DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PH.D.) IN SPORT MANAGEMENT

NOTE: All applicants to the inaugural class of August 2015 must meet the program requirements listed in the Addendum – Ph.D. in Sport Management.

Purpose
The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Sport Management is a terminal degree focusing on student comprehension and interpretation of contemporary, theoretical and applied studies within the field of Sport Management. The mission of the program is to prepare the graduate with a broad range of sport management-related positions to include, but not limited to higher education, research, professional or amateur athletics, and professional sport industry.

Expected Program Outcomes
The program aims to provide a comprehensive curriculum with an area of specialization to prepare a sport manager practitioner or academician to:

1. Demonstrate the ability to conduct research related to the sport industry.
2. Analyze, evaluate, and implement solutions to complex sport issues, to prepare innovators and leaders in the field of sport management.
3. Support the dissemination of scholarly and practical research and knowledge in the behavioral sciences.
4. Demonstrate teaching and research skills needed for success in professional sport management roles.

Expected Student Outcomes
Upon successful completion of the Ph.D. in Sport Management the graduate will be able to:

1. Recall knowledge from core and specialized areas of study in the curriculum.
2. Identify essential teaching strategies necessary for success in the sport management education environment.
3. Effectively express complex concepts both orally and in writing.
4. Interpret research studies and apply research results to sport management practices.
5. Apply sport management knowledge to the solution of complex sport management issues, with demonstration of sensitivity to crucial, controversial sport issues.
6. Analyze and apply sport management principles, approaches, rationales, and expected outcomes of service.
7. Organize and plan programs of service designed to meet local, state, regional, national, and/or international needs.
8. Prepare research within the field of sport management for presentations and purposes.

Admissions
The applicant must submit an application to the Troy University Graduate School. No pre-requisites will be required for admission other than the applicant must have attained a Master’s degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education. In order to be given full consideration, all requested materials must be received by the deadlines listed below:

Application Deadlines:
- Fall Admission for U.S. citizens: May 1
- Fall Admission for non U.S. citizens: March 1
- Spring Admission for U.S. citizens: September 1
- Spring Admission for non U.S. citizens: July 1

For Fellowship/Assistantship consideration (FALL APPLICANTS ONLY): February 1

Admission Examination Requirements
1. TOEFL scores are required for all international students; this requirement is waived if the student has earned a bachelor’s or master’s degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution. Students scoring 80 or higher on the Internet-based TOEFL Test, 213 or higher on the Computer-based Test, and a 550 or higher on the Paper-based TOEFL Test will be given full consideration for admission into the Doctoral Program. Students scoring below these requirements may be required to (in addition to other admission requirements) interview with the Doctoral Admissions Committee prior to full consideration of admission into the program.

2. Official scores from nationally standardized aptitude examinations, such as the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), Miller’s Analogy Test (MAT), General Management Admissions Test (GMAT), or Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) must be submitted at the time of application. All entrance exams must have taken place within 5 years of submission to the program. Applicants achieving the minimum scores on the submitted entrance exam will be given full consideration for admission into the Doctoral Program. Minimum scores are presented below.
   - MAT = 399 total score
   - GMAT = 540 total score (verbal and quantitative)
   - LSAT = 157-158 total score
   - GRE) = 304 on the Revised GRE (verbal and quantitative only) OR 1000 or higher on the Non- Revised GRE (verbal and quantitative score totals only)

3. Students scoring below the minimum scores indicated may request an interview with the Doctoral Admissions Committee prior to full consideration of admission into the program. If the Doctoral Admissions committee deems the applicants transcripts, references, writing sample, and statement of intent submitted items are acceptable, the
interview may be conducted. It is the applicants’ responsibility to contact the
Doctoral Program Coordinator to request an interview.

