

Professional Accreditation: The Department of Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services



Central Michigan University's programs of *Recreation and Event Management*, *Outdoor and Environmental Recreation* and *Therapeutic Recreation* are all accredited by the [Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism, and Related Professions](#) (COAPRT). COAPRT accredits baccalaureate programs in parks, recreation, tourism, sport management, event management, therapeutic recreation and leisure studies offered at regionally accredited institutions within the United States and its territories and at nationally accredited institutions in Canada and Mexico. The CMU program was the first program in Michigan to attain this recognition and has been continuously accredited since 1982.



COAPRT is accredited by the [Council on Higher Education Accreditation](#) (CHEA). CHEA requires their accredited organizations to inform the public about "degree and accreditation mills". Information regarding these entities is available in video format [here](#). As stated by CHEA:

"Degree mills and accreditation mills mislead and harm. In the United States, degrees and certificates from mills may not be acknowledged by other institutions when students seek to transfer or go to graduate school. Employers may not acknowledge degrees and certificates from degree mills when providing tuition assistance for continuing education. "Accreditation" from an accreditation mill can mislead students and the public about the quality of an institution or program. In the presence of degree mills and accreditation mills, students may spend a good deal of money and receive neither an education nor a useable credential." Please visit [CHEA's website](#) for more information.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Annually the RPL Department Programs collect data measuring its progress toward achieving the standards in our national accreditation. This data comes from the following sources: national certification exams, student exit examinations, internship evaluations, and student assignments. The following represents the annual progress for each accreditation standard.

1. Understanding of the foundational aspects of the related recreation profession.

- Outdoor and Environmental Recreation: at or above listed standards
- Recreation and Event Management: at or above listed standards
- Therapeutic Recreation: at or above listed standards

2. Ability to plan, implement and evaluate related recreation programs and services.

- Outdoor and Environmental Recreation: at or above listed standards
- Recreation and Event Management: at or above listed standards
- Therapeutic Recreation: at or above listed standards

3. Understanding of the operations, management and administrative practices in related recreation agencies.

- Outdoor and Environmental Recreation: at or above listed standards
- Recreation and Event Management: at or above listed standards
- Therapeutic Recreation: at or above listed standards

OUTDOOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL RECREATION – STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME DATA

<i>Outcome Assessment Measures</i>	<i>Results</i>
<p><i>Exit Exam</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will score an average of 70% or higher on each section of the Exit Exam (Foundations; Programming; Administration/Management) 	<p>Foundations = 81% (MET)</p> <p>Programming = 86% (MET)</p> <p>Admin/Management = 74% (MET)</p> <p>n= 14</p>
<p><i>Environmental Perceptions Post-Test</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will attain an average score of 3.0 or higher 	<p>Average = 4.3 (MET)</p> <p>n=28</p>
<p><i>Internship Evaluation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will attain an average score of 3.0 or higher on each section of the Internship Evaluation (Foundations; Programming; Administration/Management) 	<p>Foundations = 4.5 (MET)</p> <p>Programming = 4.7 (MET)</p> <p>Admin/Management = 4.7 (MET)</p> <p>n= 21</p>
<p><i>Internship Evaluation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will attain an average score of 7.0 or higher on the Overall Performance measure on the Internship Evaluation Students will attain an average score of Top 50% or higher on the Overall Ranking measure on the Internship Evaluation 	<p>Average = 9.5 (MET)</p> <p>Average = 100% (Top 10%) (MET)</p> <p>n=21</p>
<p><i>Certification and Professional Development Log</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 85% of students will complete 3 or more outdoor professional development workshops, certifications, or conference activities (2) 85% of students will complete 180 hours or more of volunteer/work experiences 	<p>100% (MET) (Ave. 5.5/student)</p> <p>95% (MET) (AVE = 834 hours) n=14</p>

RECREATION AND EVENT MANAGEMENT – STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME DATA

Standard 7.01

Students graduating from the program shall demonstrate the following entry-level knowledge: a) the nature and scope of the relevant park, recreation, tourism or related professions and their associated industries; b) techniques and processes used by professionals and workers in those industries; and, the foundations of the profession in history, science, and philosophy.

