Become a recreational therapist and make a difference in the lives of individuals who live with illness and disabling conditions. Using activity-based therapeutic interventions, enjoy a rewarding career empowering people to live a healthy leisure lifestyle through your work with human service and recreation programs in the community.

**Program Description**

The BS program in recreational therapy prepares students to apply for eligibility to take the national professional certification through the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification: [https://nctrc.org/about-certification/ctrs-the-qualified-provider](https://nctrc.org/about-certification/ctrs-the-qualified-provider).

The program prepares competent, entry-level recreational therapists with the requisite knowledge, skills and abilities needed to improve functional outcomes and increase participation in life activities for individuals experiencing health conditions. It is designed for students who want to learn to conduct assessments, develop service plans, implement therapeutic interventions, and 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 to provide quality recreational therapy services.

Students who choose this degree program are 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 has a heavier emphasis on healthcare settings such as hospitals and human service agencies while the Bachelor of Science in parks and recreation with a concentration in therapeutic recreation prepares students to provide recreational therapy services in community settings such as youth programs, adaptive sports, or parks and recreation.

ASU offers programs that lead to certification or licensure that may allow graduates to be eligible for certification or licensure in other states. Students should check the professional licensure ([https://asuonline.asu.edu/about-us/licensure](https://asuonline.asu.edu/about-us/licensure)) list for Watts College to determine if this program meets requirements in their state.
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
- **Additional Program Fee:** Yes
- **Second Language Requirement:** No
- **First Required Math Course:** MAT 142 - College Mathematics
- **Math Intensity:** General

Required Courses (Major Map)

2021 - 2022 Major Map
Major Map (Archives)

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://changemajor.applications.asu.edu 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 MyPath2ASU™ 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 (programs vary in length, from one week to one year), study abroad is possible for all ASU students who wish to acquire a global perspective and knowledge in preparation for a 21st century career. Students earn ASU credit for completed courses, while staying on track for graduation, and they may apply financial aid and scholarships toward program costs.
https://goglobal.asu.edu/

Career Opportunities

Recreation therapy is a rapidly growing field, given the rising number of returning veterans and an aging population. Graduates are prepared for work in a wide variety of clinical settings, including hospitals, rehabilitation centers and extended care facilities. Graduates also are qualified to work in community settings such as 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>8.5%</td>
<td>$62,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Therapist</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>$57,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES)</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
<td>$56,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
<td>$36,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Health Worker</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>$42,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical and Health Services Manager</td>
<td>31.5%</td>
<td>$104,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational Therapist</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>$47,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation Counselor</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>$37,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Services Director</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>$69,600</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).
Contact Information

School of Community Resources and Development | UCENT 550
scrdadvising@asu.edu | 602-496-0550