

Bachelor of Science (B.S.)  
**Recreational Therapy (RTX)**  
**B.S. and M.S. Combined Degree Program**

2026 – 2027  
Catalog Year

1st Year					
Fall		Winter		Summer	
AHS 110 Introduction to Health Care	3	<sup>2&amp;3</sup> BIO 120 General Biology I <small>GE Life Science</small>	4	As Needed	
General Education Course <small>GE Physical Science (no lab required)</small>	3	PSY 101 Introductory Psychology <small>GE Soc &amp; Behav. Science</small>	3		
<sup>1</sup> MTH 110 Algebra <small>Prerequisite for STA 215</small>	4	<sup>4</sup> General Education <small>Foundation- Writing</small>	4		
General Education Course <small>GE Art</small>	3	General Education Course <small>Philosophy &amp; Literature</small>	3		
Elective	1	Elective	1		
<b>Total 14</b>		<b>Total 15</b>			
2nd Year					
<i>Submit B.S. RTX program application by February 15<sup>th</sup></i>					
Fall		Winter		Summer	
AHS 100 Medical Terminology	3	<sup>5</sup> BMS 251 Anatomy & Physiology II	4	As Needed	
<sup>5</sup> BMS 250 Anatomy & Physiology I	4	PSY 303 Psychopathology	3		
PSY 364 Life Span Developmental Psychology	3	STA 215 Introductory Applied Statistics <small>GE Math</small>	3		
General Education Course <small>Historical Analysis</small>	3	General Education Course <small>U.S. Diversity</small>	3		
General Education Course <small>Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences</small>	3	General Education Course <small>Global Perspectives</small>	3		
<b>Total 16</b>		<b>Total 16</b>			
3rd Year					
<i>Submit M.S. RTX combined degree application</i>					
Fall		Winter		Summer	
RTX 300 Foundations for Rec. Therapy <small>SWS</small>	3	RTX 306 Comprehensive Rec. Therapy Prog.	3	RTX 390 Fieldwork	3
RTX 302 Leisure, Health, and Wellness <small>Issues</small>	3	RTX 308 Leadership for Recreational Therapy	3	(300 hours)	
RTX 304 Diagnostic Groups in Rec. Therapy	3	RTX 320 Recreational Therapy Interventions	1		
RTX 389 Recreational Therapy Placement Prep.	1	<sup>6</sup> RTX Intervention Intensive <small>(RTX 321, 322, 323, or 324)</small>	1		
PSY 225 Educational Psy. <b>or</b> PSY 365 Cognition	3	<sup>6</sup> RTX Intervention Intensive <small>(RTX 321, 322, 323, or 324)</small>	1		
Elective <small>(as needed to reach 120 cr...MOV 102-First Aid, CPR &amp; AED)</small>	2	<sup>7</sup> RTX Specialty Area <small>(RTX 313, 316 or 317)</small>	3		
		<sup>7</sup> RTX Specialty Area <small>(RTX 313, 316 or 317)</small> <b>or</b> Elective	3		
<b>Total 15</b>		<b>Total 15</b>		<b>Total 3</b>	
4th Year					
<i>Combined RTX B.S. &amp; MS. Coursework</i>					
Fall		Winter		Summer	
MOV 300 Kinesiology	3	MOV 304 Introduction to Exercise Physiology	3	RTX 490 Internship	6
RTX 315 Rec. Therapy for Mental Health <small>(Fall Only)</small>	3	<b>RTX 505 Management for Rec. Therapy</b>	3	(600 Hours)	
RTX 407 Assess. & Documentation in Rec. Therapy	3	<b>RTX 510 Research &amp; Eval in Rec. Therapy</b>	3		
<b>RTX 504 Trends &amp; Issues in Rec. Therapy</b>	3	<sup>7</sup> RTX Specialty Area <small>(RTX 313, 316 or 317)</small>	3		
General Education Course <small>Issues w/ SWS</small>	3	Elective <small>(as needed to reach 120 credits)</small>	3		
<b>Total 15</b>		<b>Total 15</b>		<b>Total 6</b>	
5 <sup>th</sup> Year					
<i>RTX Graduate Coursework</i>					
Fall		Winter		Summer	
RTX 607 Adv. Pract. In Rec. Therapy Assess/Eval	3	RTX 606 Prog. Development/Consulting in RTX	3	RTX 693 Int. Evid-Bsd. Rsch in RTX 3	3
RTX 670 Research Methods in RTX	3	RTX 675 Integrated Evid-Bsd Research in RTX 2	3	<sup>8</sup> RTX Elective <small>(RTX 613, RTX 615, RTX 616, RTX 618, PNH 668)</small>	3
RTX 673 Integrated Evid-Based Research in RTX	3	<sup>8</sup> RTX Elective <small>(PNH 668)</small>	3		
<b>Total 9</b>		<b>Total 9</b>		<b>Total 6</b>	

The 9 Credits from graduate courses RTX 504, RTX 505 and RTX 510 will count towards undergraduate degree credit requirements.

