Aurora (Crew) Verlin, MS, CTRS

Instructor

Temple University College of Public Health

Department of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences

Recreational Therapy Program

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EDUCATION

2015	Masters of Science, Recreational Therapy
	Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

2010 Bachelor of Science, Therapeutic Recreation

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) Certification # 58844

2010 - Present

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Using Voice Thread to Facilitate Discussions Temple University (CAT)	
2020 Delivering Lectures Online Temple University (CAT)	
Writing-Intensive Faculty Teaching Circle Temple University (Writing Center)	
2018 Monitoring Student Engagement w/ Canvas Course Analytics Temple University (CAT)	
2017 Canvas Online Training Temple University (CAT)	
2016 Virtual Teaching Certificate Temple University (CAT)	
2015 Teaching in Higher Education Certificate Temple University	
2015 PA Personal Care Home Administrator's License PEPP Unlimited	
2010 Dementia Practice Guidelines Certificate American Therapeutic Recreation Assn	

TEACHING

Academic Appointments

2017-Present Instructor

Department of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences, College of Public Health, Temple University

2015-2017 Adjunct Instructor

Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, College of Public Health, Temple University

Courses Taught

Temple University, Graduate Courses

Therapeutic Recreation Administration (Online, asynchronous w/ some req. course meetings) Managing Dementia Care (Online, asynchronous)

Temple University, Undergraduate Courses

Health, Activity & Aging (in-person & online synchronous)

Recreational Therapy in Geriatric Service Settings (in-persona & online synchronous)

Professional Issues in Recreational Therapy (in-person & online synchronous)

Clinical Procedures in Recreational Therapy (in-person & online synchronous)

Administration of Recreational Therapy (online asynchronous)

Independent Study in Recreational Therapy (in-person & online)

Courses Developed

2020-2021 RCTH 5201 Managing Dementia Care

Creating content for new graduate level asynchronous course

2020 RCTH 3283 Independent Study in RT

Created a 3-credit independent study course focused on professional issues in RT

Worked with Heather Porter on developing a new course for the RT program that would encompass disability & inclusion services for individuals with disabilities across the lifespan

2019 RCTH 5250 Special Topics in Recreational Therapy Practicum

Adapted the undergraduate course of RCTH 4205 (Geriatric Service Settings) for a graduate student who took the course synchronously in the classroom setting.

2017 RCTH 3201 Health, Activity & Aging

Creating all course objectives, content and assignments for course to be taught in Spring, 2018

Curriculum Revisions & Enhancements

2021 RCTH 3201 Health, Activity & Aging

Developed and changed materials to encompass settings where older adults are served as the Geriatric Service Settings class was removed from the schedule indefinitely

2020 RCTH 4196 Clinical Procedures in Recreational Therapy

Worked with Brandon Snead to develop the course for online instruction in Fall 2020, including creation of virtual clinical experiences and the need to recreate content and assignments to fit within this structure

2019-2020 RCTH 4111 Administration of Recreational Therapy

Updated course content to reflect current regulations. Added all new lecture videos with captions and updated assignments.

2019 RCTH 3103 Professional Issues in Recreational Therapy

Updated much of the course content to engage students more thoroughly in learning activities surrounding health and human services, and related to examining how social justice issues affect health, access, etc.

2015 THRC 4205 Therapeutic Recreation in Geriatric Service Settings

Changed format of the course, created new assignments and in-class activities in increase student learning, added a site visit to maximize exposure to the population

PRO BONO PUBLICO CONSULTING

2019-2020 The Club, Main Line Adult Day, Bryn Mawr, PA

Weekly consulting appointments for the new day program for individuals with early-stage dementia. After Covid-19, the program went oline and I consulted for them remotely and sat in on sessions via Zoom. The center has now completely closed due to Covid-19

2018 Naturally Occurring Retirement Community Survey of Engagement and Activity

Creating survey for residents of a naturally occurring retirement community to maximize

engagement in the community.

2017-2019 Waverly Heights, LTD. Therapeutic Recreation Program

Consulting on new CMS regulations related to Quality of Life

2014-2017 Rec Fit Solutions, LLC

Consulted for business developer/CTRS on how to assess clients, and how to market her business to continuing care retirement communities based on regulatory compliance guidelines and typically needs of older adults in those settings.

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

Research Studies

2015 Conducted study on the effects of technology-based music interventions on cognition in older adults with cognitive impairment.

Assisted with research on the effects of a structured non-technology based brain fitness program

on older adults with mild cognitive decline.

Assisted with a research study on the physical effects of active video games on young adults with

intellectual disabilities.

Grants

2015 Recreational Therapy Foundation Research Grant, \$2,000.

Publications

Journal Articles

Crew, A., Petrosky, J., Byrnes, K., Nelson, R. (2015). *The effects of Tai Chi on functioning in older adults with Parkinson's Disease*. Therapeutic Recreation Journal, 49 (1), 80-83.