The applicant must submit the following materials to the Troy University Graduate School:
1. Troy University Graduate School Application Form
2. One official transcript per each institution of higher education ever attended.
3. Three (3) Letters of Reference
   a. The letters of reference must address the applicant’s readiness to enroll in a
doctoral program. It is recommended that the individual providing a letter of
reference be a previous undergraduate or graduate professor, advisor or
another qualified person who can substantiate the applicant’s academic
preparation for admittance to a doctoral program.
4. Statement of Intent. The statement of intent should:
   a. Identify and obtain support for a TROY Sport Management doctoral faculty
member to serve as potential research advisor
   b. Include details of your rationale for pursuing a Ph.D. in Sport Management.
   c. Include details regarding your career and research interests.
5. Writing Sample
   NOTE: The writing sample could also include accepted or published research
that the applicant has been sole or co-author of a research project. The
applicant may submit a pdf of the paper or a weblink to the journal or article
as proof of publication.
6. Resume or Curriculum Vitae

Doctoral Admissions Committee
The Doctoral admissions committee will be composed of all Sport Management faculty members
with doctoral directive status. Once all of the application information has been received from the
Graduate School, the Sport Management doctoral admissions committee will review all eligible
applicants. Additionally, all eligible applicants will be required to schedule a phone interview
by the committee. After the committee considers all aspects of the applicant’s packet, it will make a
recommendation regarding an applicant’s admission into the Ph.D. in Sport Management
Program. After a decision has been made, applicants will be notified of their status.

Only those faculty members with doctoral directive status will be able to serve as a dissertation
chair and will function as the applicants’ major advisor. It is important for the applicant to
note that no doctoral directive faculty member will accept more than two students per
year. However, since there are two opportunities for admission, should students not be admitted
into the program for a fall semester, they may be considered for the following spring semester.
All applicants are strongly encouraged to read about the backgrounds and interests of the
doctoral directive faculty members to at www.troy.edu/hstm and contact the faculty member who
best represents the applicant’s research interest prior to applying to the program.

Transfer of Credit
The Ph.D. degree in Sport Management at Troy University requires a minimum of 90 credits
beyond a baccalaureate degree. In order to satisfy the 90 credits past a baccalaureate degree, no
more than 30 credits of a Master’s or juris doctorate (J.D.) degree from another regionally
an accredited institution of higher education will be accepted. As such, the student must complete a minimum of 60 credit hours in the Sport Management doctoral program at Troy University.

**Conditions for Transfer Credit from another Sport Management doctoral program:**
1. Students must complete the admissions application packet as described previously.
2. In addition to the credits achieved at the Masters level, a maximum of 24 credits from another Sport Management doctoral program, in which the student is in good standing, may be allowed to transfer to the Troy University Sport Management Sport doctoral program.
3. All transfer courses must be comparable to Troy University’s graduate courses and must be approved by the doctoral admissions committee.

**Entrance into the Program**
All students accepted into the Ph.D. in Sport Management program are required to complete a new student orientation. The new student orientation may take the form of visiting the Troy campus or via virtual orientation. Students must meet with their major advisors routinely, preferably using technology such as, but not limited to, Skype, WebX or BlackBoard Collaborate that permits visualization of the parties, to discuss progress towards the degree. The primary research faculty member usually assumes the role of major academic advisor and Chair of the Comprehensive Examination and Dissertation Committees. Students and their committee chairs are responsible of organizing the Comprehensive examinations as well as the dissertation proposal and defense dates.

**Doctoral Program Completion Requirements**
All students will be required to take and achieve a minimum grade of “B” in each of the following doctoral core classes.

**Doctoral Core** (15 hours)
- SFM 8812 (3) Seminar in Sport Marketing
- SFM 8814 (3) Seminar in Sport Finance
- SFM 8816 (3) Seminar in Organizational Behavior and Leadership
- SFM 8820 (3) Seminar in Legal Aspects of Sport
- SFM 8822 (3) Seminar in Sport Management Pedagogy

**Statistics Requirements** (6 hours)
All students will be required to take HSTM 8810 Seminar in Applied Statistics in Sport Management and achieve a minimum grade of “B”
- SFM 8810 (3) Seminar in Applied Statistics in Sport Management

