

Master of Science in Education – Recreation Education

Therapeutic Recreation

(33-34 semester hours including a comprehensive examination, special project, or thesis)

Intended Audience: Both students who need first degree professional preparation in recreation and therapeutic recreation and persons whose undergraduate study of recreation did not include advanced coursework in preparation for certification by the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification (NCTRC).

Philosophical Basis: The program intends to focus on working with people with disabilities. Practiced in clinical, residential, school, and community settings, therapeutic recreation uses treatment, education, and recreation services to help people of all ages with illnesses, disabilities, and other conditions to develop and use their leisure in ways that enhance their health, independence, and well-being. Therapeutic recreation makes a difference in the quality of life for people with disabilities by focusing on the following areas: In-depth knowledge of potentially disabling conditions; in-depth knowledge of the history and philosophy of therapeutic recreation; ability to use therapeutic recreation techniques and procedures, including therapeutic approaches and facilitation techniques; ability to design and implement therapeutic recreation programs; understanding of current trends and issues within the therapeutic recreation profession; understanding of and ability to use leisure education; understanding of and ability to facilitate inclusion.

Degree Requirements: The requirements listed on this document reflect the comprehensive aims of the graduate concentration in therapeutic recreation. In most instances, substitutions are possible when the student and advisor agree that the student has acquired comparable knowledge or skill in another context.

Co-requisites: For “first degree students:”

REC 600: Survey of the Recreation and Leisure Profession (2 credits)

REC 330: Introduction to Therapeutic Recreation (3 credits)

Additional co-requisites may be required by joint agreement of the Admissions Committee & academic advisor

Course of Graduate Study

A. Professional Education:			15 credits
REC 601	Recreation Research and Evaluation I	3 credits	
REC 602	Recreation Research and Evaluation II	3 credits	
REC 603	Historical, Philosophical, & Theoretical Perspectives of Recreation & Leisure	3 credits	
EDU	An education elective, chosen by advisement	3 credits	
EDU 515	Leisure Education	3 credits	
B. Recreation Education Concentration			12 credits*
REC 530	Therapeutic Recreation Techniques and Procedures (or REC 630)	3 credits	
REC 535	Therapeutic Recreation Program Design (or REC 635)	3 credits	
REC 538	Administration of Therapeutic Recreation	3 credits	
REC 606	Recreation Internship	3 credits	
C. Electives			6 credits*
Students seeking certification by NCTRC should select electives carefully and by advisement. Currently, NCTRC requires coursework in anatomy and physiology, abnormal psychology, and human growth and development		6 credits	
D. Culminating Activity – One of the following:			1-6 credits*
REC 683	Comprehensive Examination in Recreation and Leisure Studies OR	1 credit	
REC 684	Thesis OR	1-6 credits*	
REC 685	Master’s Project	1-6 credits*	
TOTAL			33-34 credits

*Thesis or project credit is substituted for coursework