

RECREATION MANAGEMENT AND POLICY (RMP)

As the fabric of life in contemporary society grows in complexity, people are increasingly turning to leisure and recreation services to find meaning, renewal, and enrichment. Recreation services can improve public health and wellness, promote sustainable environments, develop a sense of community, and enhance the quality of life of all citizens. Recreation professionals work in diverse settings, including human services, health care, natural recreation resource areas such as parks, wilderness programs, and commercial recreation businesses. Population and economic projections suggest that recreation service industries will continue to expand and thereby continue to provide numerous professional career opportunities.

The Department of Recreation Management and Policy maintains three national accreditations. Our core is nationally accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism, and Related Professions (COAPRT). Our OLM option is accredited by the Association for Experiential Education (AEE). Further, our therapeutic recreation option is accredited by the Committee on Accreditation of Recreational Therapy Education (CARTE). CARTE is an approved accreditation program under the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). The Department's curriculum supports a broad-based education and an opportunity to acquire specialized professional knowledge and skills. Graduates are employed in a broad range of settings, such as community recreation agencies, resorts, conference centers, youth services agencies, state or national parks, government agencies, universities, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and long-term care facilities.

Curriculum Structure

Students entering the major may choose an option in Outdoor Leadership and Management ("OLM"), Program and Event Management ("PEM"), or Therapeutic Recreation ("TR"). The options include the professional core and required courses. Candidates for a degree in Recreation Management and Policy must satisfy all of the University Discovery Program requirements in addition to satisfying the requirements of each individual major option.

Professional Internship

A supervised internship (RMP 764 Internship) is required of all majors and serves as their **major capstone requirement**. The internship is designed to create a bridge between theory and practical application. Students, working with their advisers and the internship coordinator, select an appropriate setting based on their professional and career interests. They must register for an 8 or 12 credit full-time internship that ranges from 10 to 16 weeks and is under the supervision of a qualified professional. Specific requirements are identified in the *Internship Manual* available from the Department of Recreation Management and Policy.

Declaring a Major

First-year students entering UNH who wish to apply to the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) program in Recreation Management and Policy with an option in Outdoor Leadership and Management, Program and Event Management, or Therapeutic Recreation should contact the [Office of Admissions](#). The admissions web site contains complete campus visit

information and an online visitor registration. It also contains admission criteria and important dates, as well as an online application form.

How to apply for students transferring from within UNH

Outdoor Leadership and Management: UNH's outdoor leadership and management program prepares students for dynamic careers in outdoor education, adventure programming, outdoor recreation management, parks and protected areas management, youth and after-school programming, and conservation. Our curriculum combines experiential learning in urban, rural and backcountry landscapes with a classic liberal arts education. You'll gain a solid foundation in the theories, philosophies and methods of outdoor recreation leadership and management while gaining skills in outdoor activities such as climbing, canoeing and backpacking. Admission decisions are made after the student completes the [online internal transfer application](#) process and has a meeting with the OLM option coordinator. If you have questions about the program and event management option, please contact [Nate Fitch](mailto:nate.fitch@unh.edu) (nate.fitch@unh.edu). OLM applications are accepted throughout the year and decisions are made on a rolling admission basis.

Program and Event Management: This option prepares students for supervisory or middle management positions and emphasizes planning, leadership, and administrative concepts in settings such as youth sport organizations, recreation resource management, business and entrepreneurial recreation, municipal recreation, campus recreation, residential communities, festivals and events planning, employee services recreation, recreational sports agencies, youth service agencies, and resorts. Admission decisions are made after the student completes the [online internal transfer application](#) process and has a meeting with the PEM option coordinator. If you have questions about the program and event management option, please contact [Sean McLaughlin](mailto:sean.mclaughlin@unh.edu) (sean.mclaughlin@unh.edu). PEM applications are accepted throughout the year and decisions are made on a rolling admission basis.

