

Dual Degree Program in Therapeutic Recreation B.S. and M.S.

Overview

The field of therapeutic recreation is moving towards a master's level entry (much like physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology recently have). The creation of a dual degree program will provide students with a more efficient path towards completion of their master's degree. This dual degree program will allow students to complete a bachelors and a master's degree (+1) in less time (5 years rather than 6 years) in the therapeutic recreation program and to be eligible to become a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist™.

Major requirements

Admission to the program

Admission to the Therapeutic Recreation Program is competitive and not all who apply may be accommodated.

To be considered for admission to the therapeutic recreation major, the student must have:

1. Completed or be "in progress" of completing the preadmission courses (BIO 100 or BIO 105 or MIC 100; STAT 145, PSY 100, PSY 212, REC 150, RTH 250) with a grade "C" or better in each of these core courses.
2. A minimum cumulative UWL GPA of 2.5.
3. Completion of 50 hours of pre-professional experience in an organized program that services various persons with disabilities, chronic health conditions, and/or vulnerable populations in a recreation context is required.
4. 250 word essay explaining why the applicant wants to pursue a degree in therapeutic recreation.
5. Applications are due October 1 to be considered for admission to the program spring semester and February 1 to be considered for admission to the program for fall semester.

To be considered for admission to the 4+1 track, the student must:

1. Be a current therapeutic recreation student who has been accepted into the program and has completed at least 75 undergraduate credits.
2. Have completed or is concurrently taking RTH 329, RTH 252, RTH 319, PSY 204, ESS 205 (or BIO 312).
3. Have a minimum cumulative UWL GPA of 3.2 to apply.

Further selection is based on the following criteria:

- Cumulative UWL GPA
- Pre-professional experience
- 250 word essay explaining why the applicant wants to pursue a degree in therapeutic recreation curriculum.

Graduation requirements

Bachelor of Science

- All courses required in the Therapeutic Recreation Program during the undergraduate portion of the 4+1 must be passed with a minimum grade of "C" or better with a GPA of 2.5 or better on a scale of 4.0.
- All program and University of Wisconsin-La Crosse requirements must be met (120 credits total).

Master of Science

- A total of at least 30 credits of graduate level courses that must be completed with a "B" or better (3.0/4.0) in each course. This includes the courses taken during the undergraduate period: RTH 556, RTH 570, and RTH 576. These credits will count towards both the undergraduate and graduate degrees.
- A cumulative GPA of 3.0/4.0 scale in all graduate courses is required for graduation from Graduate School.

Curriculum

(College of Science and Health)

81-82 credits, excluding general education credits

Code	Title	Credits
General education courses		
Select one of the following:		4
BIO 100	Biology for the Informed Citizen	
BIO 105	General Biology	
MIC 100	Microbes and Society	
PSY 100	General Psychology	3
STAT 145	Elementary Statistics	4
Total Credits		11

Code	Title	Credits
Interdisciplinary requirements		
PSY 204	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSY 212	Lifespan Development	3
ESS 205	Human Anatomy and Physiology for Exercise Science I	3
	or BIO 312 Human Anatomy and Physiology I	

Code	Title	Credits
Professional core requirements		
REC 150	Foundations of Recreation	3
RTH 250	Introduction to Therapeutic Recreation	3
RTH 252	Innovative Activities in Therapeutic Recreation	3
RTH 319	Management Functions in Therapeutic Recreation	3
RTH 326	Therapeutic Recreation Populations I	3
	or RTH 327 Therapeutic Recreation Populations II	
	or RTH 329 Diagnostic Groups in Therapeutic Recreation	
RTH 355	Medical Language	3
RTH 462	Inclusive Recreation Program Administration	3
RTH 480	Leisure Education	3
RTH 493	Therapeutic Recreation Trends and Issues	3
RTH 496	Orientation to Internship in Therapeutic Recreation	1
RTH 498	Internship in Therapeutic Recreation	12

Code	Title	Credits
Elective courses		
Select a minimum of two credits from the elective list.		2-3
RTH 314	Adaptive Sports and Therapeutic Recreation	
RTH 330	Therapeutic Recreation and Mental Health	

