

SPORT LEADERSHIP, MASTER OF (M.S.L.)

The School of Business offers a structured graduate program combining classroom theory with exposure to relevant field experiences. Through the sport leadership program, students will be prepared to assume the responsibilities for developing professional and amateur athletes and managing sports programs in a variety of academic, public and private sectors. The interdisciplinary faculty and curriculum give students the opportunity to concentrate on areas most important to them and most relevant to the sports business.

This program is available in an online, face-to-face or hybrid format.

Student learning outcomes

- Content knowledge of sport industry: Students will be able to analyze and synthesize information and develop plans to address issues in sport leadership.
- Development of interpersonal skills and professionalism: Students will demonstrate interpersonal skills and professionalism appropriate to the fields of sport management and coaching.
- Development of leadership skills: Students will demonstrate content knowledge of leadership skills and traits, as well as the ability to utilize these skills and traits in a professional setting.

VCU Graduate Bulletin, VCU Graduate School and general academic policies and regulations for all graduate students in all graduate programs

The VCU Graduate Bulletin website documents the official admission and academic rules and regulations that govern graduate education for all graduate programs at the university. These policies are established by the graduate faculty of the university through their elected representatives to the University Graduate Council.

It is the responsibility of all graduate students, both on- and off-campus, to be familiar with the VCU Graduate Bulletin as well as the **Graduate School website** and academic regulations in individual school and department publications and on program websites. However, in all cases, the official policies and procedures of the University Graduate Council, as published on the VCU Graduate Bulletin and Graduate School websites, take precedence over individual program policies and guidelines.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on academic regulations for graduate students.

Degree candidacy requirements

A graduate student admitted to a program or concentration requiring a final research project, work of art, thesis or dissertation, must qualify for continuing master's or doctoral status according to the degree candidacy requirements of the student's graduate program. Admission to degree candidacy, if applicable, is a formal statement by the graduate student's faculty regarding the student's academic achievements and the student's readiness to proceed to the final research phase of the degree program.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following degree candidacy policy as published in the VCU Graduate Bulletin for complete information and instructions.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on degree candidacy requirements.

Graduation requirements

As graduate students approach the end of their academic programs and the final semester of matriculation, they must make formal application to graduate. No degrees will be conferred until the application to graduate has been finalized.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following graduation requirements as published in the Graduate Bulletin for a complete list of instructions and a graduation checklist.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on graduation requirements.

Apply online today. (<https://www.vcu.edu/admissions/apply/graduate/>)

Admission requirements

Degree:	Semester(s) of entry:	Deadline dates:	Test requirements:
M.S.L.	Fall	Apr 15	GRE or MAT
	Spring	Nov 1	
	Summer	Mar 15	

In addition to the general admission requirements of the VCU Graduate School (<https://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/study/admission-graduate-study/admission-requirements/>), the following requirements represent the minimum acceptable standards for admission:

1. Bachelor's degree in an appropriate discipline
2. Three letters of recommendation addressing the student's potential for graduate study in education
3. Student's written statement concerning career interests
4. Transcripts of all previous college work

Students should contact the Center for Sport Leadership at VCU at (804) 828-7821 or link directly to [sportleadership.vcu.edu](http://www.sportleadership.vcu.edu) (<http://www.sportleadership.vcu.edu/>) for information and application materials.

Degree requirements

In addition to general VCU Graduate School graduation requirements (<https://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/graduation-info/>), students are required to complete course work in core and elective courses.

1. Credit hour requirements: Students are required to complete a minimum of 36 credit hours.
2. Grade requirements: Receipt of a grade of C or below in two courses constitutes automatic dismissal from the program. Courses with a grade below C cannot be used to satisfy degree requirements.

Curriculum requirements

Course	Title	Hours
Required core		
SPTL 603	Research and Analytics in Sport	3
SPTL 625	Team Dynamics in Sport	3

SPTL 630	Sociology of Sport	3
SPTL 632	Sport Business	3
SPTL 633	Marketing of Sport	3
SPTL 635	Leadership Models in Sport	3
Elective courses		18
SPTL/HEMS 591	Topical Seminar (maximum six)	
SPTL 608	Sport and Entertainment Event Development I	
SPTL 610	Sport and Entertainment Event Development II	
SPTL 622	Sport Consumer Behavior	
SPTL 623	Sport and the Environment	
SPTL 634	Foundations of Coaching	
SPTL 640	Sport Media and Communications	
SPTL 641	Sports Psychology	
SPTL 642	Sport Ethics	
SPTL 643	Sport Law	
SPTL 644	NCAA Coaching	
SPTL 645	Sales and Development	
SPTL 646	Facilities and Event Development	
SPTL 647	Global Sports Issues	
SPTL 648	Issues in College Athletics	
SPTL 650	European Model of Sport	
SPTL 691	Topics in Sport Leadership	
SPTL 692	Independent Study ¹	
SPTL 695	Externship ¹	
Any 600-level SPTL course not otherwise required for the major		
Total Hours		36

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These courses are field experiences and may be taken for up to nine of the 18 elective credits.

The minimum total of graduate credit hours required for this degree is 36.

Students who complete the requirements for this degree will receive a Master of Sport Leadership.

Contact

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