The student, in consultation with the major advisor, must select a minimum of three hours of advisor approved electives of research courses to include but not limited to, the following classes:
- PSY 6693 (3) Psychological and Educational Statistics
- QM 6640 (3) Quantitative Analysis for Managers
- ELE 7790 (3) Qualitative Research Methodology
- HSTM 8801 (3) Statistical Analysis and Interpretation
- Other (3) as approved by advisor
Research Requirements (9 hours)
All students will be required to take HSTM 8810 Seminar in Applied Statistics in Sport Management and achieve a minimum grade of “B"
SFM 8803 (3) Research Methods for the Doctoral Student

The student, in consultation with the major advisor, must select a minimum of six hours of advisor approved electives of research courses to include but not limited to, the following classes:
SFM 8825 (3) Specialized Study in the Area of Sport Management
SFM 8826 (3) Specialized Study in the Area of Sport Management
Other (3) as approved by major advisor

Cognate Area (12 hours)
The cognate area represents the area of specialization that the student wishes to pursue. In consultation and with approval of the major advisor, the student will select four graduate level classes to fulfill the 12 credit cognate area requirement. Cognate areas may include, but are not limited to, Sport Organization Behavior/Theory; Sport Marketing, Sport Finance, Legal Aspects of Sport, Athletic Administration, Sport Communication, or Sport Tourism.

Dissertation 18 hours
Students are required to be continuously enrolled in dissertation credits once they are admitted to candidacy and have successfully proposed their dissertation research project. Students are also required to successfully defend their dissertation.

Total 60 Hours

Time to Complete Degree
Consistent with other terminal degree programs at TROY, the Sport Management doctoral student will have a maximum time for degree completion of eight years, inclusive of completing dissertation requirements. However, it is important to note that a full-time student (i.e., taking 6 credits per term) may be able to complete coursework in two (2) years. Additionally, dissertation may require 1-2 years to fully complete. As a result, students can finish the program in as little as three (3) years.

Doctoral Student Evaluation
At least once per academic year all faculty with doctoral directive status and graduate faculty teaching in the doctoral program will meet to discuss and evaluate the progress of all doctoral students in the program. This evaluation is designed to assist the doctoral student in successfully completing the program on a timely basis. The results of the evaluations will be distributed to the students by the coordinator of the doctoral program in a timely manner.

Comprehensive Examination
Sport Management doctoral students are required to successfully complete a written and oral comprehensive examination prior to generating a dissertation proposal and subsequent research
The purpose of the comprehensive exam is to provide the doctoral candidate the opportunity to demonstrate a degree of mastery related to the salient concepts, theories, and practices pertaining to the discipline of Sport Management. The doctoral student will be provided an opportunity to demonstrate an understanding of research methodologies, including statistical methodology.

Admission to Doctoral Candidacy
Students seeking to enter Doctoral Candidacy must have:
1. Completed all coursework with a GPA of 3.0 or higher;
2. Passed the comprehensive written and oral exams;
3. Received approval and finalized a doctoral dissertation committee;
4. Passed Doctoral Dissertation Proposal

Dissertation Proposal
1. The members of the dissertation advisory committee should be appointed as soon as possible after the student has begun doctoral work, and in general, no later than the end of 18 hours or three terms into the program. The proposal is a document that formally presents the student’s written description of the projected doctoral dissertation. The dissertation advisory committee is responsible for reviewing the proposal to determine the feasibility of the project. The committee’s approval endorses the research plan and indicates the committee supports initiating or continuing the dissertation project. Generally, the proposal should be submitted to, and approved by, the dissertation advisory committee as soon as the student has successfully passed their comprehensive examination but no more than three terms thereafter.
2. The dissertation advisory committee of a candidate for the doctoral degree shall consist of no fewer than three but no more than four members selected from full-time Graduate Faculty status at Troy University. At least two persons (including the chairperson) must be from the School of Hospitality, Sport, and Tourism Management and one member may be selected from a different academic, yet related, discipline. If a third member cannot be located on the Troy University campus, a faculty member from another campus may be invited to serve on the dissertation committee. Such a faculty member must hold a full-time Graduate Faculty status at their home institution and must be approved by the other members of the dissertation advisory committee and be acknowledged by the Dean of the Graduate School at Troy University.