



## Graduate Certificate in Therapeutic Recreation

## College of Nursing and Allied Health

**Interim Dean: Dr. Jacqueline J. Hill**

### Graduate Certificate in Therapeutic Recreation

**Chair: Dr. Kathryn Cage Jones, Ph.D., CTRS**

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### GRADUATE FACULTY

#### **Professors:**

#### **Jones, Kathryn Cage, Ph.D., CTRS**

BS, MS, Southern University  
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#### **Patricia Melson, Ph.D.**

BS, Southern University  
M.S. Ph.D., University of Oregon, Ph.D.,

### DEGREE OFFERED

#### Graduate Certificate in Therapeutic Recreation

##### **Introduction**

Therapeutic Recreation, also known as recreation therapy, is a unique profession that uses recreation and activity-based interventions to help improve people's physical, emotional, cognitive, social, spiritual and leisure functioning to enjoy life more fully.

The Graduate Certificate in Therapeutic Recreation program at SUBR is for those who already have a four-year degree from an accredited institution and who would like to pursue certification as a recreation therapist or continuing education credits for certified professionals.

Therapeutic Recreation is an allied health profession which utilizes recreation & play experiences to facilitate health promotion and rehabilitation for children, adults, and the elderly. Employment opportunities exist within community, correctional, hospital, and residential settings throughout the United States. Upon completion of the curriculum, students will be able to apply to take a national certification examination.

#### **The program emphasizes the following:**

Development of professional competency as defined by the American Therapeutic Recreation Association, The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Program (CAAHEP), The Committee on Accreditation of Recreation Therapy Education (CARTE) and The National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification

Development of professional clinical skills

Development of oral, written, and electronic communication skills

What can you do with a Certificate in Therapeutic Recreation?

This program is designed to help support the pathway toward certification in Recreation Therapy and will provide you with theoretical and practical backgrounds in recreation and activity-based interventions.

### APPLICATION PROCESS

Students need to hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree to enter the Certificate Program. Additionally, individuals who are certified with the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification (NCTRC) may wish to complete 1 or more courses to comply with continuing education requirements. The first step to obtaining a Certificate in Therapeutic Recreation is:

Submit an application to the Graduate School and declare therapeutic recreation as a major. Submit the application by April 15<sup>th</sup> for fall admission as well as submit the following information:

- Transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate courses completed (regular admission requires a minimum GPA of 2.7)
- A brief essay discussing your reasons for wanting a graduate Certificate in therapeutic recreation
- Three letters of reference

To meet the criteria for taking the national examination students need to have taken the following required courses.

Human Anatomy and Physiology 3 credits, Developmental Psychology 3 credits and Abnormal Psychology 3 credits

Upon completion of the requirements, students will apply to the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation certification (NCTRC) to sit for the national certification examination. Please note under the equivalency path to certification, full-time paid work experience is required instead of an academic internship experience

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

#### PLAN OF STUDY

#### GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN THERAPEUTIC RECREATION

\*\*\*Three undergraduate courses are required to qualify to sit for the therapeutic recreation certification exam

Human Anatomy and Physiology 3 credits, Developmental Psychology 3 credits and Abnormal Psychology 3 credits

#### **Required Courses:**

##### **Course Work:**

*Six courses are required to successfully complete the Certificate in Therapeutic Recreation. A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 must be maintained on all the required coursework.*

#### **Courses**

TRLS 501	Advanced Program Planning in Therapeutic Recreation .....	3 credit hrs
TRLS 502	Therapeutic Recreation and Disability Seminar .....	3 credit hrs

TRLS 504	Principles and Practices of Therapeutic Recreation .....	3 credit hrs
TRLS 511	Therapeutic Recreation and Community Facilities.....	3 credit hrs
TRLS 515	Therapeutic Recreation Seminar .....	3 credit hrs
TRLS 526	Therapeutic Recreation for Older Adults .....	3 credit hrs

\* Completion of this certificate program allows the individual to meet one portion of the academic coursework required for the credential as a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist with National Council for Therapeutic C. Additional requirements are needed to fully qualify for the credential.

#### TOTAL HOURS 18

#### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**TRLS 501 Advanced Program Planning in Therapeutic Recreation (3 credit hours).** Emphasizes efficacy-based programming and treatment modalities

**TRLS 502. Therapeutic Recreation and Disability Seminar (3 credit hours).** Provides an in-depth understanding of the implications of chronic illness and developmental disabilities for the practice of therapeutic recreation.

**TRLS 504. PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF THERAPEUTIC RECREATION (3 credit hours).** Historical, philosophical and practical applications of basic concepts for professionals in leisure and recreational studies

**TRLS 511 Therapeutic Recreation and Community Facilities (3 credit hours).** Analyzes the scope of recreation areas and facilities and the impact of the environment, society and clientele on the planning and operation of those facilities and programs

**TRLS 515 Therapeutic Recreation Seminar (3 credit hours).** Readings and the history and philosophy of therapeutic recreation services. Emphasis on the background of current issues and trends in professional practice.

**TRLS 526 Therapeutic Recreation for Older Adults (3 credit hours).** Emphasis on understanding the impact of aging on the design and implementation of programming for older adults