

Minor in Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences (Total of 18 hours)

The Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences offers a general 18-hour minor as a supplement to other majors. The minor requires RPTS 201 and RPTS 302. Students select four additional courses from a list of ten.

Total of 18 hours. RPTS 201 and 302 are required. Select four additional courses from the list below.

Required:

RPTS 201 - Foundations of Recreation, Parks and Tourism. Development of theoretical foundations of recreation, leisure and tourism; professional philosophy, present status, prospects for the future and the role of parks, recreation and tourism in modern society; overview of careers related to these branches of the experience industry. (3)

RPTS 302 - Application of Tourism Principles. Tourism principles applied at local, regional and international levels; examination of the scale, scope and organization of the industry including marketing destinations and experiences; issues related to the economic, technological and political aspects of tourism. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification. (3)

Select four additional courses:

RPTS 300 – Supervised Field Studies. Survey and application of principles of recreation and parks; selected aspects of park and recreation management in an operational setting under the supervision of an approved agency; preparation and presentation of a comprehensive analysis of a specific problem. (3) *In-Class meetings plus field experience.*

RPTS 301 - Leisure and Outdoor Recreation in American Culture. Introduction to the fundamental concepts of leisure and outdoor recreation and how they influence us as individuals, groups and society; critical factors such as self, family, lifespan, ecology, health, work patterns, communications, diversity, popular culture, and consumption are studied in relationship to past, present and future leisure patterns. (3)

RPTS 304 – Administration of Recreation Resource Agencies. Contemporary issues and related administrative practices associated with the provision of recreation services and settings; addresses principles associated with recreation resource agency administration; personnel and customer-related administrative issues in recreation resource agencies; concepts and principles relevant to commercial and non-profit recreation resource agencies. Prerequisites: RPTS 201. (3) *Note: RPTS 304 and 323 are equivalent; students may not receive credit for both.*

RPTS 307 – Methods of Environmental Interpretation. Communication processes and practices between resource managers and publics using or affected by natural, cultural and tourism resource places; principles and techniques of gathering, analyzing and disseminating information through various media, such as exhibits, presentations, publications and programs. (3) *Spring Only*

RPTS 308 – Foundations of Community and Community Development. Analysis of the elements comprising a community, community assessment techniques and community development processes engaged by stakeholders and residents to improve living conditions; definitions and principles associated with community development. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification. (3) *Spring Only*

RPTS 311 - Planning and Implementation of Events and Programs. Planning, operations, administration and evaluation; includes creation and implementation of programs and special events with budgeting, operational and venue logistics, marketing, fund raising, hospitality training and participant satisfaction. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification. (3)

RPTS 323. Tourism Management. Management issues and tools related to the travel and tourism industry; history, planning, operations, leading, directing and controlling tourism businesses; complexity and scope of tourism systems; issues related to ethics and sustainability; managing tourism in different environments; roles of technology and information technology; future of tourism. Prerequisite: RPTS 302. (3) *Note: RPTS 304 and 323 are equivalent; students may not receive credit for both.*

RPTS 340 - Recreation, Parks, Tourism and Diverse Populations. Review of major judicial decisions and civil rights laws on provision and distribution of leisure services in society; influence of age, disability, ethnicity, national origin, race, religion and gender on individual's preferences for particular experiences; implications of individual differences for the provision of services. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification. (3)

RPTS 370 – Youth Development Organizations and Services. Changing views of adolescence and youth culture in the United States; developmental assets and principles of developing positive youth development supports, opportunities and services; mentoring and staff development for youth serving agencies; goals, program emphases, administrative methods and membership of major youth serving organizations. (3)

RPTS 402 – Park Planning and Design. Classification of areas according to primary function, location and clientele served; basic park planning principles involving scale, circulation, function and spatial relationships; methodology for establishing planning goals, objectives and planning strategies. **Prerequisite:** Junior or senior classification. (3)

RPTS 411. Cruise Tourism. Overview of cruise tourism; management of service sectors; understanding of cultural aspects of places traveled; cruise marketing/decision making; geography of cruising; youth programming; agri-tourism; identification of issues related to the economic, technological and political aspects of cruise tourism. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification. (3)

RPTS 444. Service Quality for Hospitality Organizations. Application of SERVQUAL concepts with focus on implementing measures to enhance customer service; in-depth study of planning and administering hospitality service strategies, measurement of service delivery, repair and recovery of service delivery gaps, and management and training of employees; practical applications of research in the field. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification. (3) *On-Line Only*

RENr 400. Study Abroad in Natural Resources. Provides students with an opportunity to gain first-hand experience in natural resource management in foreign countries; focus on the interaction of public, communal and private land tenure systems with the ecological and human dimensions of rangeland management, wildlife conservation and nature-based tourism. May be taken two times for credit. (up to 3 credits apply to Minor). **Prerequisite:** Junior or senior classification.

Note: RPTS 484 (Internship) is available for minors above and beyond the required 18 hours.

Students must earn a grade of “C” or higher in all courses.

Distance Education Note: All courses except RPTS 444 are offered in class at least once per year. In addition, all courses except RPTS 307, 308 and 402 are offered as web-based/on-line courses at least once per year.