MASTER OF SCIENCE IN RECREATION AND LEISURE SERVICES (M.S.R.L.S.) MAJOR IN RECREATION MANAGEMENT (THESIS OPTION)

Major Program
The Master of Science in Recreation and Leisure Services (M.S.R.L.S.) degree with a major in Recreation Management is designed to prepare administrators, supervisors, educators, consultants, and researchers to assist people toward richer lives through leisure experiences. Recreation Management encompasses the administration and supervision of recreation and leisure services. Recreational professionals seeking course work for certification as Certified Park & Recreation Professional (CPRP) would enroll in this option.

Application Requirements
The items listed below are required for admission consideration for applicable semesters of entry during the current academic year. Submission instructions, additional details, and changes to admission requirements for semesters other than the current academic year can be found on The Graduate College’s website (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu). International students should review the International Admission Documents webpage (http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/admission-documents/international) for additional requirements.

- completed online ApplyTexas application
- $40 nonrefundable application fee
- $50 nonrefundable international evaluation fee (if applicable)
- baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university
- official transcripts required from each four-year institution where course credit was granted
- minimum 2.75 GPA in your last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)
- background course work in marketing and management
- GRE scores not required
- statement of purpose (maximum 500 words) detailing the following:
  - experiences leading to graduate studies in recreation management
  - qualities, values, characteristics of the student that will help him/her meet the academic rigors of graduate education
  - career goals relating to obtaining a master’s degree

TOEFL or IELTS Scores
Non-native English speakers who do not qualify for an English proficiency waiver:

- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 78 overall
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall and
  - minimum individual module scores of 6.0

If you do not meet the scores above, you may qualify for English-based conditional admission if you meet the minimum scores below:

- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 59 overall
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 5.5 overall and
  - minimum individual module scores of 5.5

Degree Requirements
Master of Science in Recreation and Leisure Services (M.S.R.L.S.) degree with a major in Recreation Management requires 30 semester credit hours, including a thesis.

Course Requirements

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<td>Philosophical Foundations of Recreation &amp; Leisure Services</td>
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<td>Applications of Management and Leadership in Leisure Services</td>
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<td>Social Psychology of Recreation and Leisure</td>
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Electives
Choose 3 hours from the following:

- COMM 5318 Interpersonal Communication
- COMM 5319 Organizational Communication
- COMM 5329B Communication and Negotiation
- EDCL 5339 Understanding Self: Developing a Personal Vision of Leadership
- EDCL 5345 Understanding People: Professional Development
- GEO 5312 Managing Urbanization
- GEO 5319 Seminar in Nature and Heritage Tourism
- GEO 5339 The Geography of Land Management
- MC 5308 Seminar in Advertising and Public Relations
- MC 5317 Advanced Online Media
- MGT 5314 Organizational Behavior and Theory
- PA 5310 Public Finance Administration
- PA 5320 Organizational Theory, Change, and Behavior
- REC 5321 Issues and Trends in Recreation and Leisure Services
- REC 5337 Independent Study in Recreational Administration
- SOCI 5316 Seminar in Deviation and Social Problems
- SOCI 5320 Seminar in Demography
- SOCI 5353 Seminar in the Community
- SOCI 5359 Seminar in Drugs and Society
- SOCI 5370 Seminar in Multi-Cultural Relations

Thesis
- REC 5399A Thesis                                         | 3     |
- Choose a minimum of 3 hours from the following:         |       |
- REC 5199B Thesis                                        |       |
- REC 5299B Thesis                                        |       |
The completion of a minimum of six hours of thesis enrollment is required. For a student’s initial thesis course enrollment, the student will need to register for thesis course number 5399A. After that, the student will enroll in thesis B courses, in each subsequent semester until the thesis is defended with the department and approved by The Graduate College. Preliminary discussions regarding the selection of a topic and assignment to a research supervisor will not require enrollment for the thesis course.