Online Research Publications

Crew, A. (2014). The effectiveness of Tai Chi interventions on fall prevention in older adults. RT Wise Owls, h https://sites.temple.edu/rtwiseowls/2014/05/08/the-effectiveness-of-tai-chi-interventions-on-fall-prevention-in-older-adults/

Book Author

Crew, A. & Nelson, R. (2014). *The Beamz therapy guide: protocols and resources for clinicians*. Scottsdale, AZ: Beamz Interactive, Inc.

Newsletter Articles

Crew, A., & Nelson, R. (2014). *Using the Beamz in Recreational Therapy*. American Therapeutic Recreation Association newsletter, 30 (4), 4.

Newspaper Articles

Crew, A., Forcellini, E. (Mar 2017). *Therapeutic recreation improves the quality of life of individuals at Waverly Heights Retirement Community.* Main Line Times.

Crew, A., Graham, G. (Mar 2016). Waverly Heights embraces technology in all levels of care. Main Line Times.

Assessments

Nelson, R., Humes, S., Borgstrom, K., Crew, A., Crumbie, V., Gimball, J. & Park, K. (2014). Engagement in Preferred Activities Scale (EPASS).

Manuscript Reviewer

2020-Present. CommonHealth. Reviewer

2019-Present. Therapeutic Recreation Journal (TRJ). Reviewer

Selection of Presentations

National

Verlin, A., Vargas, G. (2021, September). *Grant writing & resources: Exploring Recreational Therapy Foundation and more!* American Therapeutic Recreation Association; Annual Conference; Virtual.

Webster, T., Wilson, J., Mills, N., & Verlin, A. (2021, April). *Utilizing dance intervention with adults with a history of trauma*. American Therapeutic Recreation Association; Annual Conference; Virtual.

Verlin, A., Vargas, G., Hseih, P.-C. (2021, June). *Networking Breakout: Research in TR/RT*. Wisconsin Therapeutic Recreation Association; Annual Conference; Virtual.

Crew, A. (2018, September). Measuring engagement for Person Centered Care: Exploring the EPASS Toolkit & reliability and validity testing. American Therapeutic Recreation Association; Annual Conference; Grand Rapid, MI

Graham, G. & Crew, A. (2016, September). Older adults & computer-based interventions: Using iN2L in recreational therapy practice. American Therapeutic Recreation Association; Annual Conference; Chicago, IL.

Crumbie, V & Crew, A. (2016, September). The Engagement in Preferred ActivitieS Scale (EPASS): Development of the scale and implications for practice. American Therapeutic Recreation Association; Annual Conference; Chicago, IL.

Crew, A. & Nelson, R. (2015, March). Using the Beamz interactive music system in recreation therapy practice: Presenting treatment protocols for diverse settings and populations. American Therapeutic Recreation Association; Mid-Year Conference; Manchester, NH.

Regional

Verlin, A (2020, November). *Recreational Therapy Foundation: Grant Writing & Information for Professional Involvement*. New Jersey/Eastern Pennsylvania Therapeutic Recreation Association Annual Conference; virtual.

Crew, A., Patrylak, A., Leopold, A. (2019, November). *Benefits and application of gardening interventions for older adults*. New Jersey Eastern Pennsylvania Therapeutic Recreation Association Annual Conference; Princeton, NJ.

Mitchell, T. & Crew, A. (2018, November). *Using drama and improvisation techniques for well-being in older adults*. New Jersey Eastern Pennsylvania Therapeutic Recreation Association Annual Conference; Princeton, NJ.

Crew, A. (2018, June). Fostering Growth & Education through Engaging Internship Experiences. Pennsylvania Therapeutic Recreation Institute; Lancaster, PA.

Crew, A. & Crumbie, V. (2018, June). *Measuring Engagement for Person Centered Care: Exploring the EPASS Toolkit*. Pennsylvania Therapeutic Recreation Institute; Lancaster, PA.

Crumbie, V & Crew, A. (2015, November). *The Engagement in Preferred Activities Scale (EPASS): Development of the scale and implications for practice.* New Jersey Eastern Pennsylvania Therapeutic Recreation Association Annual Conference; Princeton, NJ.

Crew, A. & Nelson, R. (2015, June). Using the Beamz interactive music system in recreation therapy practice: Presenting treatment protocols for diverse settings and populations. Pennsylvania Therapeutic Recreation Society; Therapeutic Recreation Institute; Lancaster, PA.

College/University

Verlin, A. (2021, April). *Grant writing & resources: Exploring Recreational Therapy Foundation and more!* Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University; Virtual.