Therapeutic Recreation: The Therapeutic Recreation option prepares students for work primarily in clinical, allied health facilities such as hospitals, rehabilitation centers, mental health programs, and extended care facilities as well as inclusive community recreation programs. Admission decisions are based upon the content of the online application as well as a personal interview with the therapeutic recreation option coordinator. Students must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75 to be considered for admission into the major and it is highly recommended that students have completed or are enrolled in BMS 507 Human Anatomy and Physiology I or BMS 508 Human Anatomy and Physiology II at the time of application. If you have questions about the therapeutic recreation option, please contact [Matt Frye](mailto:matt.frye@unh.edu) (matt.frye@unh.edu).

To apply, we ask students to go through a short informational meeting with the TR Option Coordinator [Matt Frye](mailto:matt.frye@unh.edu) (matt.frye@unh.edu) prior to completing the [online internal transfer application](#). TR applications are accepted throughout the year and decisions are made on a rolling admission basis.

<https://chhs.unh.edu/rmp>

Programs

- [Recreation Management and Policy Major: Outdoor Leadership and Management Option \(B.S\)](#)

- [Recreation Management and Policy Major: Program and Event Management Option \(B.S.\)](#)
- [Recreation Management and Policy Major: Therapeutic Recreation Option \(B.S.\)](#)
- [Outdoor Adventure Recreation Minor](#)
- [Recreation Management Minor](#)

Courses

Recreation Management & Policy (RMP)

RMP 400 - Recreation Management and Policy Continuing Enrollment

Credits: 0

This course enables BS students to maintain continuous enrollment in RMP as part of their matriculation plan until after their degree is formally awarded. Students registering for RMP 400 will pay a continuous enrollment fee. No credit.

Repeat Rule: May be repeated up to 2 times.

Grade Mode: Not graded

Special Fee: Yes

RMP 411 - Applied Recreation Risk Management

Credits: 2

This course prepares students for leadership and management activities in recreational settings. Students will become familiar with professional standards in applied recreation contexts, examine risk management principles, and pursue certifications in areas such as: defensive driving, child protection, wilderness first aid, and CPR. At the end of the course students will be equipped to lead various campus-based and off campus recreational programs.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

RMP 444A - Taking the "Dis" out of Disability

Credits: 4

In contrast to the traditional view of disability as a defect, students learn how disability provides a unique vantage point on our world and can be perceived as an ordinary part of the twists and turns of life. Examines the history of social responses to disability, with an emphasis on the present day concepts of inclusion and self-determination. Students explore expressions of the disability experience through print and visual media.

Attributes: Social Science (Discovery); Inquiry (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

RMP 490 - Recreation & Tourism in Society

Credits: 4

This course provides an overview of the historical and philosophical framework for the comparison of concepts, theories, and the inter-relationships between factors (social, economic, political, psychological) that influence our recreation and tourism experiences. Students explore how recreation is reflected in arts, literature, history, philosophy, psychology, sociology, economics, and anthropology, and will be introduced to different delivery systems, as well as a variety of relevant professional associations and career opportunities.

Attributes: Social Science (Discovery)

Equivalent(s): RMP 490H

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

RMP 500 - Therapeutic Recreation Methods in Physical Rehabilitation Settings

Credits: 1

This course introduces students to a variety of assistive techniques, devices and equipment used in Therapeutic Recreation settings that allow individuals with illnesses and disabilities achieve maximum independence and functional capacity to maintain optimal health and leisure functioning. Students learn and apply skills in anatomical orientation and positioning, universal precautions, assistive technology and adapted equipment for recreation including manual, power, sports, and all-terrain wheelchairs, wheelchair mobility skills, proper body mechanics, transfer and lifting techniques, ambulation assists, and sighted guide techniques.

