

MSc Sport & Clinical Biomechanics

This is a full-time taught programme designed to provide graduates working in sport science, fitness and healthcare professions with in-depth knowledge and skills in the area of biomechanics and movement analysis. The course will be delivered via blended learning over 1.5 years.

What does 'blended learning' mean?

Blended learning means that modules will be delivered through a mixture of online lectures and face-to-face teaching sessions. The main types of learning activities will be:

- Online live lectures with an opportunity to interact using a chat box or your microphone/camera
- Self-directed activities
- Face-to-face practical sessions

The course runs over 1.5 years, how does that work?

This programme runs over 3 semesters, with a Summer break in the middle.

Semester 1 - September to December: 27.5 Credits

Semester 2 - January to May: 32.5 Credits (**Exit Award: PGCert/PGDip**)

Summer Break - June to August

Semester 3 - September to December: 30 Credits – MSc

Typically, the semester consists of 12 teaching weeks, followed by a reading week/practical assessments.

Sample Programme Schedule for Semester 1:

Week	Face-to-Face	Online	Submissions
1	Induction	Daily Lectures	
2		Daily Lectures	
3		Daily Lectures	
4	Lab x 2 days	Daily Lectures	
5		Daily Lectures	Assignments due
6		Daily Lectures	
7		Daily Lectures	
8		Daily Lectures	
9	Lab x 2 days	Daily Lectures	
10		Daily Lectures	Assignments due
11		Daily Lectures	
12		Daily Lectures	
13	Lab x 2 days (including practical assessment)		Practical Assessment
14			Assignments due

How many contact days are there where I must be in ATU Galway?

There will be approximately 7 contact days in both semesters 1 and 2. The requirement for contact days at ATU in semester 3 will vary depending on your independent research project. Labs are not optional, and students must ensure that they attend the full day of labs (9-5pm) as per the schedule. Students must be punctual and behave professionally in the laboratory setting.

Semester 1: 7 days (9am-5pm) on-site labs at ATU Galway, dates TBC:

Induction – One day, mid-September

Lab days – Two days mid-late October, Two days mid-late November

Revision day/Practical Exam – Two days mid-December

Semester 2: 7 days (9am-5pm) on-site labs at ATU Galway, dates TBC:

Induction – One day, mid-January

Lab days – Two days mid-late February, Two days mid-late March

Revision day/Practical Exam – Two days mid-late April

Semester 3

Individual meetings with your research project supervisor.

What will I study on this programme?

The programme comprises a total of seven modules, scheduled as follows:

Semester	Module Title	Credit Load
Semester 1	Foundations of Human Movement	Yearlong, 10 credits
Semester 1	Applied Sports Biomechanics	5 credits
Semester 1	Research Methods	Yearlong, 5 credits
Semester 1	Research Project 1	Yearlong, 30 credits
Semester 2	Foundations of Human Movement	Yearlong, 10 credits
Semester 2	Clinical Biomechanics	5 credits
Semester 2	Applied Sports Technology	5 credits
Semester 2	Research Methods	Yearlong, 5 credits
Semester 2	Research Project 1	Yearlong, 30 credits
Semester 3	Research Project 2	30 credits

What is the workload like? Could I do this course while working full-time?

This is a full-time MSc programme. There are approximately 10 hours of online lectures per week in semester 1, increasing to 12 hours in semester 2, as well as lab days, and a lot of self-directed activity such as reading and coursework. There are assignments due or assessments taking place approximately every 2 weeks. If you have good time management skills, then this course would be ideal to complete alongside a part-time job.

What kind of assessments will I have to complete?

Assessments include, but are not limited to:

- Practical lab exams
- Online multiple choice question (MCQ) exams
- Presentations
- Essays and literature reviews
- Case studies
- Lab reports
- An independent research project

What are the entry requirements for this programme?

Candidates must hold a cognate Level 8 Bachelor (Hons) degree with a minimum grade classification of H2.2 or equivalent. Students with Recognised Prior Learning (**RPL**) may also



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be considered for entry, however, they may be required to complete pre-requisite assessments prior to acceptance. Please click here for more information:

<https://www.atu.ie/recognition-of-prior-learning-rpl>

What are the fees for this course?

Typical fees for a post-graduate course in 2022-2023 were €5950 for the 1.5 years. This is broken up into €3950 for the first year (semesters 1 and 2), and €2000 for the final 0.5 year (3rd semester). There is an additional €100 materials fee for courses within the School of Science.

Please check with the ATU Fees office for up-to-date details as fee schedules are subject to change (studentfees.galwaymayo@atu.ie). Fees can be paid in full or in instalments, organised through the ATU Fee Collection office (feecollection.galwaymayo@atu.ie).

How to apply:

Following the online application, proof of eligibility and a personal statement will be required to progress your application. For queries in relation to Postgraduate or Professional Development Courses please contact our Graduate Studies and Professional Development Team on learn.galwaymayo@atu.ie For queries in relation to applying as an International Applicant, please contact our International Office Team international.galwaymayo@atu.ie or call +353 091-742349. For more information about the programme please email the Programme Coordinator: siobhan.leahy@atu.ie

FAQ

Are there team projects assignments where I would need to be physically present? And are there other students in my geographical area that I can link-in with?

There are some group-projects on this course, but with our online file-sharing and videoconferencing tools it's unlikely that you'll need to meet up to complete them. We have students from many other counties so as long as you can attend the allocated contact days, you can spend the rest of your time anywhere in the world.

Where necessary, can I contact ATU tutors?

Yes, beyond live lectures and recordings, all of our lecturers hold 'office hours' each week where students can meet them in person, virtually, or phone them. We are always at the end of an email as well.

What technology will I need to participate in the online lectures?

Students should have a webcam and a microphone to participate in online lectures and presentations. All ATU students are provided with the Office 365 package upon registration, and lectures are delivered on the Microsoft Teams programme, with documents being housed on ATU's Moodle site. Students have found Teams to be extremely easy to use.

Will I have access to the other resources at ATU e.g. library, counselling services etc.?

Yes. As a registered student at ATU you will have full access to student support services. Some services are able to provide online sessions using Microsoft Teams, while others are available on-campus only. For full details, see the ATU website or talk to your lecturers.

I play inter-county GAA, are there any scholarships available to me?

The Gaelic Players Association (GPA) and the Women's Gaelic Players Association (WGPA) in association with ATU have jointly funded two scholarships. These scholarships cover the fees for a taught master's programme and there are two scholarships available each year. Students must meet the entry criteria for the chosen programme. For more information or to apply for the scholarships contact Noel Connors at the GPA (nconnors@wit.ie), or Gemma Begley



(gemma@wgpa.ie) at the WGPA Students should also apply to their chosen programme at ATU through the normal application process. A CV and cover letter will be required by the GPW/WGPA, and applications and entry criteria will be assessed by ATU.

I'm an international student (non-EU), can I apply for this course?

Unfortunately, because the programme has less than 20 contact hours per week, non-EU students do not qualify for an international student visa and are unable to live in Ireland and study on this programme.