RPTS - REC, PARK & TOURISM
SCI (RPTS)

RPTS 201 Foundations of Recreation, Parks and Tourism
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
(PhED 1336) Foundations of Recreation, Parks and Tourism. 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.

RPTS 209 Park and Tourism Operations
Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Planning, execution and supervision of field maintenance and operations.

RPTS 230 Computer Applications in Recreation, Parks and Tourism
Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Fundamentals of computer use and the application of software used in
careers related to park and tourism enterprises; computer use in decision
making and problem solving.

RPTS 291 Research
Credits 1 to 3. 1 to 3 Other Hours.
Research conducted under the direction of faculty member in recreation
park and tourism sciences.

Prerequisites: Freshman or sophomore classification and approval of
instructor.

RPTS 300 Supervised Field Studies
Credits 3. 3 Other Hours.
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; offered
on an individual basis. May be repeated for credit.

RPTS 301 Leisure and Outdoor Recreation in American Culture
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
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.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification.

RPTS 304 Administration of Recreation Resource Agencies
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
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.

RPTS 307 Methods of Environmental Interpretation
Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
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.

RPTS 308 Foundations of Community and Community Development
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
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.

RPTS 311 Planning and Implementation of Events and Programs
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
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.

RPTS 316 Recreational Management of Wildlands
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Management and recreational use of wild and wilderness areas and
multiple use management areas; systems and techniques for dealing
with management problems in outdoor recreation.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification.

RPTS 320 Event Management and Operations I
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Principles and applications for effective planning and management
of events; planning, promotion, operational logistics, sponsorship and
evaluation.

Prerequisite: RPTS 311.

RPTS 321 Event Management and Operations II
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Advanced principles and applications of event management, including
practical knowledge relating to contracting, media, fund raising,
compliance and oversight, risk management, site logistics, sponsorships and
vendor management.

Prerequisites: RPTS 311 and RPTS 320.

RPTS 323 Tourism Management
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
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.

Prerequisites: RPTS 302; junior or senior classification.

RPTS 324 Event Management Final Assessment
Credits 0. 0 Other Hours.
Demonstration of academic knowledge in management of events;
document event coordination experience through completion of volunteer
work and a website portfolio.

Prerequisites: Enrollment in Professional Event Manager certificate;
grade of C or better in RPTS 311 and RPTS 320; grade of C or better in
RPTS 321 or concurrent enrollment.
RPTS 331 Tourism Marketing
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Application of basic tourism marketing principles and concepts in
government, business, and social-cause contexts; situation analysis and
operational evaluation; decision making in terms of product, place, price,
and channel of distribution mixes for tourism attractions and services.
Prerequisite: RPTS 302 and junior or senior classification.

RPTS 336 Research and Analysis in Recreation and Tourism
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Examination of current tourism and recreation research emphasizing
specialized research methodology, adaptive techniques and methods of
research useful to the recreation and tourism professional; analysis of
the methods of problems identification, formulation and solution.
Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification.

RPTS 340 Recreation, Parks, Tourism and Diverse Populations
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
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.

RPTS 360 Ecotourism: Principles and Practices
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Principles and practices related to ecotourism; analyzes outcomes of
ecotourism for conservation and development; ecotourism as a strategy
to protect culture and the physical environment.
Prerequisite: RPTS 302.

RPTS 370 Youth Development Organizations and Services
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
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.

RPTS 371 Understanding and Developing Effective Skills for Youth Development
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Development of skills needed to effectively work with youth; issues such
as youth participation, conflict resolution, youth-adult collaboration,
leadership development, youth empowerment and youth voice;
connection of theoretical concepts to practice.
Prerequisites: RPTS 370 and junior or senior classification.

RPTS 380 Visitor and Resource Protection I
Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Fundamental values and operations of the National Park Service;
communication, leadership and conservation skills and practice needed
for employment with federal park agencies; physical fitness training.
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

RPTS 381 Visitor and Resource Protection II
Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Fundamental values and operations of the visitor and resource protection
branch of the National Park Service; law enforcement, customer service,
ethics and team cohesion.
Prerequisites: RPTS 380; junior or senior classification; approval of
instructor.

RPTS 382 Visitor and Resource Protection III
Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Law Enforcement Operations of the National Park Service; policies, laws
and procedures designated by 36 US Code of Federal Regulations; focus
and analysis of watershed law enforcement events; critical examination
of criminal justice system through advanced leadership; assessment of
21st century policing report.
Prerequisites: RPTS 381; junior or senior classification; approval of
instructor.

RPTS 401 Tourism and Recreation Enterprises
Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Market and financial feasibility analysis; resource characteristics,
location and market aspects of tourism and recreation enterprises;
Sources of funding for facility development; approaches to marketing
recreation, park and tourism services; applying knowledge to case study
situations.
Prerequisites: RPTS 304 or RPTS 423 and senior classification.

RPTS 402 Park Planning and Design
Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
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.
Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification.

RPTS 403 Financing and Marketing Recreation, Park and Tourism Resources
Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Public sources of funding for facility development and of approaches to
marketing recreation, park, and tourism services; applying knowledge to
case study situations.
Prerequisites: RPTS 304 or RPTS 423; senior classification.

RPTS 404/SOCI 404 Sociology of the Community
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Organization of American communities examining the bases
of community, types of communities and the changes faced by
communities.
Prerequisite: SOCI 205.
Cross Listing: SOCI 404/RPTS 404.

