Understanding, developing and promoting a healthy lifestyle is the major focus of the Department of Health and Human Performance (HHP) in the College of Education at the University of Houston (UH).

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Our diverse and accomplished faculty is a student-oriented team of professionals on the forefront of educational technology. Their research projects include collaborations throughout the world.

Please contact us if you have any questions concerning our graduate programs.

Dr. Charles Layne
Professor and Department Chair

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Designed for

- Students interested in pursuing an advanced degree in a research field related to human spaceflight
- Space life sciences researchers, operations specialists and project managers
- NASA and contractor staff involved in the design, development, or operation of human space craft systems
- Space flight administrators
- Life science teachers

Why HHP

- NASA life science research and operations experts serve as instructors
- UH’s close proximity to NASA’s Johnson Space Center enhances opportunities for collaboration at the nation’s preeminent human space flight center
- Graduate tuition rates at UH are very reasonable, and there are many fellowship opportunities available. HHP accepts applications every semester for teaching fellow positions that offer 9 credit hours of tuition waiver, plus a stipend each month (http://www.uh.edu/financial/graduate).
- You will have an opportunity to work with the #1 ranked, most productive faculty in the nation in the fields of health, physical education and recreation, according to Academic Analytics (http://hhp.edu/Currentevents/08_ranking.cfm).
- You will improve your marketability for promotions and open more career opportunities.
- You will become part of an active, nationwide alumni organization that proudly supports the great traditions of the University of Houston.

Why HSES

Students will receive both academic and practical training focused on developing a solid theoretical foundation in a specialized area of space life sciences, as well as a sound understanding of the unique challenges faced by human space flight research and operations specialists.

Curriculum

This two-year course of graduate study couples traditional human physiology studies with specialized course work and training in areas related to space flight human research and operations.

Students in the program will complete an integrated academic curriculum that blends terrestrial/space physiology, bioengineering, space architecture/habitat development, project management, and advanced technologies as they apply to the unique challenges of extended human habitation and exploration of space. Graduates will have unique skill sets that will qualify them for employment within the human space flight industry (federal, private and international sectors).

Students also have the option to obtain a National Certification in Project Management with minimal additional course work.

Research Opportunities

Students can choose to work on their thesis projects in one of the NASA Johnson Space Center biomedical research laboratories, the UH Center for Neuromotor and Biomechanics Research (CNBR) or the HHP Laboratory of Integrated Physiology (LIP).

“An advanced degree in Human Space Exploration Sciences will enrich my knowledge base and enhance my working skills in a way that will increase my career opportunities. The fact that many of the program’s instructors are NASA and space life science contractor scientists offers a one of a kind opportunity to learn from professionals actively working on the unique challenges of human space flight. The knowledge and passion they bring to the classroom is invaluable. This degree will provide me with the training I need to ensure my success in the exciting field of human space exploration sciences and expand my career opportunities.”

Jeannie L. Nillen, MT(ASCP)
Wyle Integrated Science and Engineering

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