

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

Major Program

The Master of Science in Recreation and Leisure Services (M.S.R.L.S.) degree with a major in Therapeutic Recreation is designed to prepare administrators, supervisors, educators, consultants, and researchers to assist people toward richer lives through leisure experiences. Therapeutic Recreation focuses on enabling individuals with special needs to experience the same leisure options as able-bodied individuals through the use of recreation as a treatment and education modality. Individuals seeking to become a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) 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 application
- \$55 nonrefundable application fee
- or
- \$90 nonrefundable application fee for applications with international credentials
- baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university
- official transcripts from **each institution** where course credit was granted
- minimum 2.75 GPA in the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)
- background courses required in:
 - Anatomy & Physiology
 - Abnormal Psychology
 - Human Growth and Development Across the Lifespan
- GRE not required
- statement of purpose (maximum 500 words) addressing the following:
 - experiences leading to graduate studies in therapeutic recreation
 - 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

This program does **not** offer admission if the scores above are not met.

Degree Requirements

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

Course Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
REC 5310	Philosophical Foundations of Recreation & Leisure Services	3
REC 5325	Philosophical Foundations of Therapeutic Recreation	3
REC 5328	Advanced Principles of Therapeutic Recreation	3
REC 5340	Social Psychology of Recreation and Leisure	3
REC 5346	Literature and Research	3
ESS 5356	Applied Statistics in Health and Human Performance	3
Electives		
Choose 6 hours from the following:		6
REC 5321	Issues and Trends in Recreation and Leisure Services	
REC 5330	Organizational Leadership in Recreation and Leisure Services	
REC 5337	Independent Study in Recreational Administration	
REC 5350	Legal and Ethical Issues in Recreation and Leisure Services	
REC 5380	Administering Leisure Delivery Systems	
Thesis		
REC 5399A	Thesis	3
Choose a minimum of 3 hours from the following:		3
REC 5199B	Thesis	
REC 5299B	Thesis	
REC 5399B	Thesis	
REC 5599B	Thesis	
REC 5999B	Thesis	
Total Hours		30

Comprehensive Examination Requirements

All candidates for graduate degrees must pass one or more comprehensive examinations.

If a student elects to follow the thesis option for the degree, a committee to direct the written thesis will be established. The thesis must demonstrate the student's capability for research and independent

thought. Preparation of the thesis must be in conformity with the *Graduate College Guide to Preparing and Submitting a Thesis or Dissertation*.

Thesis Proposal (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/docs/Thesis_Diss_Guide.pdf)

The student must submit an official Thesis Proposal Form (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/forms.html>) and proposal to his or her thesis committee. Thesis proposals vary by department and discipline. Please see your department for proposal guidelines and requirements. After signing the form and obtaining committee members' signatures, the graduate advisor's signature if required by the program and the department chair's signature, the student must submit the Thesis Proposal Form with one copy of the proposal attached to the dean of The Graduate College for approval before proceeding with research on the thesis. If the thesis research involves human subjects, the student must obtain exemption or approval from the Texas State Institutional Review Board prior to submitting the proposal form to The Graduate College. The IRB approval letter should be included with the proposal form. If the thesis research involves vertebrate animals, the proposal form must include the Texas State IACUC approval code. It is recommended that the thesis proposal form be submitted to the dean of The Graduate College by the end of the student's enrollment in 5399A. Failure to submit the thesis proposal in a timely fashion may result in delayed graduation.

Thesis Committee

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

Thesis Enrollment and Credit

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 (withdrew), 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 (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu>) 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.

If this process results in more than one document with signatures, all documents need to be submitted to The Graduate College together.

No copies are required to be submitted to Alkek Library. However, the library will bind copies submitted that the student wants bound for personal use. Personal copies are not required to be printed on archival quality paper. The student will take the personal copies to Alkek Library and pay the binding fee for personal copies.

Master's level courses in Health and Human Performance: REC

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

REC 5310. Philosophical Foundations of Recreation & Leisure Services.

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

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 5321. Issues and Trends in Recreation and Leisure Services.

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: Instructor approval.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5326. Advanced Practices and Interventions in Therapeutic Recreation.

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 with a grade of "C" or better. 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 with a grade of "C" or better. 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 5326 with a grade of "C" or better.

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 with a grade of "C" or better.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5330. Organizational Leadership in Recreation and Leisure Services.

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: Instructor approval.

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 with a grade of "C" or better or instructor approval.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

REC 5380. Administering Leisure Delivery Systems.

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 5381. Outdoor Program Leadership and Administration.

Within the role of leadership and administration, students will become knowledgeable in the theoretical foundations of outdoor programs, adventure programming, and wilderness travel. The history of thought surrounding natural places and outdoor recreation will be examined throughout the semester.

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