

## What is an Athletic Trainer?

Certified athletic trainers are health care professionals who specialize in preventing, recognizing, managing, and rehabilitating injuries that result from physical activity. As part of a complete health care team, the certified athletic trainer works under the direction of a licensed physician and in cooperation with other health care professionals, athletic administrators, coaches, and parents. ([www.nata.org](http://www.nata.org))

## How do you become an Athletic Trainer?

Future athletic training students enroll in a CAATE accredited athletic training education program. After completion of the program, a national exam is administered and must be passed in order to receive certification. Certification is maintained by completion of continuing education units on a yearly basis.

## In what settings do Athletic Trainers work?

Employment settings for ATC's include:

- ◆ Teacher/ATC in secondary schools
- ◆ ATC in colleges or universities
- ◆ ATC in professional sports
- ◆ Private practice (e.g., industrial, clinic, hospital)
- ◆ With other health professions (e.g., sports medicine, physical therapy, physician assistant, etc.)



## Contact Information:

**Shannon Courtney, MA, ATC**  
Program Director  
SES Faculty  
[shannon.courtney@unco.edu](mailto:shannon.courtney@unco.edu)  
(970) 351-1860

**Jim Turk, MS, ATC**  
Clinical Coordinator  
SES Faculty  
[james.turk@unco.edu](mailto:james.turk@unco.edu)  
(970) 351-1718

## Visit Us At...

[www.unco.edu/uncats](http://www.unco.edu/uncats)



**Athletic Training Education Program**



**CAATE Accredited  
Athletic Training  
Education  
Program**



## Why UNC?

### Athletic Training Mission

The mission of the University of Northern Colorado Undergraduate Athletic Training Education Program is to provide a comprehensive educational experience and a strong clinical foundation to prepare the undergraduate student to enter the allied health profession of athletic training.

### About the Program

UNC is currently the only accredited program in Colorado at the NCAA Division I level. The clinical program is a challenging 5 semester program in which students will develop practical athletic training clinical experience in the athletic training room and at affiliate sites. Students will have the opportunity to obtain clinical education experiences with UNC's 19 sports teams, along with rotations at the North Colorado Sports Medicine and at various high schools around the area.

### Is UNC an Accredited Program?

Yes. The University of Northern Colorado Athletic Training Program was established in the 1960's. In the 1990-91 school year the National Athletic Training Association (NATA) approved the UNC program as an undergraduate curriculum program. In 1995 UNC was granted accreditation and maintains its accreditation today under the auspices of the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE).



## Curriculum Information

### **Objectives:**

1. Provide a base for education, clinical experience, and research for the undergraduate student that is interested in pursuing and entering the allied health profession of athletic training.
2. Provide experiences in a variety of clinical settings, under supervision, to ensure the athletic training student meets the entry-level standards of a certified athletic trainer.
3. Develop professionalism, confidence, and appropriate decision making skills through a combination of clinical course work and varied athletic field experiences.
4. Demonstrate positive outcomes in a highly competitive educational program that prepares the athletic training student to successfully pass the BOC certification exam and work with and provide care to the physically active in traditional and non traditional settings.
5. Demonstrate successful completion of clinical proficiencies, outlined in the 2006 Athletic Training Educational Competencies, throughout a 5 semester athletic training education program.

## Admission Criteria

The designation of athletic training as a major does not assure admission to the clinical athletic training program.

- Candidates will be evaluated on the following criteria:
  - \* GPA (2.8 minimum)
  - \* Grade of "C" or better in prerequisite courses
  - \* Completion of three separate two hour athletic training room observations
  - \* Demonstration of a desire to enter the profession and pursue the field of athletic training as a career
  - \* Related experience (**not mandatory**)
  - \* Interview with faculty, staff, and students.

## Prerequisite Courses

- SES 181 Introduction to Athletic Training
- CHEM 111 Principles of Chemistry I or CHEM 281 Biochemistry
- SES 220 Anatomical Kinesiology
- SES 380 Prevention and Care of Sports Injury
- SES 233 CPR & First Aid (or Current certification in CPR for the professional rescuer)

