

## Kinesiology: Research and an Academic Major at USMA

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### ABSTRACT

The Department of Physical Education (DPE) at USMA has instituted two major initiatives that will impact the academic and physical development of cadets and the Army at large. First, DPE has established a research center, the Center for Physical Development Excellence (CPDE), designed to study the physiological, biochemical, mechanical and psychological aspects of human movement and physical development. The CPDE is a fully functioning laboratory with musculoskeletal, neuromuscular, motion capture, cardiopulmonary and metabolic assessment capability, and a blood/tissue chemistry laboratory. At present there are three full-time faculty assigned to the CPDE. Beginning AY 09, graduating class of 2010, DPE will administer an academic program leading to the graduation and commissioning of 2LT's with a Bachelors of Science degree in Kinesiology. The Kinesiology major will consist of a 10-course sequence culminating in a capstone project and with an honors research option. In addition to its research mission, the CPDE will support the academic mission of the Kinesiology major. As a result of the CPDE and academic major in Kinesiology, DPE and USMA will provide outreach to the Army through subject matter expertise and collaborative research opportunities designed to address physical readiness/development issues of the Army.

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