## Recreational Therapy (RTX) Required Electives

### RTX Intervention Intensives – 2 Required (3<sup>rd</sup> Year)

- RTX 321: Therapeutic Use of Sport in Recreational Therapy (1 cr.)
- RTX 322: Therapeutic Use of Art in Recreational Therapy (1 cr.)
- RTX 323: Adventure-Based Interventions in Recreational Therapy (1 cr.)
- RTX 324: Aquatic-Based Interventions in Recreational Therapy (1 cr.)

### RTX Specialty Areas – 2 Required (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year)

- RTX 313: Recreational Therapy for Physical Disability (3 cr.)
- RTX 315: Recreational Therapy for Mental Health – Fall only (3 cr.)
- RTX 316: Recreational Therapy for Older Adults (3 cr.)
- RTX 317: Recreational Therapy for Pediatrics (3 cr.)

### RTX Graduate Level Electives – 2 Required (5<sup>th</sup> Year)

- PNH 668 Grant Writing (3 cr.)
- RTX 613 Adv. Recreational Therapy Practice in Physical Rehab (3 cr.)
- RTX 615 Adv. Recreational Therapy Practice in Behavioral Health (3 cr.)
- RTX 616 Adv. Recreational Therapy Practice with Older Adults (3 cr.)

## Recreational Therapy Combined Degree Curriculum Notes

### Curriculum Notes

- <sup>1</sup> MTH 108 and MTH 109 or passing [Math 110 Placement test](#) may be taken in place of MTH 110.
- <sup>2</sup> BIO 120 is not required and is listed only as a prerequisite to BMS 250.
- <sup>3</sup> BIO 180 (fall) & BIO 280 (winter) may be taken instead of BIO 120
- <sup>4</sup> Student may take WRT 120 & WRT 130 or WRT 150 to meet their Foundation- Writing requirement. A Grade of "C" or better is required in WRT 130 or WRT 150.
- <sup>5</sup> BMS 208, 290 & 391 may be taken in place of BMS 250 & 251 (BMS 309 is not required)
- <sup>6</sup> Two Recreational Therapy Intensives are required in 3<sup>rd</sup> year winter.
- <sup>7</sup> Minimum of two Recreational Therapy Specialty Area electives are required.
- <sup>8</sup> Two Graduate level Recreational Therapy electives are required.

### Special Notes:

- This is a suggested curriculum guide and might not be applicable to every student.
- Two (2) Supplemental Writing Skills (SWS) courses are required.
- Student must have a **minimum of 120 credits** to graduate with **58 of the 120 credits** being from a senior level institution and the **final 30 of the 120 credits** completed at GVSU. Open elective credits may be needed.

## Recreational Therapy Combined Degree Application Information

**1. Recreational Therapy B.S. Program Application:** This application is due **February 15<sup>th</sup>** prior to fall start of the undergraduate Recreational Therapy coursework in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

### Phase I

The following application prerequisites should be met or in progress at the time of application.

- Overall GPA of 2.7 or above
- PSY 101 Introductory Psychology

### Phase II

The application consists of the following components, all of which must be completed and submitted by **February 15<sup>th</sup>**, prior to the intended fall entry.

Applications and supplemental forms are available online at [www.gvsu.edu/rectx](http://www.gvsu.edu/rectx)

- ✓ GVSU Undergraduate Application (only required for students who are not currently a GVSU student)
- ✓ Recreational Therapy B.S. Program Application (submitted online)
- ✓ Essay on why you have selected Recreational Therapy as a career and what you have done to prepare. Be sure to include your leadership experience and work with individuals who have disabilities.
- ✓ Statement of Professional Goals (Identifying future goals in Recreational Therapy)
- ✓ Fifty (50) hours of volunteer or paid work in a therapeutic setting. Twenty (20) hours must be under the supervision of a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS)
  - Document using "Verification of Paid/Volunteer Work History" form (on website)
- ✓ Two (2) Recommendations on program specific forms preferred from Recreational Therapist specialists/professionals, related health care, or faculty member, employer or supervisor.
- ✓ Official and updated transcripts from all non-GVSU colleges/universities sent directly to GVSU Admissions

### Phase III

Upon completion of Phases I and II, applicants will be notified of provisional admission into the program and will be asked to set up an advising appointment with a member of the Recreational Therapy faculty. Upon successful completion of RTX 300, RTX 302, RTX 304 & RTX 389 and an 80% competency/B- in each course, they will be granted full admission into the Recreational Therapy program.

**2. Recreational Therapy M.S. Combined Degree Application:** This application is due during the first year of the undergraduate Recreational Therapy coursework. See curriculum guide on reverse side.

### Application requirements include:

- Demonstrate the potential to succeed in the combined program based on a cumulative GPA of 3.2 or higher.
- Earn a grade of C or higher (or CR or X) in each undergraduate non-recreational therapy course attempted.
- Earn a B- or higher in recreational therapy courses.
- Provide a letter of intent to pursue the combined degree.
- Have the recommendation of GVSU Recreational Therapy faculty members based on course performance.

The Recreational Therapy undergraduate major resides in the College of Health Professions (CHP)  
**For more information or to meet with a CHP Student Services academic advisor please call (616) 331-5900**  
Visit our website at [www.gvsu.edu/chpps](http://www.gvsu.edu/chpps) and the RTX website at [www.gvsu.edu/rectx](http://www.gvsu.edu/rectx)