RECREATION, SPORT & TOURISM, MS

for the degree of Master of Science in Recreation, Sport & Tourism (on campus & online)

The M.S. degree may be undertaken as a terminal professional track program or serve as the first step toward the Ph.D. program.

The Department of Recreation, Sport & Tourism offers programs of study leading to the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. The Master of Science program educates students about leisure behavior, public parks and recreation systems, sport and tourism, in various private, public and semi-public settings providing leisure services. The Ph.D. program is designed to develop researchers and educators in the study of leisure behavior, the management of recreation, tourism, and sport systems that provide leisure services, or both.

Admission

The Graduate College admission requirements apply. Specifically, the admission requirements are a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (A = 4.0) for the last two years of undergraduate work and any graduate work completed. In accordance with Graduate College requirements, applicants must receive a minimum score on the TOEFL of 103 and on the IELTS a minimum score of 7.5. Students are also required to provide an academic statement of purpose, a personal statement, and three letters of reference (at least one should be an academic reference). Campus-based MS students may be admitted for the fall or spring semesters. Online MS students may be admitted for the fall, spring, or summer semesters.

A candidate for the M.S. degree must spend at least one semester on campus. A full-time student can complete the program in three or four semesters.

Students in the online program complete the Non-Thesis option. See below.

For additional details and requirements for all degrees, please refer to the department’s website (http://rst.illinois.edu/grad-overview/) and the Graduate College Handbook (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/).

Thesis Option

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RST 501</td>
<td>Foundations and Current Issues in Recreation, Sport &amp; Tourism</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select two of the following:  
RST 512 Managing Recreation, Sport & Tourism Organizations  
RST 515 Marketing in RST  
RST 516 Financial Management and Budgeting in Recreation, Sport & Tourism

Select one Option Area Course from:
- RST 502 Critical Issues Recreation Mgt
- RST 520 Critical Issues Sport Mgt
- RST 530 Critical Issues Tourism Mgt

Non-Thesis Option

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RST 501</td>
<td>Foundations and Current Issues in Recreation, Sport &amp; Tourism</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RST 504</td>
<td>Applied Evaluation and Needs Assessment in RST</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RST 512</td>
<td>Managing Recreation, Sport &amp; Tourism Organizations</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RST 515</td>
<td>Marketing in RST</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RST 516</td>
<td>Financial Management and Budgeting in Recreation, Sport &amp; Tourism</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RST 519</td>
<td>Strategic Management in RST</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select one Option Area Course from:
- RST 502 Critical Issues Recreation Mgt
- RST 520 Critical Issues Sport Mgt
- RST 530 Critical Issues Tourism Mgt

Total Credit Hours: 36

Other Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Hours Overall Required</td>
<td>12 at the 500 level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum 500-level Hours Required overall</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum GPA</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

for the degree of Master of Science in Recreation, Sport & Tourism (on campus & online)

1. Graduates will have an in-depth understanding of the conceptual and theoretical foundations (i.e., concepts, theories, applications, and principles) of recreation, sport, and tourism.
2. Graduates will have an in-depth understanding of societal issues and how recreation, sport, and tourism is integral to addressing contemporary societal issues.

3. Graduates will have an in-depth understanding of managing recreation, sport and tourism organizations.

4. Graduates will develop understanding and competence in marketing planning, strategy, implementation and evaluation in recreation, sport and tourism.

5. Graduates will develop understanding and competence in budgeting and finance in recreation, sport, and tourism.

6. Graduates will develop understanding and competence in strategic planning and management in recreation, sport and tourism organizations.

7. Graduates will develop understanding and competence in applied evaluation and needs assessment methods in recreation, sport and tourism.

---

**Graduate Degree Programs in Recreation, Sport & Tourism**

- Majors
  - Recreation, Sport & Tourism, MS ([p. 1](#)) (on campus & online)
  - Recreation, Sport & Tourism, PhD ([http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/ahs/recreation-sport-tourism-phd/](http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/ahs/recreation-sport-tourism-phd/))

*for the degree of Master of Science in Recreation, Sport & Tourism (on campus & online)*

---

**Department of Recreation, Sport & Tourism**

Department Head: Bill Stewart (wstewart@illinois.edu)
Director of Graduate Studies: Monika Stodolska (stodolsk@illinois.edu)
Graduate Coordinator: Mike Mulvaney (mmulvane@illinois.edu)
Recreation, Sport & Tourism Department website ([http://rst.illinois.edu](http://rst.illinois.edu))
219 Huff Hall, 1206 South Fourth Street, Champaign, IL 61821
(217) 333-4410 | Recreation, Sport and Tourism email (rst@mx.uiuc.edu)

**College of Applied Health Sciences**

College of Applied Health Sciences website ([http://ahs.illinois.edu](http://ahs.illinois.edu))

**Admissions**

Graduate College Admissions & Requirements ([https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/](https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/))