



University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

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Physical Education Teaching



Experience the Eau Claire Advantage

- **Three certifications in four years.** Students who are efficient and carefully plan their course work are able to graduate within four years with certifications in physical education, adapted physical education and health education.
- **Up-to-date curriculum.** Students learn the latest techniques, health concepts and activities in teaching physical education, adapted physical education and health education.
- **Numerous and varied hands-on experiences.** Beginning as early as the sophomore year and continuing through the student-teaching or internship semester, students gain practical experience working with pre-school through high school youth.
- **Personalized attention in small classes.** Emphasis courses typically have fewer than 25 students. Professors are able to incorporate active-learning strategies instead of the lecture-based format.
- **Caring, energetic and accessible faculty and staff.** Professors make it a priority to get to know each student. Students benefit by learning about job opportunities, networking with other professionals, participating in student-faculty collaborative research projects and becoming involved in professional organizations.
- **Additional certifications within the program.** Students have the opportunity to increase their competitive edge upon graduation by becoming certified in First Aid/CPR, Lifeguard, Water Safety Instructor and Physical Best Instructor.

For more information, contact:
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www.uwec.edu/kin

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 Schofield Hall 112
 e-mail: admissions@uwec.edu
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Financial Aid | 715-836-3373
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The Eau Claire Advantage

Department of Kinesiology
Adapted Physical Education and
Health Education Certifications

www.uwec.edu





Get a **Competitive** edge!

Physical education teaching and certifications

The physical education emphasis of the kinesiology major is designed to prepare students for a career in teaching physical education to early childhood through high school students. Students completing the comprehensive physical education teaching degree will receive two specialized certifications:

- Physical education certification and K-12 licensure to teach physical education in the state of Wisconsin.
- Adapted physical education certification to teach students with disabilities.

Students pursuing the physical education teaching degree also have the option to add on a **health education certification**. Four additional courses (three health courses and one nutrition course) are required for this certification.

Majors preparing for a career in physical, adapted physical and health education participate in multiple field experiences, working directly with students and teachers at local elementary, middle and high schools. The early and frequent exposure to the real-world experience of teaching in the schools helps to prepare our graduates for the transition from college student to teacher.

Adapted physical education certification

The purpose of the adapted physical education program is to prepare future adapted and general physical educators to meet the physical, motor, personal, social and learning needs of children with disabilities in the public schools. Emphasis is placed on direct service to children with severe disabilities, consultation to general physical educators, as well as the development of skills and attitudes necessary for successful involvement of students with disabilities in general physical education.

Students pursuing the adapted physical education certification gain knowledge in motor assessment, activity modification, behavior management, curriculum design and adaptations, medical aspects of disabling conditions, fitness programming and other topics related to enhancing movement and activity for individuals with disabilities. Classroom sessions are coordinated with field-based practicum experiences in the public schools and other community-based programs.

Health education certification

Health education is a growing field in America, both in importance, and in demand. With approximately 17 percent of American students overweight and the rise in juvenile diabetes and other life-threatening conditions, K-12 schools are receiving increased state support to enhance health education in the classroom.

Students pursuing a certificate in health education will be prepared to teach others about healthy living. The program in teacher licensure, leading to state of Wisconsin teaching certification offers academic foundation, professional preparation, student teaching experiences and a learning environment conducive to personal application of health goals.

Faculty and facilities

The kinesiology department at UW-Eau Claire is staffed by more than 20 highly qualified faculty members. Many of the faculty are recognized for their expertise and leadership in their specialty areas. The department, housed in the McPhee Physical Education Center on upper campus, is part of the College of Education and Human Sciences, which is accredited by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Facilities include classrooms, gymnasiums, weight rooms, athletic training rooms, a human performance laboratory and offices. Tennis courts, playing fields, climbing wall, ropes course, archery range, disc golf course, swimming pool and a track also are available.



Career opportunities

Employment opportunities for physical education graduates, particularly those with additional certifications, are diverse and rewarding. A degree and licensure in physical education is primarily designed to prepare students for a career in teaching at the elementary and secondary levels. However, many certified physical education teachers also gain employment teaching at YMCAs/YWCAs, health spas, community or recreation centers and private sport clubs.

"The UW-Eau Claire physical education teaching program with its new certifications transforms students into master teachers. The professors are dedicated to helping students develop their skills and competencies. When I got my first teaching position after just one interview, I knew that I was well prepared for the job. I attribute my success to the innovative degree program and outstanding experiences I had at UW-Eau Claire."

Kari Roesler-Stepp
Physical/Health Education Teacher
Jacksonville High School
Jacksonville, N.C.

"The physical education program at UW-Eau Claire is designed to give students the knowledge, skills and attitude necessary to be successful educators. We believe it's important to know our students and their



goals, provide hands-on learning experiences, and guide our students toward graduating in four years. With the availability of the physical education, adapted physical education and health education certifications, our graduates will find it much easier to land the jobs they want in Wisconsin and the upper Midwest."

Jeff Lindauer
Physical Education
Program Director