

HIGHLIGHTS

In the School of Allied Health Sciences we combine high quality education with comprehensive clinical experiences and research. We discover, advance, and apply our knowledge and share a keen interest in human health. The allied health care professions include athletic training, health physics, kinesiology, nutrition, physical therapy, and radiography. Whether we are working at the hospital, on the field, or in the lab, our programs deliver a unique blend of skills that benefit the health and wellness of the people we serve.



POINTS OF PRIDE

- A team of UNLV athletic training students recently won the National Athletic Trainers' Association quiz bowl championship, a Jeopardy-style competition. They beat the second place team from the University of Florida by a huge margin, amassing 28,303 points to Florida's 11,011.
- Physical therapy and kinesiology researchers are studying and publishing about how people with Parkinson's disease can improve their stability and prevent falls.
- The department of health physics has several sophisticated and well-equipped laboratories that can measure, analyze, and trace environmental and medical radiation.
- The *New York Times* has reported on the research of kinesiology professor Jon Mercer, who studies the biomechanics of running. He investigated the purported merits of "tone-up" shoes and presented his findings to the American College of Sports Medicine. His findings: muscle activation and oxygen consumption were nearly identical for those wearing traditional and tone-up shoes with rocker-bottom soles.
- Entrance into the physical therapy program is highly selective. About 650 students from all over the country apply. Only 30 are accepted.
- Health physics professor Ralf Sudowe and recent doctoral graduate Megan Bennett were part of an international team of U.S. and Russian scientists who discovered a new element. The yet-to-be-named Element 117 will be added to the periodic table after the discovery is confirmed.
- UNLV researcher Monica Lounsbury studies how local residents use Clark County parks and trails. The information she gathers will help policymakers develop healthy living and physical activity programs to improve the quality of life in Southern Nevada.
- Since the start of UNLV's physical therapy program in 1998, every student who has graduated from the program has passed the licensure exam.

- Health physics faculty members research ways to improve cancer treatments. For example, Steen Madsen is working with lasers to devise better treatments for patients with advanced brain tumors.
- Distinguished Professor Larry Golding is nationally known for his 30-plus-year study of the effects of regular exercise on cardiac health. Among his findings: physical activity – not age – is the deciding factor on cholesterol and triglyceride levels.
- The National Cancer Institute has recently stated its concerns regarding radiation risks to children who receive CT scans, so kinesiology professor Janet Dufek is investigating and quantifying the injury risk for children who experience falls resulting in head injuries. She is working to establish a standard that will help doctors decide whether to order CT scans as follow-up care.

COMMUNITY

- Nutrition Sciences has been helping children ages 8-13 stay at a healthy weight as part of the We Can! (Ways to Enhance Children’s Activity and Nutrition) program, in cooperation with the cities of Las Vegas and Henderson.
- Athletic training students provide athletic training services free to several Clark County School District sports programs as well as UNLV’s intercollegiate athletic teams.
- The School of Allied Health Sciences offers a certificate program in radiography that prepares students for challenging careers in medical imaging. There is a great need for trained personnel in this constantly advancing and changing field.
- Kinesiology students volunteer in Clark County classrooms to teach young children about healthy habits – eating nutritious foods and being physically active.

ALUMNI

Thanks to the School of Allied Health Sciences, UNLV is producing more desperately needed experts in health-related professions: physical therapists, health physicists, radiographers, registered dieticians, and athletic and fitness trainers. Whether they are helping injured people reclaim their lives, educating children about healthy lifestyles, helping professional and other athletes improve their performance, teaching at universities, or protecting the public from the effects of harmful radiation, they are making an impact on our region and beyond.

School of Allied Health Sciences Facts

Enrollment and Faculty

Undergraduate students:	622
Master’s students:	30
Doctoral students:	96
Full-time faculty:	30

Departments

Health Physics & Diagnostic Sciences
 Kinesiology & Nutrition Sciences
 Physical Therapy

Programs

Athletic Training
 Comprehensive Medical Imaging
 Exercise Physiology
 Health Physics
 Kinesiology
 Nuclear Medicine
 Nutrition Sciences
 Physical Therapy
 Radiochemistry
 Radiography

Degrees

Bachelor’s master’s, and doctoral

Certificate

Radiography

Resources and Centers

Athletic Training Research Lab
 Biomechanics Lab
 Claude I. Howard Sports Injury Research Center
 Exercise Physiology Lab
 Environmental Radiochemistry Lab
 Hot Sample Preparation Lab
 Motor Behavior Lab