

RECREATION, SPORT AND TOURISM

<http://rst.illinois.edu>

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Major: Recreation, Sport & Tourism
 Degrees Offered: M.S., Ph.D.

Online Program: Recreation, Sport & Tourism
 Degrees Offered: M.S.

Graduate Degree Programs

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 M.S. degree may be undertaken as a terminal professional track program or serve as the first step toward the Ph.D. program. 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. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required for all campus-based graduate degrees. In accordance with Graduate College requirements, scores on the TOEFL must be greater than 102 and scores on the IELTS must be greater than 6.5. Students are also required to provide a statement of purpose outlining their area of study, and three letters of reference. Preference is given to applicants who will be full-time students and active degree candidates. Students may be admitted for the fall, spring, or summer semesters.

Teaching Experience

Although teaching is not a general Graduate College requirement, experience in teaching is considered an important part of the graduate experience in this program. It is also anticipated that doctoral students will engage in research activities and scholarly communication under the guidance of their advisor.

Financial Aid

The department offers quarter-time and half-time assistantships in teaching, administration, and research, as well as tuition and fee waivers and the opportunity to apply for fellowships.

Master of Science in Recreation, Sport and Tourism (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/rec-sport-tourism/ms-rec-sport-tour>)

Master of Science in Recreation, Sport and Tourism - Online (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/rec-sport-tourism/ms-rec-sport-tour-onl>)

Doctor of Philosophy in Recreation, Sport and Tourism

Departmental requirements include satisfactory performance on the written preliminary examination at the completion of formal coursework, the oral preliminary examination on the proposed research for the thesis, and a final examination in defense of the doctoral thesis.

Code	Title	Hours
RST 503	Adv Leisure Research Methods	4
RST 550	Theory and Methods of Leisure	4
RST 551	Contemporary Issues in Leisure	4
RST 590	Doctoral Research Seminar and Colloquium (required for four semesters)	4
Coursework to support specialization (of the 28 required hours, a student must complete a minimum of 12 hours of RST coursework)		28
Advanced research methods to support specialization		16+
RST 599	Thesis Research (min/max applied toward degree)	20
Total Hours		80

Other Requirements ¹

Requirement	Description
Other requirements may overlap	
Two years in residence	
Masters Degree Required for Admission to PhD?	Yes
Qualifying Exam Required:	No
Preliminary Exam Required:	Yes
Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required:	Yes
Dissertation Deposit Required:	Yes
Minimum GPA:	3.0

¹ 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>).

The requirements for the Online program are the same as the non-thesis option of the Master of Science.

Master of Science in Recreation, Sport and Tourism-Online (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/rec-sport-tourism/ms-rec-sport-tour-onl>)