

RECREATION MANAGEMENT AND POLICY: THERAPEUTIC RECREATION ADMINISTRATION (M.S.)

<https://chhs.unh.edu/recreation-management-policy/program/ms/recreation-management-policy-therapeutic-recreation-administration>

Description

Beginning in the 2025-2026 academic year, the Recreation Management and Policy: Therapeutic Recreation Administration M.S. is pausing admissions to the program. Current students will continue to have access to the same high-quality education and resources until they graduate.

The Therapeutic Recreation Administration option prepares advanced personnel for administrative responsibilities in clinical-based practice & administrative leadership in community-based recreation services that meet the needs of individuals with disabilities. Graduate education serves Therapeutic Recreation Specialists who wish to move into administrative positions such as supervisor/manager/director, senior therapist, treatment coordinator, assisted-living manager, and senior center supervisor.

A specialization in community-based TR is also available through our partnership with [Northeast Passage](#), including coursework and practice experiences related to in-home/community health promotion programming, TR service delivery in the school system, and adaptive sports (recreational and competitive).

Students without an academic or clinical background in therapeutic recreation may use the M.S. program to satisfy the academic requirements for the national credentialing examination used by the National Council on Therapeutic Recreation Certification (NCTRC) and for New Hampshire state licensure. While the graduate program does not require prerequisite courses to qualify for admission, the [credentialing examination](#) does require coursework outside the M.S. curriculum requirements and the department requires leveling coursework upon acceptance to the M.S. program.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

The **30 credit** Therapeutic Recreation Administration option consists of required and elective coursework. In consultation with a faculty adviser, students will select either a thesis or portfolio track. Full-time students with a TR undergraduate degree take up to two years to progress through the degree requirements; full-time students without a TR undergrad degree need more than two years. Part-time students take longer to complete the degree.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Core Competencies		
RMP 800	Concepts of Recreation and Leisure	3
RMP 806	Recreation Administration and Organizational Behavior	3
Required Research Competencies		
RMP 992	Research Methods in Recreation Management and Policy	3

or RMP 824	Research, Evaluation, and Data-Driven Decisions	
SW 962	Data Analysis and Statistics	3-4
or EDUC 881	Introduction to Statistics: Inquiry, Analysis, and Decision Making	

Capstone

Select Thesis or Portfolio Track

Thesis Track:

RMP 899 Master's Thesis

and 4 additional Elective Courses

Portfolio Track:

RMP 995 Capstone Seminar

and 5 additional Elective Courses

Elective Courses ¹

Select 12-18 credits of elective coursework.

(RMP Dept Courses)

RMP 811	Recreation Resource Management
RMP 820	Adaptive Sport Facilitation for Recreation Therapy and Related Professions
RMP 840	Therapeutic Recreation Service Delivery in Community Settings
RMP 872	Law and Public Policy in Leisure Services
RMP 875	Entrepreneurial and Commercial Recreation
RMP 912	Non-Profit Administration and Leadership
RMP 924	Fund Development and Grantwriting
RMP 964	Graduate Internship
RMP 970	Teaching Practicum
RMP 980	Independent Study

Code	Title	Credits
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Elective Courses ²

(courses outside RMP Dept)

HDFS 843	Families, Schools, and Community
HDFS 846	Human Sexuality
HDFS 857	Race, Class, Gender, and Families
HDFS 876	Children, Adolescents and the Law
HDFS 894	Families and the Law
HDFS 993	Theoretical Approaches to Human Development and Family Studies
KIN 802	Health Content and Youth Risk Behaviors
KIN 881	Introduction to Adapted Physical Education
NUTR 873	Clinical Nutrition
NUTR 880	Critical Issues in Nutrition
OT 830	Assistive Technology for Enhancing Occupational Performance
OT 830L	Assistive Technology for Enhancing Occupational Performance Lab
OT 889	Using iPads to Support Children with Disabilities
PHP 900	Public Health Care Systems
PHP 904	Social and Behavioral Health
PHP 905	Public Health Administration
PHP 907	Public Health Policy
PHP 908	Public Health Ethics
PHP 912	Public Health Law and Negotiation
PHP 922	Public Health Economics
PHP 924	Policy and Practice of Community Health Assessment
RAM 867	
SW 805	Child and Adolescent Risks and Resiliency: Program, Policy and Practice
SW 820	Social Welfare Policy I
SW 840	Implications of Race, Culture, and Oppression for Social Work Practice
SW 850	Human Behavior and the Social Environment I
SW 865	Adventure Therapy: Facilitation and Processing of the Experience
SW 897	Special Topics in Social Work and Social Welfare

¹ Thesis track choose 4 electives; Portfolio track choose 5 electives. Both track may also choose electives outside Dept.

² Not an all inclusive list.

Accelerated Master's

This graduate program is approved to be taken on an accelerated basis in articulation with certain undergraduate degree programs.

General Accelerated Master's policy, note that some programs have additional requirements (e.g. higher grade expectations) compared to the policy.

Visit the Office of the Registrar's [website](#) for information about whether this program meets professional licensure requirements in your state.

Please see the [Graduate School website](#) and contact the department directly for more information.

Student Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes

- Students will know the roles and interrelationships of diverse leisure service delivery systems, as well as professionalism in the discipline.
- Students will know and apply the psychological, sociological, and social psychological theories and philosophies associated with leisure and recreation behavior.
- Students will develop the ability to translate and apply relevant theory to park and recreation programs and services.
- Students will know the historical and cultural perspectives associated with the park and recreation field, and will apply issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion to park and recreation management.
- Students will apply financial, budgetary, planning, marketing, program evaluation, and human resource knowledge and skills to meet present and future organizational needs and challenges.
- Students will implement leadership skills that advance the park and recreation profession and broader society.
- Students will design and conduct research, analyze and interpret data, and apply research findings to the park and recreation profession.
- Students will explore the interrelationships of allied professions with the park and recreation profession.
- Students will know how to promote the benefits of recreation and leisure to enhance individual, social, economic, and environmental well-being and quality of life.
- Students will demonstrate effective conceptual and technical communication skills, both in oral and written form.

Disclosures

Professional Licensure/Certification Disclosures

The University of New Hampshire offers a number of academic programs designed to lead to professional licensure or certification in New Hampshire. However, completing a UNH degree/program does not guarantee professional licensure or certification. Eligibility may also depend on factors like years of work experience, professional examinations, passing a background check, and other criteria.

UNH does not guarantee that its professional licensure programs will satisfy the criteria of professional licensure boards in other states. Some states maintain different requirements for professional licensure or certification and requirements can change frequently. Federal regulations require the University to make public disclosure of certain information regarding professional licensure or certification programs, regardless of the modality the program is offered (i.e., in-person or online). The University provides guidance below but recommends students contact their state/territory licensing or certification board to ensure a program meets specific state/territory requirements.