Method by which LO for Standard 7.01 was assessed:

(Direct Measure) **The Final Internship Evaluation:** The REM concentration has developed the Final Internship Evaluation to reflect the content domain areas associated with the industry including foundations, program development and delivery, finance, operations, facilities, and strategic planning. Students must demonstrate a sound understanding of the background, nature, history, scope and philosophy of a recreation and event management organization.

(Direct Measure) **The Internship Final Paper** is also an assessment tool for student mastery of this standard. The REM concentration has developed the Internship Final Paper guidelines to reflect the content domain areas associated with the industry including foundations, program development and delivery, finance, operations, facilities, and strategic planning. Student will discuss and provide documentation regarding their foundational understanding of the background, nature, history, scope and philosophy of the recreation and event management organization at which they completed their internship experience

Result of the assessment of LO for Standard 7.01

2021 Met 100% 4.7/5.0

75% of students will attain an average of 3.0 (demonstrates understanding of learning outcomes and application of concepts/skills) or higher on the *Foundations* section of the ***Internship Final Paper***

2021 Met 100% 4.7/5.0

75% of students will attain an average of 3.0 or (consistently achieves what is expected) higher on the *Foundations* section of the ***Final Internship Evaluation***

Standard 7.02

Students graduating from the program shall demonstrate the ability to design, implement, and evaluate services that facilitate targeted human experiences and that embrace personal and cultural dimensions of diversity.

Method by which the LO for Standard 7.02 was assessed:

(Direct Measure) **The Final Internship Evaluation:** The REM concentration has developed the Final Internship Evaluation to reflect the content domain areas associated with the industry including foundations, program development and delivery, finance, operations, facilities, and strategic planning.

1. As part of their internship, students are required to complete a capstone project in which they develop, implement, and evaluate a program/service/event for which they are totally responsible which is reflected in the Final Internship Evaluation.
2. A portion of the 'program development and delivery' assessment focuses on working with special/diverse population groups.
3. A portion of the 'program development and delivery' assessment focuses on program/event evaluation.

(Direct Measure) The **Internship Final Paper** is also an assessment tool for student mastery of this standard. The REM concentration has developed the Internship Final Paper guidelines to reflect the content domain areas associated with the industry including foundations, program development and delivery, finance, operations, facilities, and strategic planning. Student will discuss and provide documentation regarding their ability to plan, deliver, and evaluate leisure programs and services for a recreation and event management organization at which they completed their internship experience.

1. As part of their internship, students are also required to complete a capstone project in which they develop, implement, and evaluate a program/service/event for which they are totally responsible which is reflected in their Internship Final Paper.
2. A portion of student documentation and reflection in 'program development and delivery' assessment focuses on working with special/diverse populations.
3. A portion of student documentation and reflection in 'program development and delivery' assessment focuses program/event evaluation.

Result of the assessment of LO for Standard 7.02

2021 Met 97% 4.3/5.0

75% of students will attain an average of 3.0 (demonstrates understanding of learning outcomes and application of concepts/skills) or higher on the *Program Development & Delivery* section of the **Internship Final Paper**

2021 Met 100% 4.6/5.0

75% of students will attain an average of 3.0 or (consistently achieves what is expected) higher on the *Program Development & Delivery* section of the **Final Internship Evaluation**

Standard 7.03

Students graduating from the program shall be able to demonstrate entry-level knowledge about operations and strategic management/administration in parks, recreation, tourism and/or related professions.

Method by which the LO for Standard 7.03 was assessed:

The Final Internship Evaluation: The REM concentration has developed the Final Internship Evaluation to reflect the content domain areas associated with the industry including foundations, program development and delivery, finance, operations, facilities, and strategic planning.

The Internship Final Paper is also an assessment tool for student mastery of this standard. The REM concentration has developed the Internship Final Paper guidelines to reflect the content domain areas associated with the industry including foundations, program development and delivery, finance, operations, facilities, and strategic planning.

