The mission of the Lifetime Physical Activity Program (LPAP) is to provide a multifaceted learning experience via a program of physical activity to foster physical, social, and emotional wellness. The ultimate goal of the LPAP is to provide each student with:

- Knowledge of health-related concepts of physical activity
- Cognitive and behavioral skills
- An understanding of physical activity as a mode of improved quality of life throughout the life-span
- A sense of emotional well-being
- Satisfying social interaction
- Knowledge of rules and strategies
- An opportunity to learn an activity which is not necessarily mainstream in U.S. culture
- Top-notch professional instruction specific to the course material
- An introduction to intramural sports, sport clubs, dance theatre, and recreational programs
- Improved quality of life at Rice University

Lifetime physical activity classes are strongly recommended for all first-year students, including transfers who have not had an equivalent course elsewhere. Satisfactory completion of LPAP 101 and 102 is a requirement of the baccalaureate degree. Student should not repeat an activity in LPAP 102 that was taken in LPAP 101.

The LPAP offers approximately 36 sections each semester. Within scheduling constraints, a student may select a section which offers activities that satisfy his/her interests. The LPAP offers a variety of activities. Many sections offer 2 activities per semester (e.g., volleyball/soccer), allowing a student to experience 3 or 4 activities during one year. Some of the current activities offered include racquet sports (tennis, racquetball, badminton, squash), fitness activities (aerobics, personal fitness, weight training, walking/jogging, cycling), aquatics, dance (Latin ballroom, ballroom, modern, ballet, country western), martial arts, team sports (flag football, basketball, volleyball, soccer, softball), and other activities such as fencing, self-defense for women, golf, disc golf, yoga, and wellness.

See LPAP (pages 427–428) in the Courses of Instruction section.