RTH 332	Therapeutic Recreation for Persons With Physical Disabilities	
RTH 333	Therapeutic Recreation and Corrections	
RTH 345	Recreational Therapy for Older Adults	
RTH 491	Workshop in Therapeutic Recreation	
RTH 495	Independent Study in Therapeutic Recreation	
RTH 497	Special Projects in Therapeutic Recreation	
Courses taken senior year: ^{1, 2}		
RTH 556	Program Design and Administration of Therapeutic Recreation	3
RTH 570	Facilitation Techniques in Therapeutic Recreation	3
RTH 576	Assessment and Treatment Planning in Therapeutic Recreation	3
Courses taken in fifth year of program:		
REC 701	Philosophical Foundations of Leisure, Play and Recreation	3
REC 720	Research Methods for Recreation, Parks, and Leisure	3
RTH 730	Advanced Clinical Aspects/Therapeutic Recreation	3
REC 710	Entrepreneurship in Recreation	3
REC 761	Graduate Project in Recreation	6
REC 711	Management of Leisure Services Organizations	3
Total Credits		81-82

¹ RTH 556 and RTH 570 are taken concurrently in the Fall semester. RTH 576 is taken in the Spring semester. These nine credits apply to both the undergraduate and graduate degrees.

² Students must have graduate student status before registering for their fourth year graduate courses.

Internship in senior year:

RTH 498 Internship in Therapeutic Recreation will be taken for 12 credits while the student is an undergraduate. To be admitted to RTH 498, students must achieve a 2.5 cumulative and major GPA and have successfully completed all program course work. The internship will be in either the Spring or Summer term of the student's senior year.

After RTH 498 Internship in Therapeutic Recreation is completed, the student will graduate with their Bachelor of Science with a major in therapeutic recreation.

Fifth year:

- **Fall semester:** REC 701, REC 720, RTH 730, Graduate Project (3 credits) = 12 credits
- **Spring semester:** REC 711, REC 710, Graduate Project (3 credits) = 9 credits

Total for M.S. = 30 credits, including the 9 credits of graduate courses (RTH 556, RTH 576, and RTH 570) taken during the undergraduate years

For complete details regarding application procedures, contact the Therapeutic Recreation Program Director in the Department of Recreation Management and Therapeutic Recreation.

Degree requirements

All students must complete the general education, college core (waived for therapeutic recreation majors), major/minor, and university degree requirements in order to qualify for a degree. The easiest way to track all of these requirements is to refer to the Advisement Report (AR) found

in the Student Information System (WINGS) Student Center. All enrolled students have access to the AR.

- General education (<http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/generaleducation>)
- Baccalaureate degree requirements (p. 2)

Baccalaureate degree requirements

Candidates for the Bachelor of Arts or the Bachelor of Science degrees must accomplish the following:

1. Fulfill the general education requirements.
2. Complete at least one ethnic studies (diversity) course.
3. Complete the courses prescribed by the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee for the degree desired in the respective school or college. (No substitutions for graduation may be made in course requirements for a major or minor after the fourth week of the last semester of the senior year.)
4. Earn a minimum of 120 semester credits with at least a 2.00 cumulative GPA.¹ At least 40 credits must be earned in 300/400 (senior college) level courses. Courses earned at the 100/200 level that transferred to UWL as 300/400 level courses do not apply to this requirement nor do courses from two-year schools.
5. Complete major and minor requirements with at least a 2.00 GPA¹ in each major and minor (and concentration or emphasis, if selected).
6. A minimum of 30 semester credits in residence at UWL is required for graduation. (See undergraduate resident requirement (<http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/academicpolicies/graduation/#undergraduate-residence-requirement>.)
7. Submit an application for graduation via the "Apply for Graduation" link in the WINGS Student Center as soon as the student has registered for his or her final semester or summer term in residence. December and winter intersession graduates should apply by May 1. May and summer graduates should apply by December 1.