The Final Internship Evaluation and Internship Final Paper reflect the content domains including:

- Finances: Demonstrates the ability to use a variety of resources, processes and procedures in the financial operations of a recreation and event management organization.
- Operations: Demonstrates the ability to use appropriate administrative, management and leadership techniques and strategies within a recreation and event management organization.
- Facilities: Demonstrate the ability to effectively manage facilities within a recreation and event management organization including scheduling, maintenance, and risk management.

- Strategic Planning: Demonstrates a sound understanding of processes and critical-thinking used to optimize long-term outcomes and success of recreation and event management organizations.

Result of the assessment of LO for Standard 7.03

ADMINISTRATION: OPERATIONS

Data below reflects REM outcome assessment measures presented in 7.03.02

2021 Met 97% 4.4/5.0

75% of students will attain an average of 3.0 (demonstrates understanding of learning outcomes and application of concepts/skills) or higher on the *Administration-Operations* section of the **Internship Final Paper**

2021 Met 100% 4.70/5.0

75% of students will attain an average of 3.0 or (consistently achieves what is expected) higher on the *Administration-Operations* section of the **Final Internship Evaluation**

ADMINISTRATION: FINANCE

Data below reflects REM outcome assessment measures presented in 7.03.02

2021 Met 97% 4.4/5.0

75% of students will attain an average of 3.0 (demonstrates understanding of learning outcomes and application of concepts/skills) or higher on the *Administration-Finance* section of the **Internship Final Paper**

2021 Met 97% 4.2/5.0

75% of students will attain an average of 3.0 or (consistently achieves what is expected) higher on the *Administration-Finance* section of the **Final Internship Evaluation**

ADMINISTRATION: FACILITIES

Data below reflects REM outcome assessment measures presented in 7.03.02

2021 Met 97% 4.5/5.0

75% of students will attain an average of 3.0 (demonstrates understanding of learning outcomes and application of concepts/skills) or higher on the *Administration-Facilities* section of the **Internship Final Paper**

2021 Met 100% 4.6/5.0

75% of students will attain an average of 3.0 or (consistently achieves what is expected) higher on the *Administration-Facilities* section of the **Final Internship Evaluation**

ADMINISTRATION: STRATEGIC PLANNING

Data below reflects REM outcome assessment measures presented in 7.03.02

2021 Met 100% 4.3/5.0

75% of students will attain an average of 3.0 (demonstrates understanding of learning outcomes and application of concepts/skills) or higher on the *Administration-Strategic Planning* section of the **Internship Final Paper**

2021 Met 100% 4.5/5.0

75% of students will attain an average of 3.0 or (consistently achieves what is expected) higher on the *Administration-Strategic Planning* section of the **Final Internship Evaluation**

RECREATIONAL THERAPY – STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME DATA

The Recreational Therapy (RT) program gives students experience and knowledge needed to be successful in the field of therapeutic recreation. The mission of the program is “To inspire students to transform client lives through evidenced based Recreation Therapy services.” Through both classes and applied experiences, our curriculum focuses in the areas of behavioral health, physical medicine and rehabilitation, geriatrics, developmental disability, facilitation, administration, and programming. Student select one of two academic tracks depending on their long term career goals: 1.) Bachelor of Science students (those interested in graduate school) complete a 15-week internship coupled with additional coursework in the social sciences, natural sciences, and humanities. Students enrolled in the Bachelor of Applied Arts (seek immediate work in therapeutic recreation) complete both a 15-week clinical and a 15-week non-clinical internship instead of taking extra coursework in social sciences, natural sciences, and humanities. Upon graduation, students are prepared to work in a variety of therapeutic recreation settings including inpatient and outpatient behavioral health, PM&R, long-term care, Veteran’s Administration Hospitals, community parks and recreation inclusion programs, pediatric and adult medical specialty camps, and adapted sport.

RT program specific learning outcomes 7.01

Students graduating from the program shall demonstrate the historical, philosophical, theoretical and scientific foundations of therapeutic recreation:

- Scope of therapeutic recreation
- Practice of recreation therapy
- The historical, philosophical, theoretical, and scientific foundations.

