

# RECREATION, PARK AND TOURISM SCIENCES - BS WITH CERTIFICATE

The undergraduate curriculum leading to a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences provides students with an education in recreation, park and tourism sciences, with an emphasis on problem-solving skills, development of an international perspective and the application of scientific principles to managerial problems. The first two years of studies build a foundation that spans a wide range of disciplines and bodies of knowledge in the arts and sciences and provide the student with an introduction to the history and concepts of recreation, park and tourism sciences. The second two years prepare students with the knowledge and skills for both entry-level positions and for future professional growth in the field. In addition to core courses, students must fulfill requirements for at least one certificate, but may earn additional certificates.

Through the curriculum, students develop the depth and breadth of knowledge needed to scientifically investigate and select among alternatives as well as the intellectual skills to organize and integrate their knowledge in new and more effective patterns. An education in recreation, park and tourism sciences prepares students to become professionals with the capacity to learn from life and throughout life.

Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences majors must complete at least one of the following certificate options:

## Community Recreation and Park Administration Certificate

Management of recreation, park and leisure-service agencies requires expertise in problem-solving, decision-making, assessment of social and environmental impacts, personnel, public relations, volunteer management, financing and fund-raising, marketing of services, and needs assessments. Skills in working with people in the legal and political environment are necessary, as well as the ability to assess and work with other organizations for cooperative developments in recreation and tourism. Utilizing computer based decision-aids, students in this emphasis prepare for managerial careers with public recreation and park agencies, youth agencies, not-for-profit recreation agencies, and commercial recreation enterprises.

## Parks and Conservation Certificate

This option focuses on management of natural and cultural resources associated with conserving parks, and other protected areas, while also providing for their use by people. Land managers and related professionals operate within a variety of forums that require the integration of concepts in the environmental, social and behavioral sciences, along with policy and administrative decision-making. Necessary skills include computer applications for natural resource management, planning and design related to natural and cultural resources. Students with an option in this field look forward to careers with both public and private employers in the recreation, park and tourism fields, including state and federal agencies and private enterprises, non-profit organizations, camps and environmental education programs.

## Tourism Management Certificate

Tourism is one of the world's largest and most diverse industries. To help students prepare for tourism careers, this option area introduces issues pertaining to the management, development, and promotion of places and events as tourism attractions. Courses in tourism are designed to collectively build understanding about the links that exist between local places, host populations, and various public, private and special interest groups. Students also develop competencies in assessing economic, environmental, social and political impacts of tourism, as well as in tourism marketing. Students in this option can pursue careers in private sector enterprises, government agencies, convention and visitor bureaus, and other tourism-related service organizations.

## Youth Development Certificate

This option focuses on programs and services that contribute to the development of young people's personal, physical, social and educational abilities. Youth workers are program developers, leaders and managers who need to be able to work with youth, families, organizations and communities. Coursework in this option focuses on positive youth development, program planning and evaluation, methods for working with young people, and societal factors that both contribute to and inhibit the development of young people. Students with an option in this field look forward to careers with non-profit, public and for-profit agencies that supply youth development opportunities for young people. Settings include after-school programs, community programs, camps, outdoor adventure and church-related recreation programs.

## Program Requirements

First Year		Semester Credit Hours
Fall		
ENGL 103 or ENGL 104	Introduction to Rhetoric and Composition or Composition and Rhetoric	3
HIST 105	History of the United States	3
RPTS 201	Foundations of Recreation, Parks and Tourism	3
Social and behavioral sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences</a> ) <sup>1</sup>		3
General elective <sup>1,2</sup>		3
Semester Credit Hours		15
Spring		
HIST 106	History of the United States	3
RPTS 230	Computer Applications in Recreation, Parks and Tourism	3
Creative arts ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts</a> ) <sup>1</sup>		3
Language, philosophy and culture ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture</a> ) <sup>1</sup>		3
General elective <sup>1,2</sup>		3
Semester Credit Hours		15
Summer		
Select one of the following:		3