Co-requisite: RMP 503

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

RMP 501 - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice for Recreation Services

Credits: 4

Presents and discusses the concepts of diversity, equity, inclusion and justice of marginalized groups for recreation services (e.g., disability, gender, race, LGBTQ+, etc.). Students will learn and apply these concepts to recreation policies, planning, programming, implementation, and evaluation practices. Emphasis on service learning, classroom activities, lectures, discussions, and hands-on, experiential learning.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

RMP 502 - Foundations of Therapeutic Recreation

Credits: 4

History and professional concepts of therapeutic recreation and the roles and functions of the therapeutic recreation specialist.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

RMP 503 - Therapeutic Recreation Rehabilitation Principles & Interventions

Credits: 4

Introduces the rehabilitation principles and recreational therapy interventions used by therapeutic recreation specialists to improve functioning for people with physical and cognitive impairments. Students learn and apply fundamental processes of clinical reasoning and treatment program planning to improve quality of life. A lab provides students with the opportunity to use a variety of assistive techniques, adaptive devices, and equipment to support individuals and achieve maximum independence and promote a healthy leisure lifestyle.

Co-requisite: RMP 500

Equivalent(s): RMP 606

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

Special Fee: Yes

RMP 504 - Therapeutic Recreation Mental Health Principles and Interventions

Credits: 4

Introduces mental health principles and recreational therapy interventions to improve functioning for people with emotional, social, and behavioral impairments. Students will learn and apply fundamental processes of clinical reasoning and treatment program planning to improve quality of life for persons with emotional, social, and behavioral impairments. Restricted to RMP majors.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

RMP 505 - Therapeutic Recreation: Aging Services Principles & Interventions**Credits:** 4

This course is designated to introduce the student to the field of therapeutic recreation and its nexus with the older adult population. We will explore the role leisure and recreation, in concert with the recreational therapist, plays in the well-being of older adults. Topics of study will include: Health Promotion and Prevention; Geriatric Syndromes, Chronic Health Conditions; Roles of Recreational Therapist in Geriatrics; Common Illness, Health Settings; and Interventions.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**RMP 511 - Issues of Wilderness and Nature in American Society****Credits:** 4

Provides students with an overview of the evolving relationship between wilderness/nature and American society. Examines the philosophy, ethics, and societal values in American society and its relationship to our natural wilderness. Recent issues are used as case studies in order for students to articulate, defend, and critique the ethical issues presented. Students are responsible for understanding and applying philosophical approaches developed by philosophers, writers, and activists associated with the wilderness, sustainability, biodiversity, hunting, suburban sprawl, environmental activism, endangered species, organic foods, and genetic engineering.

Attributes: Humanities(Disc)**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**RMP 515 - History of Outdoor Pursuits in North America****Credits:** 4

Voluntary pursuits in the outdoors have defined American culture since the early 17th century. Over the past 400 years, activities in outdoor recreation an education have reflected Americans' spiritual aspirations, imperial ambitions, social concerns, and demographic changes. This course will give students the opportunity to learn how Americans' experiences in the outdoors have influenced and been influenced by major historical developments of the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th, and early 21st centuries.

Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)**Equivalent(s):** KIN 515, OUT 515**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**RMP 557 - Program and Event Design****Credits:** 4

This course introduces students to a range of approaches to recreation program and event design, and focuses on providing leisure experiences for all populations. Course topics include foundations of programming, program theories, needs assessment techniques, vision, mission, goals, and objectives, processes of group planning, public relations, program promotion, and program evaluation. Students will design and deliver a recreation program using a team approach.

Prerequisite(s): RMP 490 with a minimum grade of C.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**RMP 559 - Marketing the Recreation Experience****Credits:** 4

This course prepares students to apply marketing principles and strategies to recreation programs and events, including procedures for developing marketing plans for recreation and event organizations. Course content includes planning the marketing mix, with a focus on the recreation or event product, price, place, and promotion. The course covers the application of marketing and communication strategies delivered through social and audio-visual media. The culminating project consists of a marketing and communication plan for a recreation/leisure service agency.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course**Prerequisite(s):** RMP 490 with a minimum grade of C.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**RMP 560 - Recreational Sport Management****Credits:** 4

Explores and examines the theoretical foundations and basic skill methods, and techniques necessary for the effective and efficient delivery of recreational sport programs within a variety of collegiate, public, quasi-public, and private settings, agencies and/or organizations.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**RMP 561 - Campus Recreation Applied Leadership****Credits:** 2

This course will provide students with foundational understanding needed to lead and facilitate programs in campus recreation settings. Students will learn about the principles underlying campus recreation staffing, supervision, and program policies.

