

Sport and Exercise Science: Social Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity

Master of Science



Specialized Expertise, Broad Impact

UNC has emerged as a national leader in the study of social psychology related to sport and physical activity. As a student in our master's program, you'll work with faculty who have earned worldwide recognition for their research on the social factors influencing sport, fitness and exercise behavior. With a small, close-knit department, you'll have access to strong mentoring, career guidance and professional development.

Collaborate with experienced researchers and pursue your own investigations while building a well-rounded set of skills that includes qualitative and quantitative research and academic writing. The Social Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity master's degree has research applications in many contexts, including communication/public health care, gerontology, physical education, fitness and exercise and athletics performance.

Career Pathway

After completing your master's degree, you'll be highly qualified with a set of outstanding skills to enter a doctoral program in sports and exercise science or pursue jobs in government, education, athletics, nonprofits and other sectors. Graduates are prepared to seek employment in the following industries:

- Doctoral program in Sport and Exercise Science
- K-12 or community college teaching
- Health clinic
- Fitness center

Degree Options

Students can complete this program in one of two ways:

- Comprehensive exams
- Original data-based thesis

Program Details

- Greeley Campus Delivery
- Credits Required: 30
- Time to Completion: 18 months
- Classes Start: Spring and Fall semesters

Related Programs

- **Sport and Exercise Science: Social Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity, Ph.D.**

Cost and Value

Tuition rates are based on the 2021-22 Academic Year:

Colorado Resident Tuition: \$633 per credit hour plus fees.

Nonresident Tuition: \$1,185 per credit hour plus fees. You may qualify for CO resident tuition — see WRGP information at right.

UNC is regularly called out as a top value for both resident and nonresident students, and the university offers financial aid packages for qualified students. For more information, visit UNCO.EDU/COSTS.

What Students Say

“I am grateful for my time in the Social Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity program at UNC. The curriculum was intentional, yet provided enough flexibility to focus on topics I was interested in, and there were numerous opportunities to become involved in research. The program faculty have high expectations but are highly supportive and are amazing mentors. This program has prepared me well to continue my career in higher education but also provided me with the resources I needed to better promote physical activity in my community.”

-Janelle Beilman, M.S. Sport and Exercise Science: Social Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity, 2014

Financing your Education

UNC offers a variety of financial support options, including:

- Campus wide graduate assistant positions
- Colorado resident tuition for students from 15 western states is offered through the Western Regional Graduate Program. To see if you qualify visit UNCO.EDU/GRADUATE-SCHOOL/FUNDING/WESTERN-REGIONAL-GRADUATE-PROGRAM.ASPX

Faculty Spotlight

Robert Brustad, Ph.D.

Robert Brustad, Ph.D., a professor in the School of Sport and Exercise Science, joined UNC in 1993. He earned his doctoral and master's degrees from the University of Oregon and his undergraduate degree from the University of California, San Diego. His research interests include social psychology of sport and physical activity; developmental and lifespan influences on sport and physical activity behavior; children and youth in sport and physical activity; physical activity and cognitive functioning; cultural influences in sport and physical activity; talent development; analytics in sport.

Program Contact

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About UNC Graduate School

The University of Northern Colorado, founded in 1889, is Colorado's right-sized doctoral research university, serving a diverse student body around the world. Given its size, program mix, and mission, UNC offers students the access and opportunities of a small college along with the nationally recognized programs, research funding and facilities that come with being a leading U.S. university. Students seeking preparation for a world (and workplace) full of opportunities and options, complexities and cultures, diversity and demands, will find faculty mentors and excited fellow students to engage with here at UNC.

UNC

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO

Graduate School

UNCO.EDU/GRADUATE-SCHOOL