

**To:** Senate Council

**Contact:** Dr. Karen Badger, Associate Dean ([kbadger@uky.edu](mailto:kbadger@uky.edu)); Dr. Johanna M. Hoch Professional Master of Science in Athletic Training Program Director ([johanna.hoch@uky.edu](mailto:johanna.hoch@uky.edu)); Dr. Phillip Gribble, Dept. Chair ([Phillip.gribble@uky.edu](mailto:Phillip.gribble@uky.edu))

**Date:** March 26, 2021

**RE: Request for Nonstandard Academic Calendar (Fall Semester) for AT 640 in perpetuity for MS in Athletic Training**

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**Action Requested:** The MS in Athletic training requests approval for use of a nonstandard academic fall semester calendar for AT 640: Clinical Experience in Athletic Training I in perpetuity. We ask approval to begin this course the first Monday after the last day of the preceding summer session. Course completion would align with the end date of the standard fall academic calendar (i.e., start date for Fall 2021 semester August 9<sup>th</sup> with end date December 17<sup>th</sup>).

**Rationale:** We request a non-standard calendar for AT 640 in perpetuity in order for our students to complete the required clinical experience hours engaged in meaningful clinical activities that begin prior to the standard fall semester academic calendar. This request was approved unanimously by AT program faculty on March 22, 2021. Total practicum hours students are expected to complete in the course will remain the same.

The Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) requires students to complete clinical education experiences throughout the graduate curriculum (Accreditation Standard 9). Additionally, the accrediting body requires that these athletic training clinical experiences involve various patient populations such as: across the lifespan, different sexes, varying levels of activity, and those that participate in non-sport activities (Accreditation Standard 17). Furthermore, these experiences must be supervised by a Preceptor (an athletic trainer or a physician, Standard 31) and allow the students to gain experience with patients that have a variety of health conditions commonly seen in athletic training practice (Accreditation Standard 18). The ability to begin this course two weeks before the traditional fall semester starts allows students placed within Fall sport venues to engage in meaningful clinical education experiences with sport venues that have practice and competition outside of the normal academic calendar (such as football and soccer). Our students will be placed with Preceptors who provide healthcare services to athletic teams that complete pre-season training, and have practices and competitions throughout the month of August. It is important for our students to have these experiences per accreditation and program requirements as stated above. We request this nonstandard calendar for fall semesters in perpetuity so that we are able to consistently provide students with the above described practicum experiences as part of their required curriculum.

***The proposed nonstandard calendar for this course offered in fall semesters does not and does not have the potential to violate SR 5.2.2, specifically in relation to student load.***

Thank you for your consideration. Please let us know if you have any questions or need of additional information.

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