Grade Mode: Credit/Fail Grading**RMP 563 - Recreation Management and Policy Practicum****Credits:** 2

Designed to provide first and second year RMP majors the opportunity to observe and practice leadership skills in clinical and community-based settings. Students complete a 40-45 hour practicum at an approved site. Successful completion of a practicum is prerequisite to the professional internship, RMP 664. Students are responsible for transportation and housing.

Prerequisite(s): RMP 490 with a minimum grade of C.**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 4 credits.**Grade Mode:** Credit/Fail Grading**RMP 593 - Special Topics****Credits:** 2-4

A) Camping and Outdoor Education for Individuals with Disabilities, B) State Parks: Their Management and Role, C) Therapeutic Recreation in the School Setting, D) Social Psychology of Leisure, E) New Hampshire's Recreation/Ski Industry, F) Child Life Internship, J) Campus Recreation Applied Leadership, K-Z) Interdisciplinary. Specialized courses covering information not presented in regular course offerings. Description of topics available in department office during preregistration. May be repeated but not in duplicate areas. Special fee for RMP 593G.

Equivalent(s): RMP 593W**Grade Mode:** Credit/Fail Grading**Special Fee:** Yes

RMP 603 - New Hampshire Ski Industry Management**Credits:** 4

This course examines the New Hampshire ski and snowboard industry from several distinct but interrelated perspectives: social, technological, environmental, historical, economic, and operational. Students will explore skiing as a holistic and fulfilling segment of the outdoor recreation field, while gaining an understanding of its interdependence with the state's economy, the natural environment, and New Hampshire's unique cultural history. The influence of New Hampshire's ski industry on the history and growth of the American ski industry will be examined, and the impacts of climate change and other environmental issues will be investigated in light of ongoing societal shifts and relevant technological advancements.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**RMP 612 - Therapeutic Communication and Facilitation Techniques in Therapeutic Recreation****Credits:** 0 or 4

Addresses specific clinical knowledge and skills essential to therapeutic recreation service delivery including clinical interviewing, group process, leisure education, treatment approaches, and intervention techniques.

Co-requisite: RMP 613**Prerequisite(s):** RMP 502 with a minimum grade of C.**Equivalent(s):** RMP 604**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**RMP 613 - Interventions and Documentation in Therapeutic Recreation****Credits:** 0 or 3

This course emphasizes theory and concepts in clinical intervention within therapeutic recreation settings. Students learn to identify and select appropriate facilitation techniques for a variety of client needs. Students also learn to write and interpret practice-based documentation. Students are afforded the opportunity to practice and apply concepts learned.

Co-requisite: RMP 612**Prerequisite(s):** RMP 502 with a minimum grade of C.**Equivalent(s):** RMP 605**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**RMP 614 - Assessment and Treatment Planning in Therapeutic Recreation****Credits:** 4

Addresses the principles of activity analysis, client assessment, documentation, individualized program planning, selection of interventions, and collaboration with a treatment team.

Co-requisite: RMP 615**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course**Prerequisite(s):** RMP 502 with a minimum grade of C.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**RMP 615 - Clinical Lab in Therapeutic Recreation****Credits:** 2

A clinical lab that provides students with the opportunity to apply principles central to the effective delivery of therapeutic recreation individualized treatment planning, client assessment, documentation, and activity analysis with members of one of two community sites located in the Seacoast region. Students are required to participate in weekly sessions (five to six hours per week) for a total of 15 weeks.

