

**Big
ideas.**
Real-world thinking.



**MINNESOTA STATE
UNIVERSITY**
MANKATO

RECREATION, PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES *College of Allied Health & Nursing*

WHAT DEGREE AND PROGRAM DO WE OFFER?

We offer a BS in Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services with an emphasis in Leisure Behavior, Leisure Planning and Management, Therapeutic Recreation, and Resource Management.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS COMPLETING THESE PROGRAMS?

Career Opportunities

A wide range of positions and settings are available including:

- Municipal and non-profit recreation; camps; resorts; amusement areas; military recreation; special events management;
- Hospitals; rehabilitation centers; correctional facilities; behavioral health centers; adaptive sport and recreation agencies; psychiatric units;
- Park rangers at state, national, and county parks; naturalist; interpreter; park planners.

Academic Opportunities

Students are prepared for:

- Graduate programs in Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services and other related fields.
- National certification exams such as the Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist and Certified Parks and Recreation Professional exams.

EXAMINING THE QUALITY OF OUR PROGRAM

Accreditations

The program is one of 80 national programs accredited by the Council on Accreditations of National Parks, Recreation and Tourism and Related Professions (COAPRT). This is the only COAPRT accredited program in the state.

Faculty

All six faculty have Ph.D.s and experience working in the field. Faculty advise students in coursework and practicum experience. No classes are taught by teaching assistants.

Alumni Successes

Our graduates have achieved much success as professionals in the RPLS field. Our alumni can be found in State and National Parks as Rangers, in hospitals as Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialists, in municipals recreation programs as Program Directors, and in a

wide variety of non-profit and for-profit organizations. Here is what some Minnesota State Mankato alumni have to share:

"Time and time again, we look back at our education at Minnesota State Mankato and are able to connect what we learned to what we see and handle each day in our jobs. Being able to have that direct application of what we have learned to what we actively do is truly amazing and we have you to thank for this!" Bethany Gassman, Law Enforcement Support Assistant and Gabe Gassman, Law Enforcement U.S. Park Ranger, Yellowstone National Park

"Thanks to the outstanding RPLS program and faculty, I've made a career of traveling around the world setting up foreign port tours and hotel stays. It doesn't get much better than this!" Gina Bilitz, '06, Afloat Recreation Specialist "Fun Boss"

OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS:

Program components

A 560-hour, 14-week practicum is required for this program. Many courses offering experiential learning that extends the classroom into the community. Students are provided with funding support to attend and connect with professionals at the Minnesota Recreation and Park Association, Minnesota Therapeutic Recreation Association State Conference and other national conferences in the RPLS field.

Scholarships

State, regional, national, and departmental achievement awards are available each academic year.

Clubs and organizations

The Recreation, Parks, and Leisure Service Club holds meetings and networking opportunities twice each month during the academic year.

HOW DOES A STUDENT PREPARE FOR THIS PROGRAM?

General high school preparation is adequate. Volunteer or part-time experience in recreation and parks organizations or agencies in advantageous.

Students must complete RPLS 272

(Introduction to Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services) with a "C" or better before admission to the program. Students are expected to maintain a minimum of 2.0 GPA and complete RPLS classes with a "C" or better.

LEISURE PLANNING & MANAGEMENT		THERAPEUTIC RECREATION	
First Year (Fall)	First Year (Spring)	First Year (Fall)	First Year (Spring)
RPLS 272 Intro to RPLS (3) General Education Goal Area 1A (4) General Education Goal Area 4 (4) General Education Goal Area 3 (3) General Education Goal Area 5 (3-4)	RPLS 282 Wildlife as a Recreational Resource (3) General Education Goal Area 1B (3) General Education Goal Area 5 (3-4) General Education Goal Area 6/7 (3-4) General Education Goal Area 3 (4)	RPLS 272 Intro to RPLS (3) General Education Goal Area 1A (4) General Education Goal Area 4 (4) General Education Goal Area 3 (3) General Education Goal Area 5 (3-4)	RPLS 282 Wildlife as a Recreational Resource (3) General Education Goal Area 3 non-lab (3) General Education Goal Area 6 (3) General Education Goal Area 8 (3)
Second Year (Fall)	Second Year (Spring)	Second Year (Fall)	Second Year (Spring)
RPLS 274 Therapeutic Recreation Services (3) RPLS 277 Recreation Leadership (3) General Education Goal Area 8 (3-4) General Education Goal Area 10 (3-4) General Elective Course (3-4)	RRPLS 341W Research Methods in RPLS (3) RPLS 376 Program Planning (3) Elective Course in Major (3) General Education Goal Area 7 (3-4) General Education Writing Intensive (3-4)	RPLS 274 Therapeutic Recreation Services (3) RPLS 277 Recreation Leadership (3) General Education Course (3) General Education Course (3) General Education Course (4)	RPLS 376 Program Planning (3) RPLS 341W Research Methods in RPLS (3) BIOL 220 Human Anatomy (4) KSP 235 Human Development (3) General Elective Course (2)
Third Year (Fall)	Third Year (Spring)	Third Year (Fall)	Third Year (Spring)
RPLS 373 Recreation Management I - Facility Resources (3) RPLS 375 Recreation Technology (3) Elective Course in Major (3) General Elective Course (3-4) General Elective Course (3-4)	RPLS 465 Event Management (3) Elective Course in Major (3) Elective Course in Major (3) General Elective Course (3-4) General Elective Course (3-4)	RPLS 373 Recreation Management I - Facility Resources (3) RPLS 375 Recreation Technology (3) RPLS 447W Therapeutic Recreation Process (3) General Elective Course (3-4) General Elective Course (3-4)	RPLS 440 Therapeutic Recreation Assessment (3) RPLS 445 Foundations of Therapeutic Recreation Practice (3) RPLS 450 Therapeutic Recreation Techniques (3) BIOL 310 Basic Human Physiology (4) General Elective Course (3)
Fourth Year (Fall)	Fourth Year (Spring)	Fourth Year (Fall)	Fourth Year (Spring)
RPLS 473 Recreation Management II (3) RPLS 483 Recreation Management II (3) RPLS 493 History and Philosophy in RPLS (3) General Elective Course (3-4) General Elective Course (3-4)	RPLS 495 Practicum (9)	RPLS 473 Recreation Management II (3) RPLS 483 Legal Processes in RPLS (3) RPLS 489 Advancement of Therapeutic Prof. (3) RPLS 493 History and Philosophy in RPLS (3) PSYC 455 Abnormal Psychology (4)	RPLS 495 Practicum (9)

