

Oklahoma State University
School of Applied Health and Educational Psychology
M.S. in Leisure Studies

All students who are accepted into the Master of Science degree program in Leisure Studies will be expected to meet all university requirements and to have had a degree in leisure studies or related field. Applicants from “outside” leisure studies may be required to complete leveling courses equivalent to the knowledge and competencies expected in an NRPA accredited undergraduate program.

Based on professional and academic background, students who need leveling courses may be required to take coursework from the following list, or as identified by the admissions committee:

LEIS 2413	Introduction to Leisure Services
LEIS 2433	Introduction to Therapeutic Recreation
LEIS 3463	Program Design in Leisure Services or the programming sequence in Therapeutic Recreation
LEIS 4433	Evaluation in Leisure Services
LEIS 4493	Administration of Leisure Services
Internship*	A professional field experience of 14 weeks, full time

* May be taken for graduate credit

Requirements for Full Admission

1. A minimum undergraduate grade point average of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale for unqualified admission.
2. We accept the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) with a minimum score of 396 or the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) with sub-scale minimum scores of 500 on the verbal scale, 450 on the quantitative scale, and 3.5 on the composition section. This examination and its scoring is changing (2007) and future score requirements will reflect those changes.
3. Three professional recommendations. These letters of recommendation should include one from an employer and two from undergraduate faculty members familiar with the applicant’s academic preparation. These letters should include statements relating to a) the applicant’s previous success in professional settings or commitment to the profession, b) the applicant’s prior academic record as a reflection of ability to succeed in a Master of Science program, c) the applicant’s ability to work independently and communicate effectively, and d) the applicant’s potential for success in research, writing, and course work at the Master of Science level. If such recommendations are not available, the applicant should submit letters from one or more faculty members familiar with the applicant’s academic career. All recommendations should be from individuals capable of addressing the applicant’s ability to complete successfully a Master of Science program.
4. Please submit a letter of interest in the graduate program along with a copy of your resume highlighting your experiences related to parks, recreation, leisure services, or a related field.

If the admissions committee determines that additional information is needed or if a candidate is deficient in one of the numerical requirements above, the committee may request the following of the candidate before a final decision is rendered regarding admission status:

1. A faculty-supervised, on-campus or proctored writing exercise will be administered. The candidate will be provided with a scholarly article two weeks prior to the writing exercise. The candidate will be given two hours to develop a written response to a question related to the article.
2. The candidate may be asked to participate in an on-campus interview with members of the admissions committee.

Degree Details

Total number of hours required for degree	36 graduate credit hours
Number of hours of research and inquiry	6
Number of hours of core courses	12
Number of cognate hours	12
Number of thesis hours	(6)
Number of electives (if creative component is the culminating experience)	(6)

NOTE: Students in the creative component option take comprehensive exams in their last semester of coursework. Students in the thesis option are not required to take comprehensive exams.

The Master of Science in Leisure Studies is built on a minimum of six (6) hours in research and inquiry prior to the thesis or creative component enrollment. The six-hour requirement in research design and statistics is designed to build upon competencies gained at the undergraduate level and prepare the student to be a “consumer” of research in the discipline. In addition, all students in the program share a common core designed to achieve the goals established for the degree program.

Research and Inquiry (6 credit hours)

REMS 5953 Elementary Statistical Methods in Education <or>
STAT 5013 Statistics for Experimenters I <and>
REMS 5013 Research Design and Methodology

Core (12 credit hours)

LEIS 5023 Legal Aspects of Health, Physical Education, and Leisure (Spring)
LEIS 5413 Organization and Administration of Leisure Services (Spring)
LEIS 5433 Current Issues in Leisure Services (Spring)
LEIS 5443 Social Foundations of Leisure (Fall)

Cognate (12 credit hours)

Students select 12 credit hours from among the following courses to form a cognate appropriate to the student’s goals. Such course selection must be approved by the advisory committee and be included on the plan of study.

LEIS 4463* Areas and Facilities in Leisure Services (Fall)
LEIS 4473* Recreation in the Natural Environment (Spring)
LEIS 4493* Advanced Methods in Therapeutic Recreation (Spring)
LEIS 4553* Tourism in Recreation Settings
LEIS 4563* Entrepreneurial Leisure Services (Spring)
LEIS 4943* Grant Writing and Nonprofit Management
LEIS 4913* Managing Nonprofit Agencies (Spring)
LEIS 5030 Field Problems in Leisure Services
LEIS 5403 Interpretive Services in Leisure Services (Fall, even years)
LEIS 5423 Supervision and Leadership in Leisure Services
LEIS 5463 Issues in Therapeutic Recreation
LEIS 5483 Therapeutic Recreation for Persons with Physical Disabilities
LEIS 5493 Therapeutic Recreation for Persons in Mental Health and Mental Retardation
And other courses as approved by the student’s graduate committee.

Culmination (6 credit hours)

LEIS 5000 Thesis
<OR>
Creative Component Typically, a student takes 2 credit hours of LEIS 5030 Field Problems, and 4 credits of additional coursework

Persons wishing to become candidates for the MS degree in Leisure Studies should first complete an online Graduate College application, remit the application fee, and send one official transcript of all post-baccalaureate coursework completed to:

Dean of Graduate College
202 Whitehurst Hall
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, OK 74078
405-744-6683

Apply online at: <http://gradcollege.okstate.edu>

All other materials (e.g., test scores, letter of interest, resume, letters of recommendation, and any other supporting materials) should be sent to:

Graduate Records—COE
325 Willard Hall
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, OK 74078
405-744-9483

To aid in processing your admission materials, please send copies of all submitted materials (except the Graduate College application form) to the individual identified below. In addition, if you are interested in visiting with a faculty member in the Leisure Studies program about programmatic details or in scheduling an on-campus visit, please feel free to contact:

Dr. Deb Jordan
Leisure Studies Graduate Coordinator
180 Colvin Center
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, OK 74078
405-744-5499
deb.jordan@okstate.edu

Information about the Oklahoma State University Leisure Studies program may be found at:

<http://www.okstate.edu/education/sahep/leisure/index2.htm>

MS in Environmental Science

In addition to an MS in Leisure Studies, students may be interested in an interdisciplinary degree (MS and PhD) in Environmental Science. The Leisure Studies faculty are affiliated with this degree program and serve as student advisors. The Environmental Science program prepares students to enter into such fields as environmental management, environmental education, water quality, environmental policy, environmental conflict, and environmental sustainability.

Additional information about this program may be found on line at:

<http://gradcollege.okstate.edu/programs/envirosoci.htm>