Co-requisite: RMP 614**Prerequisite(s):** RMP 502 with a minimum grade of C.**Equivalent(s):** RMP 602**Grade Mode:** Credit/Fail Grading**RMP 641 - Group Facilitation and Leadership****Credits:** 4

Course provides students with an introduction to the facilitation and leadership skills necessary to manage a diverse range of client groups and modalities. Students will learn how to prepare and deliver a program or meeting to address client objectives. Specific topics include group process, framing and sequencing, meeting management/facilitation, operating procedures for group initiative challenges, and remote meeting facilitation. Course occurs at the UNH Browne Center.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**RMP 654 - Professional Development and Ethics****Credits:** 2

Focuses on preparing students for the internship experience through the identification of career goals and the selection of an approved internship site. A portfolio emphasizing process skills in resume construction, interviewing techniques, establishing internship goals and objectives, and self-assessment is developed. Securing Certification in Basic First Aid and CPR (infant, child, adult) is a component of this course.

Prerequisite(s): RMP 490 with a minimum grade of C.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**RMP 661 - Leadership in Recreation Services****Credits:** 4

Addresses key human resource management issues of a general, technical, and global nature including communication, motivation and leadership, job stress and safety, security, federal regulations, and discrimination. Covers technical areas such as recruiting and selecting, employment, training, performance appraisal, disciplining, and termination.

Prerequisite(s): RMP 490 with a minimum grade of C.**Equivalent(s):** HMG 635**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**RMP 663 - Management and Finance in the Experience Industry****Credits:** 4

This course provides advanced standing RMP students with entry-level knowledge of current management practice, specializing in planning, finance, budget, resource acquisition, technology, and evaluation.

The primary objective of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the tools and approaches used in the management and financing of recreation and event planning agencies and organizations.

Prerequisite(s): RMP 490 with a minimum grade of C.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**RMP 668 - Youth Culture and Programs****Credits:** 4

Emphasizes the identification of community and personal issues youth face in growing up as well as institutional and programmatic support available to assist youth. The course also examines the leadership, administrative, financial, and marketing tools necessary to develop successful youth programs and services. Service learning fieldwork and the completion of a background check are required.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

RMP 670 - Venue Management Design & Operations**Credits:** 4

Provides students with an orientation to the management, design, operation, and functions of various recreation venues. Topics include venue management, operational considerations, support features, and auxiliary functions that impact the manager's role. Students gain insight into key areas of venue management, design, and operations through visits to actual recreation venues.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**RMP 680 - Festival and Event Planning****Credits:** 4

Introduces the planning, marketing, management, and evaluation of festivals and special events. Explores the theories and practices relevant to successful event planning for host community residents and visitors.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**RMP 700H - Senior Honors Project****Credits:** 4-6

Under the direction of an RMP faculty member, students complete either a supervised research or applied field study project that builds on their honors coursework. Students submit a written proposal for approval and present the results at the completion of their project. Applied studies address a specific need or problem of a local agency or organization.

Attributes: Honors course**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**RMP #705 - Management and Policy in Therapeutic Recreation****Credits:** 4

Addresses National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification knowledge areas concerning management competency. Students acquire knowledge of current principles and procedures for assuming an administrative role in the therapeutic recreation profession. Issues and practices related to budgeting, reimbursement, quality improvement programs, and comprehensive program planning.

Prerequisite(s): RMP 612 with a minimum grade of D- and RMP 613 with a minimum grade of D-**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**RMP 711 - Recreation Resource Management****Credits:** 4

Examines the supply and demand of natural resources for outdoor recreation uses, with emphasis on relationships between public and private roles and responsibilities. Social, environmental, and economic impacts of outdoor recreation use are discussed. Current principles and techniques of recreation resource planning and management are outlined.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**RMP 720 - Adaptive Sport Facilitation for Recreation Therapy and Related Professions****Credits:** 4