Webster, T., Wilson, J., Mills, N., & Verlin, A. (2021, April). *Utilizing dance intervention with adults with a history of trauma*. Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University; Virtual.

Egelcamp, E., Drexler, H., Saah, W. & Verlin, A. (2021, April). Benefits of harnessing creativity through the arts for dementia care. Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University; Virtual.

Seiwert, L, Davenport, M., & Verlin, A. (2021, April). Effects of music on individuals with Alzheimer's Disease experiencing loneliness in skilled nursing facilities. Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University; Virtual.

Carminati, S., Mortimer, B., & Verlin, A. (2021, April). *Horticulture as an expressive art for people with dementia*. Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University; Virtual.

Opitz, A., Wahl, N., & Verlin, A. (2021, April). *Immersive simulation of dementia for empathetic staff training*. Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University; Virtual.

Bowman, E., Shott, A., & Verlin, A. (2021, April). *Impacts of yoga on individuals with dementia and their caregivers*. Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University; Virtual.

Brown, G., Fiedler, J., & Verlin, A. (2021, April). *Physical activity for prevention and decreased deterioration in Alzheimer's disease*. Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University; Virtual.

Ceres, T., Titlow, C., & Verlin, A. (2021, April). Reminiscence therapy for cognitive functioning in individuals with dementia. Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University; Virtual.

Bielawski, B., Meccariello, M., & Crew, A. (2019, April). Benefits of dance and movement for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University.

Jung, A., Albert, R., & Crew, A., (2019, April). Benefits of Snoezelen interventions for older adults with dementia. Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University.

Hart, V., & Crew, A. (2019 April). Virtual reality interventions for reminiscence & QOL in dementia. Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University.

Crew, A. (2018, April). New CMS Quality of Life Regulations and the RTs Role. Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University.

Doloff, A. & Crew, A. (2018, April). NCTRC Job Analysis Domains & Tasks – What do they mean for the internship supervisor? Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University.

Crew, A. (2017, October). *Beamz Interactive Music Making*. Aramark STAR Complex Open House. College of Public Health, Temple University.

Crumbie, V & Crew, A. (2016, April). Engagement in Preferred Activities Scale: The importance of measuring engagement. Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University.

Crumbie, V & Crew, A. (2016, April). Engagement in Preferred Activities Scale: Administration of the tool. Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University.

Crumbie, V & Crew, A. (2016, April). Engagement in Preferred Activities Scale: Online resources for quality improvement. Evidence Based Practice Conference, Temple University.

Guest Lectures

Crew, A. (2017 December & 2018 April). Single and Two-Person Transfers, Use of Mobility Devices Across Service Settings. Guest Lecture/Co-Teaching, Foundations of Therapeutic Recreation, Temple University.

Crew, A (2017, December). *Reminiscence & Validation Therapy*. Guest Lecture, Therapeutic Recreation Modalities class, Temple University.

Crew, A. (2017, April). *Regulatory guidelines in geriatric service settings*. Guest lecture, Graduate Level Orientation to Therapeutic Recreation Service Settings class, Temple University.

Crew, A. (2016, October). *Marketing yourself, your product & therapeutic recreation*. Guest lecture, Entrepreneurship in Therapeutic Recreation class, Temple University.

SERVICE

Committees/Task Forces/Teams – Program/Department

2021-present Health & Rehabilitation Science Department

HRS Update Committee

2018-present Temple University, Recreational Therapy Program

Student Awards & Scholarship Committee

2020-present Temple University, Recreational Therapy Program

RT Evidence Based Practice Day Virtual Conference Committee

2019 Temple University, Recreational Therapy Program

NTT Faculty Search Committee (for 2 open positions)

2018 Temple University, Therapeutic Recreation Program

Evidence Based Practice Day

o Organized all student volunteers for the event

2017-2018 Temple University, Therapeutic Recreation Program

Program Review Committee

2011-2017 Temple University, Therapeutic Recreation Program

Advisory Committee Member

o Worked with professors and alumni of Temple University's Therapeutic Recreation

program to advise on the curriculum, and changes to the program.

Committees/Task Forces/Teams - College/University

2018-present Present regularly about RT program at Experience Temple Day and virtual open house

events

2018-2020 Student Appeals & Grievance Committee, College of Public Health

Committees/Task Forces/Teams - Profession

Recreational Therapy Foundation

2020-Present President-Elect/Vice-President (Executive Board)
2015-2020 Member-at-Large for Grant Awards (Board Member)

National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification

Job Analysis Task Force

2021, 2018 National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification

Exam Ouestion Writer

2018-2019 American Therapeutic Recreation Association

2013-2016 Peg Connolly Scholarship Selection Committee member

2011-2013	New Jersey / Eastern Pennsylvania Therapeutic Recreation Association Pennsylvania Member-At-Large
2011-2013	New Jersey / Eastern Pennsylvania Therapeutic Recreation Association Pennsylvania Licensure Committee Chair