MATH 140	Mathematics for Business and Social Sciences <sup>3</sup>	
MATH 142	Business Calculus	
MATH 167	Explorations in Mathematics	
PHIL 240	Introduction to Logic	
STAT 201	Elementary Statistical Inference	
Semester Credit Hours		3
<b>Second Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
RPTS 302	Application of Tourism Principles	3
RPTS 311	Planning and Implementation of Events and Programs	3
Government/Political science ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science</a> )		3
RPTS Certificate <sup>4</sup>		3
Semester Credit Hours		12
<b>Spring</b>		
Government/Political science ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science</a> )		3
Life and physical sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences</a> )		4
RPTS Certificate <sup>4</sup>		3
General elective <sup>1,2</sup>		3
Semester Credit Hours		13
<b>Summer</b>		
ACCT 209	Survey of Accounting Principles	3
Select one of the following:		3
MATH 140	Mathematics for Business and Social Sciences <sup>3</sup>	
MATH 142	Business Calculus	
MATH 167	Explorations in Mathematics	
PHIL 240	Introduction to Logic	
STAT 201	Elementary Statistical Inference	
Semester Credit Hours		6
<b>Third Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
RPTS 336	Research and Analysis in Recreation and Tourism	3
RPTS 340	Recreation, Parks, Tourism and Diverse Populations	3
RPTS 481	Seminar	1
RPTS Certificate <sup>4</sup>		3
General elective <sup>1,2</sup>		3
Semester Credit Hours		13
<b>Spring</b>		
RENr 205	Fundamentals of Ecology	3
RPTS Certificate <sup>4</sup>		3
Departmental elective ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/rpts/">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/rpts/</a> )		3
General elective <sup>1,2</sup>		3
Semester Credit Hours		12

<b>Summer</b>		
RPTS 484	Internship	6
Semester Credit Hours		6
<b>Fourth Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
COMM 203	Public Speaking	3
RENr 215	Fundamentals of Ecology--Laboratory	1
RPTS Certificate <sup>4</sup>		3
General elective <sup>1,2</sup>		6
Semester Credit Hours		13
<b>Spring</b>		
AGCJ 404 or ENGL 210	Communicating Agricultural Information to the Public or Technical and Business Writing	3
KINE 120	The Science of Basic Health and Fitness	1
RPTS Certificate <sup>4</sup>		4
General elective <sup>1,2</sup>		4
Semester Credit Hours		12
Total Semester Credit Hours		120

<sup>1</sup> Graduation requirements include a requirement for 3 hours of International and Cultural Diversity (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/international-cultural-diversity-requirements/>) courses and 3 hours of Cultural Discourse (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/cultural-discourse-requirements/>) courses. A course satisfying a core category, a college/department requirement, or a free elective can be used to satisfy this requirement. See academic advisor.

<sup>2</sup> Students will choose any course or choose a course towards another RPTS certificate

<sup>3</sup> MATH 168 accepted in place of MATH 140.

<sup>4</sup> Complete one embedded certificate, GPA of 2.0 or better in certificate coursework is required. Select from options below.

### Certificate Options

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
<b>Community Recreation and Park Administration Certificate</b>		
RPTS 209	Park and Tourism Operations	3
RPTS 304	Administration of Recreation Resource Agencies	3
	or RPTS 323 or Managing Hospitality and Recreation Organizations	
RPTS 370	Youth Development Organizations and Services	3
RPTS 402	Park Planning and Design <sup>5</sup>	3
RPTS 403	Financing and Marketing Recreation, Park and Tourism Resources <sup>6</sup>	4
Departmental electives ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/rpts/">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/rpts/</a> )		3
Total Semester Credit Hours		19

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
<b>Parks and Conservation Certificate</b>		
REN 460/ RPTS 460	Nature, Values, and Protected Areas <sup>6</sup>	3
RPTS 304	Administration of Recreation Resource Agencies	3
RPTS 307	Interpretation of Natural and Cultural Resources	3
RPTS 316	Recreational Management of Wildlands	3
RPTS 402	Park Planning and Design <sup>5</sup>	3
RPTS 403	Financing and Marketing Recreation, Park and Tourism Resources <sup>6</sup>	4
Total Semester Credit Hours		19

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
<b>Tourism Management Certificate</b>		
RPTS 320	Event Management and Operations I	3
RPTS 323	Managing Hospitality and Recreation Organizations	3
RPTS 331	Tourism Marketing	3
RPTS 401	Tourism and Recreation Enterprises	4
	or RPTS 403 or Financing and Marketing Recreation, Park and Tourism Resources	
RPTS 426	Tourism Impacts <sup>6</sup>	3
Departmental electives ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/rpts/">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/rpts/</a> )		3
Total Semester Credit Hours		19

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
<b>Youth Development Certificate</b>		
RPTS 304	Administration of Recreation Resource Agencies	3
RPTS 370	Youth Development Organizations and Services	3
RPTS 371	Understanding and Developing Effective Skills for Youth Development	3
RPTS 401	Tourism and Recreation Enterprises <sup>6</sup>	4
	or RPTS 403 or Financing and Marketing Recreation, Park and Tourism Resources	
RPTS 474	Management of Programs and Services for Youth <sup>6</sup>	3
RPTS 478	Youth Development Practice	3
Total Semester Credit Hours		19

<sup>5</sup> This course satisfies the oral communication (C) course requirement.

<sup>6</sup> This course satisfies the writing (W) course requirement.