Describe the method by which LO for Standard 7.01 was assessed:

(Direct Measure) Post Internship Evaluation: The RT concentration has developed the Final Internship Evaluation to reflect the content of 1.) foundation, 2.) assessment, 3.) implementation, 4.) documentation, 5.) administration, and 6.) advancement of the profession. The final internship evaluation is completed by the internship supervisor (CTRS) at the end of the student’s 15-week internship. Each category is scored on a scale of 1-5 based on the supervisor’s direct observation of the student over the course of the internship in those respective areas. The internship evaluation provides an opportunity for an independent evaluation of the CMU recreational therapy students by a working practitioner. Student cohorts are expected to average a score of 3 or better on the *foundation domain*.

(Direct Measure) The NCTRC National Exam: The national exam for the field of therapeutic recreation is utilized as a direct measure of learning for CMU students. Scores are sent by NCTRC to CMU on an annual basis with an overall passing rate coupled with categorical rankings for the following areas: 1.) foundation, 2.) assessment, 3.) implementation, 4.) documentation, 5.) administration, and 6.) advancement of the profession. NCTRC provides an independent industry level standard evaluation of the CMU students in recreational therapy. Student cohorts are expected to average a score that is 5 points higher than the national average on the *foundation domain questions*.

(Direct Measure) The RT Program Exit Exam: This internal examination was created by the recreational therapy faculty with reliability and validity considered by an outside expert. Scores are compiled each semester with a running database of scores recorded for over 10 years. The exam is given to students at the end of their last class and prior to beginning their internship. The following focus areas are embedded within the exit exam questions: 1.) foundation, 2.) assessment, 3.) implementation, 4.) documentation, 5.)

administration, and 6.) advancement of the profession. Student cohorts are expected to average a score of 50% or better on the *foundation domain questions*.

Result of the assessment of LO for Standard 7.01

FOUNDATIONS

2021 Met 4.92 /5.0

Students will attain an average of 3.0 or higher on the *Foundations* section of the ***Post Internship Evaluation***

2021 Met NCTRC has yet to report 2021 exam data

Students will attain an average of 5 points better than the national average score on the *Foundations* section of the ***NCTRC National Exam***

2021 Not Met 57% / 60.1% target

Student cohorts will average a score of 60.1% or above on the *Foundations* portion of the ***RT Program Exit Exam***

RT specific learning outcomes 7.02

Students graduating from the program shall demonstrate the ability to use the therapeutic recreation process of:

- Assessment
- Planning
- Implementing and facilitation
- Documentation
- Evaluation

Describe the method by which the LO for Standard 7.02 was assessed:

(Direct Measure) Post Internship Evaluation: The RT concentration has developed the Final Internship Evaluation to reflect the content of 1.) foundation, 2.) assessment, 3.) implementation, 4.) documentation, 5.) administration, and 6.) advancement of the profession. The final internship evaluation is completed by the internship supervisor (CTRS) at the end of the student's 15-week internship. Each category is scored on a scale of 1-5 based on the supervisor's direct observation of the student over the course of the internship in those respective areas. The internship evaluation provides an opportunity for an independent evaluation of the CMU recreational therapy students by a working practitioner. Student cohorts are expected to average a score of 3 or better on the *assessment, planning, implementation & facilitation, and documentation / evaluation domains*.

(Direct Measure) The NCTRC National Exam: The national exam for the field of therapeutic recreation is utilized as a direct measure of learning for CMU students. Scores are sent by NCTRC to CMU on an annual basis with an overall passing rate coupled with categorical rankings for the following areas: 1.) foundation, 2.) assessment, 3.) implementation, 4.) documentation, 5.) administration, and 6.) advancement of the profession. NCTRC provides an independent industry level standard evaluation of the CMU students in recreational therapy. Student cohorts are expected to average a score that is 5 points higher than the national average on the *assessment, planning, implementation & facilitation, and documentation / evaluation domains*.

