Building on Muskingum’s strong heritage of excellence in the sciences, the new Athletic Training major prepares students to enter one of the most high-demand health care professions.

Athletic Trainers specialize in preventing, recognizing, managing, and rehabilitating injuries among physically-active people of all ages. Muskingum’s program enhances its classroom curriculum with clinical rotations and internships in a variety of health care, educational, and sports settings, and provides students with multiple opportunities to conduct research and present their findings at professional conferences. Athletic Training students have abundant clinical opportunities on campus in The Kalnow Training Center, which supports the student-athletes of Muskingum’s 21 NCAA Division III teams.

The program is led by Ken Blood, Director of Athletic Training and Assistant Professor of Athletic Training, and is based in the University’s Health Science Department. Athletic Trainers earn their licensure by completing an accredited university program and passing the National Athletic Trainers’ Association Board of Certification exam. In the fall of 2013, Muskingum University began the four-year program accreditation process of the Commission for the Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE); the program will be eligible for full accreditation when the initial class graduates in 2017.
Petroleum Geology

Muskingum’s new Petroleum Geology major adds a special emphasis on the energy sector to the University’s traditional Geology major, preparing students for opportunities in this growing industry. The new program incorporates the Geology Department’s strong emphasis on hands-on undergraduate research and field work, with each student expected to prepare a presentation for the annual meeting of the Geological Society of America. Students travel to the mountains of Wyoming and Colorado for geology field camps at sites including Grand Teton National Park, Gunnison National Park, and Great Sand Dunes National Park.

Dr. Stephen Van Horn, Associate Professor and Chair of the Geology Department, serves as the Petroleum Geology Program Director. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of Connecticut and has been a member of the Muskingum faculty since 1999. Prior to joining Muskingum, he was an oil industry geologist for ExxonMobil and Shell Oil Company, mapping the Wilcox Formation and Olmos Formations in Texas and Salt Domes in Louisiana, and exploring the High Island area of offshore Texas. Currently, his primary research interests and teaching specialties focus on environmental geology, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) applications, contact metamorphism, and structural control of igneous intrusions. Dr. Van Horn also serves our university community as the faculty representative on the Board of Trustees.