This course takes a strengths-based approach to examining adaptive sports and recreation for recreational therapists and related professions, with a focus on best practices and risk management in community-based settings. This is an experiential learning course, whereby students will learn how to design, plan, and facilitate a variety of adaptive sports for people with disabilities. Students will learn and apply processes for assessing, selecting, and fitting adaptive sports and recreation equipment for individuals with disabilities.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**RMP 724 - Research, Evaluation, and Data-Driven Decisions****Credits:** 4

Emphasizes the understanding and practical application of evaluation concepts and tools within recreation, event, and allied health services. The course will cover the utility and feasibility of evaluation, evaluation planning and design (including quantitative and qualitative research design, methods, and analysis), evaluation management and data collection, analysis and reporting, and decision-making based on evaluation data.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course**Prerequisite(s):** RMP 490 with a minimum grade of C.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**RMP 740 - Therapeutic Recreation Service Delivery in Community Settings****Credits:** 4

This course provides specialized knowledge and skills related to the practice of Recreational Therapy in a community setting. The course will encourage students to expand their understanding of philosophical constructs, public policy, and professional programs. Specific facilitation techniques and treatment modalities will be introduced as well as information specific to the therapeutic process as it is observed in these settings.

Prerequisite(s): RMP 502 with a minimum grade of C.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**RMP 764 - Internship****Credits:** 8 or 12

Supervised professional work experience in an approved recreation, park, tourism, or healthcare agency. Students participate in a 10 week (400 hour) or 14 week (560 hour) internship experience after receiving approval from their Academic Advisor and the Internship Coordinator.

Prerequisite(s): RMP 654 with a minimum grade of C.**Grade Mode:** Credit/Fail Grading**RMP 768 - Theories and Philosophies of Youth Development****Credits:** 4

This course provides students with a foundation in the theories and philosophies associated with the field of youth development. Students will analyze the strengths and limitations of various theories, philosophies, and ideas as they are applied in practice and represented in research studies. Examples include: Ecological systems theory, positive youth development, sociocultural perspectives, risk/protective factors, and developmental assets. Assignments may include reviews of research, critical analyses, case studies, service learning experiences, or site visits.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**RMP 772 - Law and Public Policy in Leisure Services****Credits:** 4

Topics including the law of torts, contracts, property, civil rights, risk management, and legal research are addressed in the context of leisure services and recreation resources. Public policy and professional advocacy implications are examined in relation to legislative and judicial systems.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course**Prerequisite(s):** RMP 490 with a minimum grade of C.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

RMP 775 - Entrepreneurial and Commercial Recreation

Credits: 4

Principles of business planning and development as applied to the private sector leisure services industry. Emphasizes knowledge of key commercial leisure services profiles and their intersection with allied professions such as hospitality and tourism. Course topics include entrepreneurship, business planning, needs assessment, product development, selling, financing, legal designations, and business operations leading to the development of a business plan for a new entrepreneurial recreation enterprise.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

RMP 776 - Human Dimensions of Natural Environments

Credits: 4

This course draws on research and theories that illuminate the profound connections between nature and human health and wellbeing. Students will explore contemporary philosophical, psychological, and cultural perspectives to understand how both organized and unstructured experiences in the outdoors support human flourishing. Students review research and gain hands-on practice with ideas in the context of outdoor recreation, resource management, education, and other human service fields.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

RMP 780 - Event and Experience Design

Credits: 4

This course will explore social and technical aspects of event coordinating, with a focus on the production associated with management, strategic planning and evaluation of event. Throughout the course, students will gain hands-on experience working with volunteers and clients. Students will have the opportunity to plan and execute an event. Students will hone their skills in planning, executing, marketing, risk management and budgeting, while discovering how best practices are applicable to effective event coordinating.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

RMP 796 - Independent Study

Credits: 1-4

Individual study and/or research relating to leisure-oriented topics.

Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.

Equivalent(s): LMT 796, RMP #796W

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

RMP #796W - Independent Study

Credits: 1-4

Individual study and/or research relating to leisure-oriented topics.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

Equivalent(s): RMP 796

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

Faculty

[Recreation Management & Policy Department Faculty](#)