

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



Master of Science in Sports Leadership

COLLEGE OF LEADERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

100% ONLINE

30
CREDIT
HOURS

Admission Requirements:

- Application and processing fee.
- Official transcripts from the accredited colleges or universities that awarded the baccalaureate.
- Minimum cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.0. Probationary status may be granted for those with a GPA less than 3.0.
- Submit a current resume and letter of intent.
- The following course prerequisites must be completed prior to matriculation:
 - Communication - 3 hours
 - English - 6 hours
 - Math (College Algebra or higher) - 3 hours
 - Kinesiology/Biomechanics/Physical Education (For coaching concentration applicants) 2-3 hours

Cost:

- Per Credit: \$650
- Per Course: \$1,950
- Total Tuition: \$19,500
- Total Tuition + Fees: \$21,600



Timeline: 1.5 Years

Job Outlook in Texas:

11,872 Jobs

in 2025*

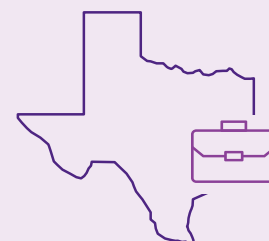
+2.8%

Employment Growth (2025-2026)

\$42,900 *per year*

Median Earnings

*Filtered by the proportion of the national workforce in these occupations with a Masters degree. Source Lightcast 2026.



*Fast Lane Option: Complete your degree in 12-15 months. See page 3 for details.



Core Curriculum:

SPLD 521 : Research and Assessment in Sport

Examines the research process from problem formulation to data collection and analyses, including qualitative and quantitative methods. Students will acquire the fundamental skills necessary to engage with empirical research to guide effective decision-making in sport leadership praxis.

SPLD 543: Ethics and Legal Issues in Sport

The course examines the key areas of law that impact the operation of amateur, professional sports teams, and leagues, and the rights of athletes. Students will also explore the related ethical issues that influence behavior as well as decision-making.

LEAD 514: Self-Assessment in Leadership

An introspective journey designed to empower students with the insights necessary to become effective self-leaders and leaders of others. Today's leaders must be self-aware, adaptable, and dedicated to continuous growth. This course provides a framework for participants to learn more about themselves and to develop a plan for personal/professional growth.

PSYO 688: Teams & Team Leadership

Analysis of the factors contributing to success of teams in complex organizations, focusing on team selection, development, training, and evaluation. Students will develop skills through team-building and leading in simulations and team projects.

SPLD 601: Sports Foundations

Students will learn and discuss the dynamic culture of sports organizations, with special attention paid to both the nature and role of crisis in these organizations.

Analytics Concentration:

LEAD 601: Leadership Foundations & Theory

An introduction to the fundamentals of effective, positive servant leadership and general leadership theory.

BUSA 550: Foundations of Analytics*

A broad preview of business and entrepreneurial thinking. Topics include accounting, finance, information systems, management and marketing. An introduction to the field of analytics, with emphasis on the application of statistical concepts, procedures, and tools to add value to organizations. Topics include data and information acquisition, analysis, and application; data visualization and reporting; technological and organizational practices to support evidence-informed decision making; and ethical issues. *Prerequisite: Completion of our free, 1 week Statistics Bootcamp is required prior to BUSA 550.

IS 680: Data Mining

Introduction to the principles, techniques, and tools needed for data mining. Students will learn to use data to make decisions, predictions, and recommendations based on their analysis outcomes. The course will include case studies, allowing students to review industry cases and use data to make decisions about business strategy.

IS 682: Data Management

Overview of the process and tools of data management. Topics include available tools, databases, data acquisition, crowdsourcing, querying, and data cleaning. Students will learn how to effectively collect, organize, and manage data from various sources.

IS 684: Data Visualization & Reporting

Provides an introduction to statistical computing and graphic software applications such as MS Office Excel and PowerPoint, R, and Tableau, to create various means of data visualization. Explores various data visualization methods involved in the process of taking raw data, creating visualizations, and reporting findings. Provides overview of Big Data, ethics particular to this current phenomenon, and interactive graph design to give students an understanding about designing effective large current data graphs to be explored and customized by anyone, even those without deep IT experience.

Athletic Administration Concentration:

CONR 602: Dynamics of Interpersonal Conflict

This course addresses the fundamental aspects of understanding, analyzing, and managing interpersonal conflict. Students will examine contributing factors to conflict such as communication, emotions, and identity. Course material is theoretical as well as practical. This course provides foundational material that students will apply throughout the program.

KINO 502: Athletic Finance

This course covers principles and factors involved in the fiscal management of athletic/sports programs. This course also addresses purchasing, budgeting, risk management, operational procedures, and auditing guidelines.

LEAD 601: Leadership Foundations and Theory

An introduction to the fundamentals of effective, positive servant leadership and general leadership theory.

KINO 604: Internship 1

This course involves experiential learning. The student will gain experience under the supervision of an Approved Mentor.

Please note: Students who are currently employed in a sports-related field will engage in a practicum, which can be completed at their current place of employment with an Approved Mentor. This experiential learning opportunity occurs after completing the core courses, or with the Program Director's approval, allowing students to reflect on their leadership growth within a real-world sports environment.



Choose 1:

HIED 611: Foundations of Higher Education

A comprehensive introduction to American higher education, including its historical development, structure, roles, and diverse characteristics. A special focus will be placed on the interplay of Christian faith with the historical development of American higher education.

LEAD 615: Change Management

This course is designed to equip students with the knowledge, tools, and strategies needed to effectively lead, implement, and sustain organizational change.

Coaching Concentration:

KINO 591: Principles of Coaching

An advanced course in methods which are common to coaching all sports. Included are program design, psycho-social factors, communication skills, ethics, and contemporary issues.

KINO 604: Internship 1

This course involves experiential learning. The student will gain experience under the supervision of an Approved Mentor.

Please note: Students who are currently employed in a sports-related field will engage in a practicum, which can be completed at their current place of employment with an Approved Mentor. This experiential learning opportunity occurs after completing the core courses, or with the Program Director's approval, allowing students to reflect on their leadership growth within a real-world sports environment.

ATPO 613: Care and Prevention of Athletic Injuries

This course provides information necessary for the Athletic Training Student to help sustain life, reduce pain, and minimize the consequences of sudden injury or illnesses.

NUTR 635: Nutrition for Exercise & Sport

Provides comprehensive, evidence-based information concerning fundamentals of how the active individual can achieve optimal nutrition by appropriate fueling for various sports and activity choices. Includes information on body composition, energy balance, food choices, and supplements before, during, and after exercise.

PSYO 542: Applied Sports Psychology

Development of knowledge and skill in the application of psychology to the enhancement of sport and exercise performance and to the personal development of the athlete.