RECREATION, PARK, AND TOURISM MANAGEMENT, B.S. (UNIVERSITY COLLEGE)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus
End Campus: Greater Allegheny

Career Paths

Four options are offered to help prepare students for management positions in public or private agencies at the federal, state, and local levels. The options offered are:

1. Commercial Recreation and Tourism Management
2. Community Recreation Management
3. Professional Golf Management
4. Outdoor Recreation Management

Management positions include, but are not limited to resorts, event management businesses, golf courses, golf industry businesses, park systems, environmental centers, university intramural and sport club programs, recreation services for the armed forces, and health care facilities. Our multidisciplinary graduate program is designed to educate students about research, theory, and practice related to leisure and recreation as experienced at the individual, societal, and cross-cultural levels. Both the M.S. program and Ph.D. program help students develop an understanding of the social, environmental, psychological, and economic aspects of human behavior in recreation and leisure activities and also allow students to concentrate their studies in:

- Recreation/tourism management and marketing
- Commercial recreation and tourism
- Outdoor recreation and protected area management
- Community recreation
- General leisure behavior

Careers

A degree from RPTM is suited for you if you have career interests in supervisory and administrative positions in tourism & event management, entertainment, sport & fitness venue management, professional golf management, community recreation, non-profit administration, outdoor experiential leadership, park management, environmental interpretation, natural resource management and youth & senior recreation services.

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

Whether you are looking for a master’s degree or your doctorate in RPTM, our multi-disciplinary graduate program is designed to educate students about research, theory and practice related to recreation, parks, tourism and leisure. Both the master of science (M.S.) and the doctor of philosophy (Ph.D.) programs help you develop an understanding of the social, environmental, psychological and economic aspects of human behavior in relation to the experience and delivery of recreation, park, tourism and leisure activities.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES

More information about potential career options for graduates of the Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management Program.

Professional Resources

- Professional Golfers’ Association of America (https://pga.org)
- Kurt Hahn Consortium for Values and Experiential Learning (https://hhd.psu.edu/rptm/Kurt-Hahn-Consortium-for-Values-and-Experiential-Learning/)
- Denali National Park and Preserve (https://hhd.psu.edu/rptm/research/research-labs-and-initiatives/outdoor-recreation-protected-area-and-environmental-education-research-group/)
- Shaver’s Creek Environmental Center (https://www.shaverscreek.org/)
- National Park and Recreation Association (https://nrpa.org)
- Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society (https://prps.org)