FAQs – Frequently Asked Questions about the Exercise Science Program

1. **What about the CLAS requirement?**

Exercise Science students are exempt from the CLAS requirement that is necessary for other students in the College of Education. However, USF has a CLAS requirement that requires all students to successfully meet exemption requirements. It is recommended that students successfully meet exemption requirements for the CLAS prior to applying to the program; however, this requirement may be met once the student is admitted to the program. Students must complete the exemption prior to graduation.

2. **Can I take any of the professional development courses required during the junior and senior years prior to being accepted into the program?**

No. All prerequisite courses are required prior to taking any of the courses the first semester. Also, the sequence of courses is designed to be progressive in nature, e.g., the knowledge, skills and abilities learned in the first semester of the junior year are necessary for courses taken in the second semester.

Students who have taken any of the professional development courses at another university/college “may” be able to transfer these into the program -- contact Dr. Eickhoff-Shemek (eickhoff@usf.edu) for more information.

3. **Do I need a First Aid course prior to applying to the program?**

No. In PET 3404 Emergency Response and Planning, students earn their First Aid/CPR/AED certifications. Students possessing these certifications will be re-certified in this class so they are current throughout the last semester internship. A general first aid course, previously completed, does NOT substitute for PET 3404.

4. **What do I need to know about the Liberal Arts Exit Courses?**

Students need a Liberal Arts Exit course in their junior year and in their senior year. Students do **not** need any Liberal Arts “Literature and Writing” Exit courses, but need any two Liberal Arts “Major Works/Major Issues” Exit courses (6 hours). However, one exit course can be a Literature and Writing course, if the student desires. Also, if a student needs a Gordon Rule Writing course to help meet the USF requirement of 12 credit hours of Gordon Rule Writing courses, the student should consider a Literature and Writing exit course that would suffice for the Liberal Arts Exit and a Gordon Rule course.

Students can also take these exit courses prior to entering the Exercise Science program. We recommend the PET 3252 Issues in Sport because it is offered in our department and because it relates to the course work. It is also an online course, so it can easily be taken during the internship semester (Semester 5) if the student completes his/her internship outside the Tampa Bay area.

5. **Does the Exercise Science program prepare you for physical therapy or other allied health professions?**

Some students earn a degree in Exercise Science with the intent to pursue graduate programs in allied health. However, these graduate programs have additional prerequisites that students must meet to be eligible. Students need to inquire about these additional prerequisites and any other requirements from the graduate program in which they plan to apply.