¹ Grade point average requirements for some programs will be considerably higher than 2.00. Re-entering students may be required to earn credits in excess of the 120 needed for graduation in any curriculum in order to replace credits earned in courses in which the content has changed substantially in recent years. Each case will be judged on its own merit.

No degree will be awarded unless all requirements are fulfilled and recorded within 30 days after the official ending date of each term.

Sample degree plan

Below is a sample degree plan that can be used as a guide to identify courses required to fulfill the major and other requirements needed for degree completion. A student's actual degree plan may differ depending on the course of study selected (second major, minor, etc.). Also, this sample plan assumes readiness for each course and/or major plan, and some courses may not be offered every term. Review the course descriptions or the class timetable (<http://www.uwlax.edu/Records/registration>) for course offering information.

The sample degree plans represented in this catalog are intended for first-year students entering UWL in the fall term. Students should use the Advisement Report (AR) in WINGS (<https://wings.uwlax.edu/psp/csprod/?cmd=login&languageCd=ENG&>) and work closely with their faculty advisor(s) and college dean's office to ensure declaration and completion of all requirements in a timely manner.

General Education Program

The general education curriculum (Gen Ed) is the common educational experience for all undergraduates at UWL. Sample degree plans include Gen Ed placeholders to ensure completion of the general education requirements. Courses may be rearranged to fit the needs or recommendations of the student's program of study. Gen Ed courses may be taken during winter term (January between the semesters) and summer to reduce the course load during regular terms (fall and spring). Students should consult with their advisor and/or the college academic services director in their college/school for assistance with course and schedule planning. Refer to the general education requirements (<http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/generaleducation>) for more specific details.

Note: at least 40 credits of the 120 credits required must be earned at the 300/400 level.

This sample degree plan does not establish a contractual agreement. It identifies the minimum requirements a student must successfully complete, to qualify for a degree, in a format intended to assist the student plan their academic career. Actual degree plans may differ.

This major is exempt from the CSH College Core requirement.

Year 1		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
REC 150	3 RTH 250	3
ENG 110 or 112 (Gen Ed Literacy-Written)	3 STAT 145 (Gen Ed Math)	4
PSY 100 (Gen Ed Self & Society)	3 CST 110 (Gen Ed Literacy-Oral)	3
HIS 101, 102, or ARC 200 (Gen Ed World Hist)	3 Gen Ed Arts	2-3
BIO 100, 105, or MIC 100 (Gen Ed Natural Lab Science)	4 Gen Ed Health & Well-Being	3
	16	16

Year 2		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
RTH 252	3 RTH 326, 327, or 329	3
ESS 205 ¹	3 RTH 319	3
PSY 212 ¹	3 PSY 204 ¹	3
Gen Ed Math or Lang/Logical Systems	3-4 Gen Ed Minority Cultures	3
Gen Ed Arts	2-3 Gen Ed Hum - Lit	3
	15	15

Year 3		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
Gen Ed Global Studies	3 RTH 462	3
RTH 355	3 RTH 480	3
University Degree Credit Elective	3 RTH 496	1
Gen Ed Elective	3 Special Populations Elective	2-3
Gen Ed Elective	3 Gen Ed Elective	3
Apply to RT Dual Degree Program ²	University Degree Credit Elective	3
	Apply for "graduate special status" for fall semester	
	15	16

Year 4		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
RTH 493	3 RTH 498	12-16
University Degree Credit Elective	3 RTH 576	3
Apply for "full graduate status" for spring semester		
RTH 556	3	
RTH 570	3	
	12	15
Additional year		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
REC 701	3 REC 711	3
REC 720	3 REC 710	3
RTH 730	3 REC 761	3
REC 761	3	
	12	9

Total Credits: 141

1 PSY 212 Lifespan Development, PSY 204 Abnormal Psychology, and ESS 205/BIO 312 Human Anatomy and Physiology I fulfill, in part, criteria for becoming a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS). For any PSY 212, PSY 204, or ESS 205/BIO 312 course substitutes/transfers, students are advised to verify satisfactory content with the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certifications (NCTRC). See the Therapeutic Recreation Program Director for more information.

2 **To be considered for admission to the dual degree program, the student must:**

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