(Direct Measure) The RT Program Exit Exam: This internal examination was created by the recreational therapy faculty with reliability and validity considered by an outside expert. Scores are compiled each

semester with a running database of scores recorded for over 10 years. The exam is given to students at the end of their last class and prior to beginning their internship. The following focus areas are embedded within the exit exam questions: 1.) foundation, 2.) assessment, 3.) implementation, 4.) documentation, 5.) administration, and 6.) advancement of the profession. Student cohorts are expected to average a score of 50% or better on the *assessment, planning, implementation & facilitation, and documentation / evaluation domains*.

Result of the assessment of LO for Standard 7.02

ASSESSMENT

2021 Met 4.69 /5.0

Students will attain an average of 3.0 or higher on the Assessment section of the ***Post Internship Evaluation***

2021 Met NCTRC has yet to report exam data

Students will attain an average of 5 points better than the national average score on the *Assessment* section of the ***NCTRC National Exam***

2021 MET 63 / 60.1 target

Students will average a score of 60.1% or above on the *Assessment* portion of the ***RT Program Exit Exam***

PLANNING

2021 Met 4.615/5.0

Students will attain an average of 3.0 or higher on the *Foundations* section of the ***Post Internship Evaluation***

2021 Met NCTRC has yet to report exam data

Students will attain an average of 5 points better than the national average score on the *Foundations* section of the ***NCTRC National Exam***

2021 Met 84 / 60.1

Students will average a score of 50% or above on the *Foundations* portion of the ***RT Program Exit Exam***

IMPLEMENTATION & FACILITATION

2021 Met 4.615 / 5.0

Students will attain an average of 3.0 or higher on the *Foundations* section of the ***Post Internship Evaluation***

2021 Met NCTRC has yet to report 2021 data

Students will attain an average of 5 points better than the national average score on the *Foundations* section of the ***NCTRC National Exam***

2021 Met 84 /60.1 target

Students will average a score of 50% or above on the *Foundations* portion of the ***RT Program Exit Exam***

DOCUMENTATION & EVALUATION

2021 Met 4.8 / 5.0

Students will attain an average of 3.0 or higher on the *Foundations* section of the **Post Internship Evaluation**

2021 Met NCTRC has yet to report 2021 exam data

Students will attain an average of 5 points better than the national average score on the *Foundations* section of the **NCTRC National Exam**

2021 Met 72 / 60.1target

Students will average a score of 50% or above on the *Foundations* portion of the **RT Program Exit Exam**

RT program specific learning outcomes 7.03

Management and administration of therapeutic recreation services:

- Management of theories and functions, organizational structures, and ethical management practices
- Planning, decision-making, and problem solving
- Human resource management
- Fiscal management
- Legal aspects, risk and safety management
- Maintenance of agency physical resources
- Accountability and quality improvement
- Marketing and advocacy
- Continuing professional development

Describe the method by which the LO for Standard 7.03 was assessed:

(Direct Measure) **Post Internship Evaluation:** The RT concentration has developed the Final Internship Evaluation to reflect the content of 1.) foundation, 2.) assessment, 3.) implementation, 4.) documentation, 5.) administration, and 6.) advancement of the profession. The final internship evaluation is completed by the internship supervisor (CTRS) at the end of the student's 15-week internship. Each category is scored on a scale of 1-5 based on the supervisor's direct observation of the student over the course of the internship in those respective areas. The internship evaluation provides an opportunity for an independent evaluation of the CMU recreational therapy students by a working practitioner. Student cohorts are expected to average a score of 3 or better on the *administration and advancement of the profession domains*.

(Direct Measure) **The NCTRC National Exam:** The national exam for the field of therapeutic recreation is utilized as a direct measure of learning for CMU students. Scores are sent by NCTRC to CMU on an annual basis with an overall passing rate coupled with categorical rankings for the following areas: 1.) foundation, 2.) assessment, 3.) implementation, 4.) documentation, 5.) administration, and 6.) advancement of the profession. NCTRC provides an independent industry level standard evaluation of the CMU students in recreational therapy. Student cohorts are expected to average a score that is 5 points higher than the national average on the *administration and advancement of the profession domains*.

