or personnel who has been exposed to a potential blood-borne pathogen or has been cut or stuck by a used contaminated sharps object or needle should immediately wash the area with soap and hot water and seek medical attention and treatment, and report the incident to the proper college authority and physician.

While following all the following procedures will not prevent all transmission of blood-borne illnesses and disease in athletics, it will greatly reduce the risk of transmission to athletes and those who treat and care for athletes and athletic injuries.

## Mercyhurst University BS in Athletic Training Program

### Social Media/ Social Networking Policy

Participation in social networking, whether it be social media sites like Facebook or Snapchat or professional sites like LinkedIn, can prove beneficial in a medical environment. Many professionals have access to emerging literature, additional contacts, and professional opportunities that previously either did not exist or were hampered by slower means of communication. That said, the line crossing from professional relationships to inappropriate and/or personal relationships can be a difficult balancing act.

The American Medical Association (AMA) *Code of Medical Ethics* preamble to Opinion 2.3.2, indicates that “social networks, blogs and other forms of communication online also create new challenges to the patient-physician relationship.” A 2015 study examining digital professionalism indicated that, through the introduction of ten principles, that a student or professional’s online can significantly impact his or her professionalism, whether or not there is direct interaction (Ellaway, Coral, Topps, and Topps, 2015). It has been suggested that privacy controls be as strict as possible through social media sites, and that discretion should be considered when comments and photographs are shared on the internet.

The Mercyhurst University Athletic Training Program (MUATP) promotes professional interaction between students, faculty, and preceptors for the progression and betterment of education and clinical experiences. In order to maintain this professional interaction, it is the policy of the MUATP that athletic training students (both pre-professional and professional) are prohibited from interacting with current faculty and preceptors on any form of social media or social networking site. Students should not accept any connection requests, nor should they request interaction with, any current preceptors or faculty members of the Sports Medicine department, in with the Athletic Training Program is housed. This includes current graduate assistants, interns, and fellowship enrollees, as well as clinicians not directly working at Mercyhurst University (i.e. medical students and fellows, physical therapy students, etc.).

Former faculty members (those no longer employed by MU), preceptors (those no longer under contract with MU in the role of preceptor), and former students (alumni or those no longer enrolled at MU) are not affected by this policy.

#### References:

Ellaway, R. H., Coral, J., Topps, D., & Topps, M. (2015). Exploring digital professionalism. *Medical Teacher*, 37: 844-849.

Scifers, J., Long, A., Manners, J. (2012). *Development of a social networking policy in athletic training education* [PowerPoint Slides]. Retrieved from <https://vimeopro.com/nata1950/atec-2013/video/59015557>



Mercyhurst University BS in

# Mercyhurst University Professional BS in Athletic Training Program

## Policy on Enrollment in Clinical Education Courses

Professional level students are required to enroll in one Clinical Education course each semester he/she is in the Professional Athletic Training Program. The traditional Clinical Education course enrollment is as follows:

- Fall Level 1: Clinical Education I
- Spring Level 1: Clinical Education II
- Fall Level 2: Clinical Education III
- Spring Level 2: Clinical Education IV
- Fall Level 3: Special Issues
- Spring Level 3: Capstone in Athletic Training

Students may not be enrolled in more than one clinical education course at a time; this results in the requirement of acquiring two sets of hours, completing two sets of competencies/proficiencies at the Mastery level, and will not allow the student to spend adequate quality time on his/ her academics.

In the event the student transferred into the Athletic Training major (applicable prior to Fall 2018), he/she will be required to remain on campus to complete the required clinical education courses, with no exceptions.

Students who transferred into the AT Program prior to Fall 2018 have the possible option of taking both Special Issues and Capstone in Athletic Training concurrently, pending review of GPA, prior Preceptor evaluations, and permission from both the Program Director and the Coordinator of Clinical Education.

Mercyhurst University Professional Athletic Training Program

Disciplinary Form

Student: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

Disciplinary Infraction:

Disciplinary Action Taken:

WARNING

SUSPENSION

*Duration:* \_\_\_\_\_

DISMISSAL

Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Program Director Signature

Mercyhurst University Department of Sports Medicine

Professional Athletic Training Program

Athletic Training Student Grievance Policy

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Clinical Preceptor/Staff/Student Grievance Pertains To: \_\_\_\_\_

Clinical Assignment at time of incident: \_\_\_\_\_

Incident Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Incident Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Inappropriate Action/Behavior:

- Unprofessional Behavior  
Describe: \_\_\_\_\_
- Breach of Duty  
Describe: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other Inappropriate Conduct  
Describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe in detail how the incident occurred:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Witnesses (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

I, the aforementioned, agree that the above details and account of the situation are true, factual, and an accurate representation of the situation. I have brought this to the attention of the Clinical Education Coordinator to have the situation rectified.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Athletic Training Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clinical Education Coordinator Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date





Following completion of the Hepatitis B series, a positive (immune) titer may be required.

3. Mumps: Records of a 2-dose vaccine series being administered on schedule.
4. Rubeola (measles): Records of a 2-dose vaccine series being administered on schedule.
5. Rubella: Records of a 2-dose MMR immunization.
6. Varicella: Records of a 2-dose vaccine series being administered on schedule. Note: History of previous infection is not sufficient evidence of immunity.
7. Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis: Documentation of a completed primary series with TDaP booster within the last ten years.
8. Influenza: Documentation of influenza vaccination. While enrolled in the program students will be required to obtain annual influenza vaccination.

The student health record is a confidential document that is not accessible to the department program faculty, department chair/program director, medical director, or program staff. Per accreditation standards, the only information that will be accessible in the department student file is the immunization record and tuberculosis screening results. Students must give written permission for their immunization record and tuberculosis screening results to be shared with the program by signing the Authorization to Release Immunization Record and Tuberculosis Screening to the Program of Study and the Authorization to Release Information to clinical sites.

Program faculty, department chair/program director, medical director, or program staff will not participate as health care providers for students enrolled in the program, except in cases of emergency, and will not have access to any student health information other than that defined in this policy.