Live your best life and help others do the same. Become a recreational therapist and make a difference in the lives of individuals living with illness and disabling conditions. Using activity-based therapeutic interventions, enjoy a rewarding career and empower people to live a healthy leisure lifestyle while you work with human service and recreation programs in the community.

Program Description

The BS program in parks and recreation management with a concentration in therapeutic recreation prepares students to apply for eligibility to take the national professional certification in through the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification: https://www.nctrc.org.

The degree program prepares competent, entry-level recreational therapists with the requisite knowledge, skills and abilities to improve functional outcomes and increase participation in life activities with individuals experiencing health conditions. It is designed for students who want to learn to conduct assessments, develop service plans, implement therapeutic interventions, evaluate and document outcomes of care. They gain skills to effectively provide comprehensive therapeutic recreation services that include program design and evaluation, individual and group service provision, and advocacy. The required fieldwork component of the program facilitates the development of competencies needed to provide quality recreational therapy services.

Students who choose this degree program are truly committed to improving people's lives and contributing to their communities. This degree program is one of two such programs in Arizona, both offered by the School of Community Resources and Development. This program prepares students to provide recreational therapy services in community settings such as youth programs, adaptive sports, or parks and recreation while the Bachelor of Science in recreational therapy has a heavier emphasis on healthcare settings such as hospitals and human service agencies.

This major is eligible for the Western Undergraduate Exchange program at the following location: Downtown Phoenix campus. Students from Western states who select this major and campus may be eligible for reduced nonresident tuition at a rate of 150% of Arizona resident tuition plus all applicable fees. Students
should click the link for more information and eligibility requirements of the WUE program.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** Watts College of Public Service & Community Solutions
- **Location:** Downtown Phoenix campus WUE
- **Additional Program Fee:** Yes
- **Second Language Requirement:** No
- **First Required Math Course:** MAT 142 - College Mathematics
- **Math Intensity:** General

Required Courses (Major Map)

2020 - 2021 Major Map
Major Map (Archives)

Accelerated Program Options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an accelerated bachelor's and master's degree with:
- Community Resources and Development (Parks and Recreation Management), MS
- Community Resources and Development (Sustainable Communities), MS
- Community Resources and Development, MS

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. During their junior year, eligible students will be advised by their academic departments to apply.

Admission Requirements

General University Admission Requirements:

All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

Freshman | Transfer | International | Readmission

Change of Major Requirements

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.
Students should refer to https://changingmajors.asu.edu/request for information about how to change a major to this program.

**Transfer Options**

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use the [Transfer Map search](https://changingmajors.asu.edu/request) to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and help students save time and money in their college journey. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/pathway-programs.

**Global Opportunities**

**Global Experience**

With over 250 programs in more than 65 countries, ranging from one week to one year, study abroad is possible for all ASU students wishing to gain global skills and knowledge in preparation for a 21st-century career. Students earn ASU credit for completed courses, while staying on track for graduation, and may apply financial aid and scholarships toward program costs. [https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/](https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/)

**Career Opportunities**

There is a wide range of job opportunities for therapeutic recreation professionals including in clinical settings, such as hospitals and nursing homes, adventure programming for youth-at-risk and people with disabilities, and community programs offered through parks and recreation departments.

Career examples include but are not limited to those shown in the following list. Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adapted Physical Education Teacher</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>$54,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Therapist</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>$47,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES)</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
<td>$53,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>$32,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Health Worker</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
<td>$38,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical and Health Services Manager</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td>$98,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Therapist</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>$47,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Coordinator</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>$24,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational Therapist</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>$47,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation Counselor</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>$34,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Services Director</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
<td>$64,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

[★] Bright Outlook  [🌿] Green Occupation

**Contact Information**

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