RPTS 408 Community Development and Supporting Institutions
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Scope, function and mission of domestic and international organizations
that support community development efforts.
Prerequisites: RPTS 308 or approval of instructor; junior or senior
classification.

RPTS 411 Cruise Tourism
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
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.
RPTS 421 Hotel and Resort Operations  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Examination of the crucial elements involved in the successful operation of a hotel or resort and how they interrelate; analysis and application of management principles in the major departments of hotels and resorts to include rooms division, food and beverage, recreation, sales and marketing.  
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification.

RPTS 423 Tourism Management  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
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.

RPTS 426 Tourism Impacts  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Consequences and impacts of various kinds of tourism development for host communities and regions; read and evaluate case studies from Texas, other areas in the United States and internationally; economic, environmental, social, cultural and political impacts associated with tourism proposals, project development, tourist activity, industry expansion and industry decline.  
Prerequisite: RPTS 302.

RPTS 441 Tourism Experience  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Theoretical foundation of tourism experiences from an interdisciplinary perspective, including the role of humans, nature/landscapes, built environments and technologies in staging tourism-experiences; draws implications for the design/planning, management and marketing of tourism venues such as events, festivals, museums, hotels/resorts, cruise ships, cities, theme parks, and websites.  
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

RPTS 444 Service Quality for Hospitality Organizations  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
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.

RPTS 445 Sustainability in International Tourism  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
International tourism with a focus on the diversity of tourism practices and policies around the world and approaches scholars use to study tourism planning, management, marketing, sustainability and impacts; includes a required international field trip during spring break.  
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

RPTS 446 Information Technology Adoption and Use in Recreation, Park and Tourism Organizations  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Theories of technology adoption and diffusion in recreation, park and tourism organizations; use of technology for knowledge management, benchmarking, and collaboration within leisure and tourism organizations.  
Prerequisite: RPTS 230; junior or senior classification.

RPTS 454 Amazon Field School  
Credits 4. 4 Lecture Hours.  
Investigation of social and ecological complexities of biodiversity conservation in tropical ecosystems; biological and social science approaches to evaluate causes, consequences and solutions to biodiversity loss through ecology, culture and governance.  
Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification with a minimum GPA of 2.0 and approval of instructor.  
Cross Listing: VTPB 404 and WFSC 454.

RPTS 460/RENR 460 Nature, Values, and Protected Areas  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Writing-intensive discussion of the ways in which protected areas reflect human values about nature; identify stakeholders in and around protected areas, exploring how interests either conflict or coincide; evaluate social, economic, cultural, and ecological trade-offs of different approaches to conservation.  
Prerequisite: RPTS 307 or RPTS 316; or 9 hours of credit in natural resource courses.  
Cross Listing: RENR 460/RPTS 460.

RPTS 474 Management of Programs and Services for Youth  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Organizational behavior, administration and management of public, non-profit and commercial youth programs and agencies; strategic planning, marketing, financial resource development, budgeting and fiscal management; contemporary issues facing youth development field; international perspective on youth agencies.  
Prerequisite: RPTS 304, RPTS 323, or RPTS 423; RPTS 370; junior or senior classification.

RPTS 476 Leadership for Outdoor Recreation  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Leadership principles related to outdoor recreation; classroom instruction and experiential learning; skills training through field trips; risk management planning, environmental education, group facilitation, and trip planning.  
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification.

RPTS 478 Youth Development Practice  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Application of youth development philosophy in community settings; principles and practices of community youth development and existing youth development models; local efforts related to community youth development.  
Prerequisite: RPTS 370, RPTS 371 and junior or senior classification.

RPTS 479 Research and Analysis of Issues and Trends in Youth Development  
Credits 2. 2 Lecture Hours.  
In-depth examination and analysis of a contemporary issue or trend in youth development from a bioecological system approach with applications to research and best practices.  
Prerequisites: RPTS 370 and RPTS 371; senior classification.

RPTS 481 Seminar  
Credit 1. 1 Lecture Hour.  
Development of knowledge and skills necessary for employment in the recreation, park and tourism fields; focus on career preparation and job search strategies, professionalism, networking and opportunities for advanced education.  
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification; RPTS majors only.
RPTS 484 Internship  
Credits 0 to 6. 0 to 6 Other Hours.  
Practical experience working in a professional recreation, park or tourism setting. Offered on an individual basis. May be repeated for credit.  
**Prerequisite:** RPTS 311, RPTS 340 and RPTS 481.

RPTS 485 Directed Studies  
Credits 0 to 4. 0 to 4 Other Hours.  
For individual research by advanced undergraduates upon a broad range of subjects not included in established courses.  
**Prerequisite:** Junior classification or approval of department head.

RPTS 489 Special Topics in...  
Credits 1 to 4. 1 to 4 Lecture Hours. 0 to 9 Lab Hours.  
Selected topics in an identified field of recreation and parks. May be repeated for credit.

RPTS 491 Research  
Credits 1 to 3. 1 to 3 Other Hours.  
Research conducted under the direction of faculty member in recreation park and tourism sciences. Registration in multiple sections of this course are possible within a given semester provided that the per semester credit hour limit is not exceeded.  
**Prerequisites:** Junior or senior classification and approval of instructor.