Student Advising/Mentoring

2017-Present	Recreational Therapy Student Association (RTSA) Faculty Advisor
2020-2021	Mentored multiple program alumni as they started their careers in older adult service settings during Covid-19 (Alyxandra Santone, Ashley Opitz, Taylor Vigilante, Arielle Warner, Jessica Costanzi)
2021	Mentored two alumni and one current student for a national presentation for the American Therapeutic Recreation Association conference
2021	Mentored and co-created eight presentations with graduate and undergraduate students for the RT Evidence-Based Practice Virtual Conference.
2020	Mentored MSRT student Veronica Spinden with her literature review & presentation on RT outcomes in community dwelling opioid users.
2018	Mentored current BSTR student, Tiara Mitchell, and submitted a speaker application for the NJ/EPA TRA 2018 conference.
2018	Mentored prior MSRT student, Victoria Crumbie through Evidence Based Practice Day presentation.
2016	Mentored former THRC 4205 student and prior intern (G. Graham) to present with me at a national ATRA conference – his first professional presentation.

Creation of Conferences/Trainings/Workshops

2020-present	Co-Creator & Conference Facilitator, Virtual Recreational Therapy Student Summit Created with Courtney Fescke of Indiana University, our student clubs worked together under our guidance to create the first-ever free, online 2-day conference for RT students.
2013	Board Member (assistant conference coordinator), New Jersey / Eastern Pennsylvania Therapeutic Recreation Association Annual Conference Princeton, NJ
2013	Board Member (assistant workshop coordinator), New Jersey / Eastern Pennsylvania Therapeutic Recreation Association Spring Workshop Allentown, PA

Board Member (assistant conference coordinator), New Jersey / Eastern Pennsylvania

Therapeutic Recreation Association Annual Conference

Princeton, NJ

2011 Conference Committee Member, New Jersey / Eastern Pennsylvania Therapeutic

Recreation Association Annual Conference

Princeton, NJ

2011 Seminar Creator & Organizer, Sunrise Senior Living, Dementia Education Seminar

Haverford, PA

Creation and Management of Technology Sites

2015-Present

EPASS Online Toolkit. https://epasstoolkit.com/ . Official free online toolkit for the Engagement in Preferred ActivitieS Scale.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

2012-2017 **Director of Therapeutic Recreation**

Waverly Heights, Ltd, Gladwyne, PA

- Hired and managed qualified Therapeutic Recreation department staff in skilled nursing, memory support and personal care units.
- Completed annual and monthly budgets, quality assurance projects, staff schedules, weekly programming calendars, and other managerial tasks.
- Performed intake assessments and MDS 3.0, as well as quarterly and annual required documentation.
- Recruited and trained volunteers and interns.
- Planned and facilitated programs for residents of the healthcare center.
- Managed a technology-based Brain Fitness program for Independent Living residents.
- Continually trained TR and health care center staff on matters related to therapeutic recreation and evidence based practice within the field of geriatrics.

2015-2017 Interim Personal Care Administrator

Waverly Heights, Ltd., Gladwyne, PA

- Ensuring compliance of all personal care home regulations.
- Creating and following through on marketing plans.
- Organizing support plan meetings with families, and providing council and support as needed.
- Facilitating interdisciplinary team meetings.

2010-2012 Activity & Volunteer Coordinator

Sunrise Senior Living, Haverford, PA

- Supervised staff, interns & volunteers in the activities and life enrichment departments.
- Planned and implemented therapeutic programming in personal care and memory support.
- Developed employee training regarding approaches for people with dementia.
- Taught Sunrise University courses on Dementia, Activities, General Care, Psychology of Aging.

2009-2010 Activities Assistant

Harlee Manor, Springfield, PA

- Planned and facilitated therapeutic programming on a specialized unit for residents with dementia.
- Completed initial assessments on short-term clients in rehabilitation unit.
- Provided 1:1 interventions and support for independent leisure activity as desired in rehabilitation unit.

RECOGNITION & AWARDS

Professional Awards

2017	Alumni Award; Temple University Therapeutic Recreation Program; for service to the field of TR
2013 & 2014	John Shank M.S. in Recreation Therapy Student Scholarship; Temple University Therapeutic Recreation Program; scholarship awarded to current CTRS wanting to further their education in therapeutic recreation
2010	Peg Connolly Scholarship, American Therapeutic Recreation Association; working scholarship to annual conference awarded to students who show high involvement in the field of therapeutic recreation
2010	Bill Dayton Memorial Award, Temple University Therapeutic Recreation Program; awarded for exceptional volunteer service in the field of TR

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA)

New Jersey/Eastern Pennsylvania Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA Chapter Affiliate)

Pennsylvania Therapeutic Recreation Society (PTRS)