(Direct Measure) **The RT Program Exit Exam:** This internal examination was created by the recreational therapy faculty with reliability and validity considered by an outside expert. Scores are compiled each semester with a running database of scores recorded for over 10 years. The exam is given to students at the end of their last class and prior to beginning their internship. The following focus areas are embedded within

the exit exam questions: 1.) foundation, 2.) assessment, 3.) implementation, 4.) documentation, 5.) administration, and 6.) advancement of the profession. Student cohorts are expected to average a score of 50% or better on the *administration and advancement of the profession domains*.

Result of the assessment of LO for Standard 7.03

ADMINISTRTION

Data below reflects RT outcome assessment measures presented in 7.03.02

2021 Met 4.66 / 5.0

Students will attain an average of 3.0 or higher on the *Foundations* section of the **Post Internship Evaluation**

2021 Met NCTRC has yet to report 2021 exam data

Students will attain an average of 5 points better than the national average score on the *Foundations* section of the **NCTRC National Exam**

2021 Not Met 60 / 60.1target

Students will average a score of 60.1% or above on the *Foundations* portion of the **RT Program Exit Exam**

ADVANCEMENT OF THE PROFESSION

Data below reflects RT outcome assessment measures presented in 7.03.02

2021 Met 4.615 / 5.0

Students will attain an average of 3.0 or higher on the *Foundations* section of the **Post Internship Evaluation**

2021 Met NCTRC has yet to report 2021 exam data

Students will attain an average of 5 points better than the national average score on the *Foundations* section of the **NCTRC National Exam**

2021 Met 87 / 60.1 target

Students will average a score of 50% or above on the *Foundations* portion of the **RT Program Exit Exam**

RT program specific learning outcome 7.04

Application of the therapeutic recreation body of knowledge through experience:

- Readiness for culminating internship
- Culminating internship experience

Describe the method by which the LO for Standard 7.04 was assessed:

(Direct Measure) Post Internship Evaluation: The RT concentration has developed the Final Internship Evaluation to reflect the content of 1.) foundation, 2.) assessment, 3.) implementation, 4.) documentation, 5.) administration, and 6.) advancement of the profession. The final internship evaluation is completed by the internship supervisor (CTRS) at the end of the student's 15-week internship. Each category is scored on a scale of 1-5 based on the supervisor's direct observation of the student over the course of the internship in those respective areas. The internship evaluation provides an opportunity for an independent evaluation of the CMU

recreational therapy students by a working practitioner. Student cohorts are expected to average a score of 3 or better on the overall internship evaluation.

(Direct Measure) **The NCTRC National Exam:** The national exam for the field of therapeutic recreation is utilized as a direct measure of learning for CMU students. Scores are sent by NCTRC to CMU on an annual basis with an overall passing rate coupled with categorical rankings for the following areas: 1.) foundation, 2.) assessment, 3.) implementation, 4.) documentation, 5.) administration, and 6.) advancement of the profession. NCTRC provides an independent industry level standard evaluation of the CMU students in recreational therapy. Student cohorts are expected to average a score that is 5 points higher than the *national average for the passing rate overall on the NCTRC exam.*

(Direct Measure) **The RT Program Exit Exam:** This internal examination was created by the recreational therapy faculty with reliability and validity considered by an outside expert. Scores are compiled each semester with a running database of scores recorded for over 10 years. The exam is given to students at the end of their last class and prior to beginning their internship. The following focus areas are embedded within the exit exam questions: 1.) foundation, 2.) assessment, 3.) implementation, 4.) documentation, 5.) administration, and 6.) advancement of the profession. Student cohorts are expected to average a score of 60.1 overall or better on the *entire exam overall.*

Result of the assessment of LO for Standard 7.04

2021 Met 4.71 /5.0

Students will attain an average of 3.0 or higher on the all sections of the ***Post Internship Evaluation*** combined

2021 Met NCTRC scores for 2021 not yet reported to CMU / 85.3 % national average

Students will attain an average of 5 points better than the national average passing rate score overall on the ***NCTRC National Exam***

2021 Met 70.5 / 60.1 target

Students will average a score of 50% or above on the *Foundations* portion of the ***RT Program Exit Exam***