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT		LEISURE BEHAVIOR	
First Year (Fall)	First Year (Spring)	First Year (Fall)	First Year (Spring)
RPLS 272 Intro to RPLS (3) General Education Goal Area 1A (4) General Education Goal Area 4 (4) General Education Goal Area 3 (3) General Education Goal Area 5 (3-4)	RPLS 282 Wildlife as a Recreational Resource (3) General Education Goal Area 1B (3) General Education Goal Area 5 (3-4) General Education Goal Area 6/7 (3-4) General Education Goal Area 3 (4)	RPLS 272 Intro to RPLS (3) General Education Goal Area 1A (4) General Education Goal Area 4 (4) General Education Goal Area 3 (3) General Education Goal Area 5 (3-4)	RPLS 282 Wildlife as a Recreational Resource (3) General Education Goal Area 1B (3) General Education Goal Area 5 (3-4) General Education Goal Area 6/7 (3-4) General Education Goal Area 3 (4)
Second Year (Fall)	Second Year (Spring)	Second Year (Fall)	Second Year (Spring)
RPLS 274 Therapeutic Recreation Services (3) RPLS 277 Recreation Leadership (3) General Education Goal Area 8 (3-4) General Education Goal Area 10 (3) General Elective Course (3-4)	RPLS 341W Research Methods in RPLS (3) RPLS 376 Program Planning (3) Elective Course in Major (3) General Education Goal Area 7 (3-4) General Education Writing Intensive (3-4)	RPLS 274 Therapeutic Recreation Services (3) RPLS 277 Recreation Leadership (3) EXED 202 Introduction to Experiential Education (3) General Education Goal Area 8 (3-4) General Education Goal Area 10 (3-4)	RPLS 341W Research Methods in RPLS (3) RPLS 376 Program Planning (3) Elective Course in Major (3) General Education Goal Area 7 (3-4) General Education Writing Intensive (3-4)
Third Year (Fall)	Third Year (Spring)	Third Year (Fall)	Third Year (Spring)
RPLS 373 Management of Parks & Recreation Facilities (3) RPLS 375 Recreation Technology (3) Elective Course in Major (3) General Education Goal Area 6 (3) General Elective Course (3-4)	RPLS 475 Public Land Use Policies (3) Elective Course in Major (3) Elective Course in Major (3) General Elective Course (3-4) General Elective Course (3-4)	RPLS 373 Recreation Management I - Facility Resources (3) RPLS 375 Recreation Technology (3) Elective Course in Major (3) General Elective Course (3-4) General Elective Course (3-4)	Elective Course in Major (3) Elective Course in Major (3) General Elective Course (3-4) General Elective Course (3-4) General Elective Course (3-4)
Fourth Year (Fall)	Fourth Year (Spring)	Fourth Year (Fall)	Fourth Year (Spring)
RPLS 473 Administration (3) RPLS 483 Recreation Management III: Human Resources(3) RPLS 493 History and Philosophy in RPLS (3) General Elective Course (3-4) General Elective Course (3-4)	RPLS 495 Practicum (9)	RPLS 473 Recreation Management II (3) RPLS 483 Recreation Management II (3) RPLS 493 History and Philosophy in RPLS (3) General Elective Course (3-4) General Elective Course (3-4)	RPLS 495 Practicum (9)

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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