Students must be enrolled in thesis credits if they are receiving supervision and/or are using university resources related to their thesis work. The number of thesis credit hours students enroll in must reflect the amount of work being done on the thesis that semester. It is the responsibility of the committee chair to ensure that students are making adequate progress toward their degree throughout the thesis process. Failure to register for the thesis course during a term in which supervision is received may result in postponement of graduation. After initial enrollment in 5399A, the student will continue to enroll in a thesis B course as long as it takes to complete the thesis. Thesis projects are by definition original and individualized projects. As such, depending on the topic, methodology, and other factors, some projects may take longer than others to complete. If the thesis requires work beyond the minimum number of thesis credits needed for the degree, the student may enroll in additional thesis credits at the committee chair’s discretion. In the rare case when a student has not previously enrolled in thesis and plans to work on and complete the thesis in one term, the student will enroll in both 5399A and 5399B.

The only grades assigned for thesis courses are PR (progress), CR (credit), W (withdrawn), and F (failing). If acceptable progress is not being made in a thesis course, the instructor may issue a grade of F. If the student is making acceptable progress, a grade of PR is assigned until the thesis is completed. The minimum number of hours of thesis credit (“CR”) will be awarded only after the thesis has been both approved by The Graduate College and released to Alkek Library.

A student who has selected the thesis option must be registered for the thesis course during the term or Summer I (during the summer, the thesis course runs ten weeks for both sessions) in which the degree will be conferred.

**Thesis Deadlines and Approval Process**

Thesis deadlines are posted on The Graduate College website under “Current Students.” The completed thesis must be submitted to the chair of the thesis committee on or before the deadlines listed on The Graduate College website.

The following must be submitted to The Graduate College by the thesis deadline listed on The Graduate College website:

1. The Thesis Submission Approval Form bearing original (wet) and/or electronic signatures of the student and all committee members.
2. One (1) PDF of the thesis in final form, approved by all committee members, uploaded in the online Vireo submission system.

After the dean of The Graduate College approves the thesis, Alkek Library will harvest the document from the Vireo submission system for publishing in the Digital Collections database (according to the student’s embargo selection). **NOTE: MFA Creative Writing theses will have a permanent embargo and will never be published to Digital Collections.**

While original (wet) signatures are preferred, there may be situations as determined by the chair of the committee in which obtaining original signatures is inefficient or has the potential to delay the student’s progress. In those situations, the following methods of signing are acceptable:

- signing and faxing the form
- signing, scanning, and emailing the form
- notifying the department in an email from their university’s or institution’s email account that the committee chair can sign the form on their behalf
- electronically signing the form using the university’s licensed signature platform.

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**Thesis Committee**

The thesis committee must be composed of a minimum of three approved graduate faculty members.

**Thesis Enrollment and Credit**

The responsibility of the committee chair to ensure that students are making the amount of work being done on the thesis that semester. It is the number of thesis credit hours students enroll in must reflect the supervision and/or are using university resources related to their thesis work. The number of thesis credit hours students enroll in must reflect the amount of work being done on the thesis that semester.
Courses Offered

Recreation (REC)

REC 5199B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continued thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until the thesis is submitted for binding.
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

REC 5299B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continued thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until the thesis is submitted for binding.
2 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

To introduce and explore the meanings of leisure, leisure behavior, and leisure services from historical, philosophical, sociological, and political perspectives. Students will develop a philosophical view of leisure based on exploration of the history of leisure and the leisure profession as well as consideration of the nature of the individual and society.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Modern society has increasingly been redefined by practices contextualized by leisure/recreation and embedded in the essence of leisure. Another definor of modern life is technology. This course is a critical survey of the confluence of these two domains, with new meanings made evident. Technology topics may vary. Open to non-majors.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Topics
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5318E. Physical environment, life and leisure I: Built public spaces and the leisure experience.
The physical environment is not only a container of human action, it is also itself experienced by people. This course will examine how the human-made environment is a source of meaning and experience and suggest, consequently, how it can be modeled to facilitate preferences by users. Open to non-majors.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Topics
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5318L. Outdoor Recreation Leadership and Administration.
Students will become knowledgeable of the theoretical foundations of outdoor and adventure recreation programming and sustainable ecotourism. Principles and procedures for developing and leading recreation programs in a variety of specialized, outdoor environments will be studied. Leave No Trace competency and outdoor skills will be analyzed and demonstrated in outdoor settings.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5318M. Programming for Active Older Adults.
Individuals who work in leisure and aging focus on enhancing the quality of life for individuals aged 55 and over. The population of persons over the age of 65 is growing rapidly and in the US the ‘older adult’ population now includes members from three distinct age cohort group.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5320A. Leisure Enhancement in Later Life Dementia Studies in the United Kingdom - Study Abroad.
This study abroad course focuses on selected topics in Therapeutic Recreation in the UK (London, England/Stirling, Scotland) and ties in dementia care site observations and training with St. Christopher’s Hospice and Stirling University Dementia Studies program.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

