Do you enjoy being active, working with people and helping them develop and grow? Join a profession where your work is to bring quality leisure into people's lives.

The Recreation Management program at UWL is the only nationally-accredited recreation management program in Wisconsin and one of the largest undergraduate programs in the U.S. Our students gain experience in the field and network with professionals through internships and community engagement in their coursework.

What is recreation management?
Recreation Management students learn the skills and knowledge to pursue professional careers by creating, planning and delivering recreation programs, whether that be sports, crafts, hiking, camping or other activities. They work with people from diverse backgrounds in settings from parks and recreation departments to YMCAs to tourist attractions.

The Recreation Management program prepared me to make an impact at my internship site right away. The mix of classes gave me the practical knowledge to avoid wasting time having to learn the basics on site, while also giving me the theory and inspiration to dream new ways to educate, enrich and entertain our customers.

Pierce Johnson

Recreation management jobs
The recreation management program offers four different emphasis areas (generalist; tourism and event-management; community-based recreation, and outdoor recreation), which allows students to study and prepare for careers most closely related to their interests.

Students are trained for recreation careers in middle management positions in a range of agencies such as tourism enterprises, government parks and recreation departments, YMCAs, Boys and Girls Clubs, environment education centers and more.

Recreation careers
• Recreation center supervisor
• Parks & Recreation coordinator
• Park ranger
• Amusement park manager
• Cruise ship director
• Camp director
• Outdoor program coordinator

Further education
The rigorous undergraduate curriculum also provides a solid foundation for those choosing to pursue a graduate degree in recreation management.
What distinguishes UWL’s Recreation Management program?

- **Hands-on experience**
  Students gain hands-on experience through a 12-week internship designed to serve as a student’s transition from the university curriculum to the profession. Also, students complete an additional 100 hours of hands-on professional experience prior to their internship.

- **Nationally-accredited**
  UWL’s Department of Recreation Management and Therapeutic Recreation has been nationally accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Related Professions (COAPRT) since 1988.

- **Excellent curriculum**
  The UWL curriculum exceeds national accreditation standards and is a key factor in the department’s national reputation.

- **Post-graduation success**
  The placement rate for recreation management majors is consistently above 90 percent in locations around the U.S.

- **Connection to faculty**
  Faculty play an important role in the educational and professional development of each student. Students are assigned a faculty adviser who is available for advisement on registration, internships and professional development throughout their academic career.

- **Reputable faculty**
  All of the faculty members are involved in leadership positions with national and state recreation professional associations. They also perform research and write extensively on important topics in the recreational field and several are nationally and internationally renown scholars.

- **Tourism Research Institute**
  A Tourism Research Institute provides opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to engage in tourism-related research activities.

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UWL granted me the opportunity to do multiple years of undergraduate research and present at numerous conferences, putting me ahead of many of my peers entering graduate school.

Laura Marschke