

# Recreation Administration

## The Field of Recreation Administration

Recreation contributes to the health and well-being of individuals, and enhances the quality of community life. Our courses encourage students to learn and participate in hands-on activities to help all people live healthy, enjoyable, active and meaningful lifestyles. Recreation Administration majors are active in the classroom and in the community.

The profession focuses on the principles underlying recreational activities, and the practices involved in providing indoor and outdoor recreational facilities and services for the general public. These recreational activities and services take place in outdoor recreation, parks and recreation, therapeutic recreation programs for people with disabilities, campus recreation, commercial recreation, travel and tourism, and youth serving organizations.

The field of study is multidisciplinary, requiring an understanding of social, behavioral and environmental sciences as they pertain to helping people grow and develop in their leisure pursuits while conserving our natural resources. Knowledge of the arts and humanities is also important, because leisure provides opportunities for self-expression and the development of community.

## The Department

The faculty is committed to providing a quality professional preparation program in recreation and leisure services, founded on a competency-based curriculum. Graduates will have acquired specific competencies as identified by practitioners, faculty, and the Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism, and Related Professions. These skills are related to leadership, program planning, recreation and leisure-oriented activities, budgeting, evaluation of programs and personnel, professional ethics, service philosophy, research techniques, public relations, communication skills, risk management, legal aspects, administration, and facility planning and management.

The program is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism, and Related Professions.

## Career Opportunities

Recreation and leisure business comprises the second largest industry in the United States. Employment opportunities are excellent. Graduates who are highly motivated and assertive have been very successful in securing professional positions when they design their academic and work experience to meet the needs of the marketplace.

Recreation professionals lead, supervise, and manage recreation activities, oversee areas

and facilities and promote leisure education for individuals and groups in public, private and non-profit agencies. Employment settings include municipal parks and recreation departments, private resorts, county, state and federal agencies; non-profit organizations; religious youth and adult organizations; hospitals; military installations; colleges and universities, and travel and tour companies.

In support of healthy individuals, families, and communities, career opportunities in recreation and leisure services are numerous and diverse. The recreation curriculum prepares students to design, implement, manage, lead, and evaluate recreation programs and services in the following professional preparation options: commercial recreation, community recreation and youth services, adventure recreation and tourism, therapeutic recreation, and sports and entertainment facility management.

## Future Education

The undergraduate curriculum is designed to serve as a foundation for graduate education in recreation administration. The master's degree may be required for some administrative positions in recreation. The doctoral degree is desirable for those pursuing a career in higher education.

California State  
University, Fresno

Department of  
Recreation  
Administration

559.278.2838

B.S. in  
Recreation  
Administration

*Emphases:*

- *Adventure Recreation and Tourism*
- *Commercial Recreation and Event Planning*
- *Community Recreation and Youth Services*
- *Sports and Entertainment Facility Management*
- *Therapeutic Recreation*

Minor in  
Recreation  
Administration

Certificate

Programs in:

- *Serving At-Risk Youth*
- *Special Event Planning*
- *Adventure-Based Programming*
- *Sports and Entertainment Facility Management*

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## General Preparation

Students seeking a career in recreation administration should be service-oriented, outgoing, articulate, and willing to work hard. They need a love of life and a great interest in the leisure industry.

## High School Preparation

Students should meet California State University's admission requirements in terms of college preparatory course requirements, grade point average, and test scores.

## College Program

Students should consult the university's *General Catalog* for specific major and university requirements. Community college transfers should consult their catalog to ensure that courses taken are CSU transferable (baccalaureate level). Coursework designed to enhance leadership skills and hands-on experiences in recreational or leisure services agencies significantly contribute to the student's professional growth and development.

## General Education

Students should complete as many of the Fresno State General Education requirements as possible during the freshman and sophomore years, whether they are attending Fresno State or a community college. Community colleges can certify up to 39 of the units required in Fresno State's General Education pattern.

## Suggested Related Activities

Students in recreation administration should accumulate at least 200 hours of paid or voluntary hands-on experience in a variety of recreation, clinical, or leisure services agencies for pre-internship preparation (1,000 hours are recommended). Advising helps guide the selection of venues to gain these hours.

## Course Requirements

Since program changes may occur, students should consult the *General Catalog* and a Fresno State adviser prior to registering for courses.

## Lower Division

Foundations and Careers in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism (RA 55)

Leadership in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism (RA 73S)

Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Programming (RA 77S)

Lifelong Learning in the Natural Environment (RA 80)

## Upper Division

Junior-Senior level courses  
(to be taken at Fresno State)

The core is required of all students. Each emphasis has varying requirements. A representative listing of courses is presented here.

## Core Program

Foundations and Careers in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism

Leadership in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism

Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Programming

Lifelong Learning in the Natural Environment

Leisure and Human Behavior

Diversity and Inclusive Practices in Recreation

Legal and Financial Aspects of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism

Legal and Financial Aspects of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Lab

Supervision and Administration in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism

Professional Placement in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism

## Elective Courses

Adventure Based Programming

Special Event Planning

Serving At-Risk Youth

Challenge Course Facilitation

Recreation and Parks Facilities Planning and Operations

Foundations of Commercial Recreation and Tourism

Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Marketing

Sports and Entertainment Facility Management

Community and Non-Profit Recreation Services

Foundations of Therapeutic Recreation

Conference, Convention, and Meeting Planning

Research and Evaluation in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism

For additional information, write

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Fresno, California  
93740-8019

Visit or call

Recreation Administration Department

Professional Human Services Building, Room 121  
559.278.2838

[www.csufresno.edu/recadmin](http://www.csufresno.edu/recadmin)

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**PLEASE NOTE:** This document is for general informational purposes only. The information is subject to change; consult the appropriate department or an academic adviser. Entering freshmen must follow the revised General Education program effective fall 1999 and thereafter. The university catalog and schedule of courses are available online at [www.fresnostate.edu/ClassSchedule](http://www.fresnostate.edu/ClassSchedule) and [www.fresnostate.edu/catalog](http://www.fresnostate.edu/catalog).

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