A seminar style course where students investigate current events on the provision of services. This course will address that need.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5325. Philosophical Foundations of Therapeutic Recreation.
Course examines the history, theory, and philosophy of therapeutic recreation such as service models, standards, and legislation. The use of therapeutic recreation in supporting the attainment and maintenance of well-being of people with differing characteristics and abilities is explored in a variety of service settings. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This course provides an in-depth examination of the therapeutic recreation process with a focus on planning and implementation of individualized services and supports for persons with disabling conditions. Therapeutic recreation practice concepts of interventions, modalities, instruction, leadership, supervision, and leisure counseling are explored. Prerequisite: REC 5325. Corequisite: REC 5327.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
REC 5327. Advanced Assessment and Documentation in Therapeutic Recreation.
This course provides an in-depth examination of the assessment and documentation phases of the therapeutic recreation process. Students will administer, score, interpret, and report standardized and specialized assessment instruments and documentation methods. Prerequisite: REC 5325. Corequisite: REC 5326.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5328. Advanced Principles of Therapeutic Recreation.
In this course students apply advanced principles of therapeutic recreation related to persons with psychological disorders and physical disabilities. The course engages students in advanced case study design and implementation of treatment plan utilizing a transdisciplinary approach to rehabilitation. Prerequisites: REC 5318F or REC 5325 and REC 5318G or REC 5326.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5329. Therapeutic Recreation in Psychiatric Settings.
This course provides for the application of the therapeutic recreation process through case study development within a variety of service settings. Particular emphasis is on treatment modalities and techniques applicable to group interventions. Prerequisite: REC 5326.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This course provides an exploration of management issues within recreation administration with an emphasis on the role of the leader as a conduit for effectiveness. Content will include theories and philosophies, processes, accountability, strategic planning, and conflict resolution applications.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5337. Independent Study in Recreational Administration.
Individual study related to recreational administration under direct supervision of a faculty member. May be repeated for additional credit at the discretion of the department chair.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5338. Internship in Therapeutic Recreation.
This course provides students the opportunity to complete an intensive, on-site internship under the supervision of a nationally Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist. Students will complete 560 hours in a therapeutic recreation setting. Prerequisite: All master-level coursework required by degree plan and National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification guidelines.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5340. Social Psychology of Recreation and Leisure.
To provide an introduction and overview of the personal, social and social-psychological contexts of leisure; utilizing current literature the course will focus on examining leisure and recreation behavior from psychological, sociological and social-psychological constructs that are contributing to a contemporary, interdisciplinary understanding of the leisure phenomenon.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5346. Literature and Research.
Directed reading, reports, and discussions of the current literature in the field of education, a critical analysis of research techniques and the locations and securing of information, together with the steps necessary to the solution of research problems in this field.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5350. Legal and Ethical Issues in Recreation and Leisure Services.
A seminar style course that focuses on legal and ethical issues related to recreation and leisure services. Tort law, participant rights, accessibility, credentialing, and others are topics to be addressed in this course.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5360. Applications of Finance & Marketing in Recreation.
This course is a study of financial and marketing concepts, principles, and techniques as they relate to recreation and leisure delivery systems. These include full cost accounting, pricing, financial management, distribution, promotional techniques, marketing plans, alternative funding and proposals. Prerequisite: REC 5380 or Consent of Instructor.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This course content provides students with program development and administration tools developed and tested within the recreation industry. Topics may include the exploration of programming and organizational theory, administrative processes, and the application of the organizational principles to the recreation service delivery systems.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5399A. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s initial thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until the student has completed the thesis in REC 5399B.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

REC 5399B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continued thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until the thesis is submitted for binding.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit
REC 5599B. Thesis.
This course represents a student's continued thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until the thesis is submitted for binding.
5 Credit Hours. 5 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

REC 5999B. Thesis.
This course represents a student's continued thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until the thesis is submitted for binding.
9 Credit Hours. 9 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit