

# **Recreation and Leisure Studies Department: Undergraduate Program – General Information Packet**

## ***Commercial Recreation and Tourism***

Tourism, recreation, and leisure services now constitute the world's largest and most rapidly expanding economic sector. This emphasis area prepares undergraduates for career positions responsible for the planning, development, management, marketing, and delivery of tourism programs and services within public and private sectors. Students are required to take the following courses: Introduction to Travel and Tourism, Principles of Commercial Recreation, Eco Tourism and advised electives. The program is flexible and allows students to specialize in selected aspects of tourism through research and/or special projects.

The Private/Commercial Recreation concentration provides broad based understanding of the diverse career opportunities available in such areas as:

- ✍ Employee Recreation
- ✍ Amusement Park Management
- ✍ Travel-Tourism
- ✍ Health and Fitness
- ✍ Residential Complex Activities Management
- ✍ Small Business Enterprises

Graduates of this program may hold positions with a variety of businesses including:

- ✍ Paramount's Great America
- ✍ Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk
- ✍ Marine World
- ✍ Yosemite National Park and Curry Company
- ✍ Visitors and Convention Bureaus
- ✍ Corporate Employees Recreation Services

Students may look to these same agencies for internship opportunities. Specialized courses include:

- ✍ Planning and Development of Leisure Enterprises
- ✍ Commercial Recreation
- ✍ Travel and Tourism
- ✍ Management of New Enterprises
- ✍ Ecotourism
- ✍ Introduction to Marketing

A minor in business is encouraged. For more information about the Commercial Recreation and Tourism concentration please contact Gay Gale. He can be reached at [gaygale@casa.sjsu.edu](mailto:gaygale@casa.sjsu.edu) or by calling 408-924-3003.

### ***Leadership and Administration***

The Leadership and Administration emphasis trains students in the art and science of leading organizations. It is designed for those students wanting to make an impact on society through its institutions by designing and leading better, kinder, and more solvent organizations. Like other students in our degree programs, students in this discipline learn fundamentals inherent in helping others achieve their potential and enrich the world while at the same helping them to understand how to take theory about resource development and put it into practice. Sufficient diversification is offered to enable students to enter any of several leisure service settings. Graduates of this program hold positions with:

- ✍ City, County, State, and Federal Agencies
- ✍ University Campuses
- ✍ YMCAs, YWCAs, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts
- ✍ Morale, Welfare and Recreation Programs on Armed Forces Bases

To prepare students for professional roles in these settings, skills such as leadership, group organization, planning, programming and personnel management are emphasized. For more information about the Leadership and Administration concentration, please contact BJ Grosvenor. She can be reached at [bjgrosvenor@casa.sjsu.edu](mailto:bjgrosvenor@casa.sjsu.edu) or by calling 408-924-3165.

For more information, including specific course requirements, please refer to the SJSU Course Catalog.

### ***Therapeutic Recreation Service***

An estimated 12% of the population of the United States has a chronic illness or disability. While the study of leisure for individuals with disabilities cannot be separated from the study of leisure in general, therapeutic recreation addresses the serious functions of leisure service delivery for persons with disabling conditions. At the undergraduate level, the curriculum emphasizes a strong conceptual framework upon which individualized and group therapeutic recreation practices can be developed. Therapeutic Recreation employs recreational, educational, and counseling strategies in a purposeful manner assisting individuals to achieve optimal health.

Through the integration of theory, classroom involvement and extensive field-based experiences, students develop a sound awareness of self and the impact they have as practitioners in a field which is constantly evolving and maturing. To prepare students for professional roles with diverse populations, the following

skills are emphasized: assessment, individualized program planning, activity analysis and modification, intervention strategies, documentation and interdisciplinary approaches to teamwork.

As a certified therapeutic recreation specialist, one has an opportunity to work in a myriad of environments with individuals with varying disabling conditions including, spinal cord injuries, traumatic brain injuries, strokes, orthopedic impairments, and neurological impairments. Typical placement sites for internships and employment are:

- ✍ Hospitals and Health Care Centers
- ✍ Long Term Care Facilities
- ✍ School Settings focusing on Inclusion
- ✍ City Parks and Recreation Departments
- ✍ Non-Profit Agencies
- ✍ Private Consulting Agencies
- ✍ Adventure Therapy Settings
- ✍ Correctional Facilities
- ✍ Pediatric Centers and Children's Hospitals

For more information about the Therapeutic Recreation concentration, please contact Dr. Gonzaga da Gama. He can be reached at [gonzaga@casa.sjsu.edu](mailto:gonzaga@casa.sjsu.edu) or by calling 408-924-3005.

### ***Park Resource Management***

The Park Resource Management concentration prepares students for positions at the level of local, county, state, and national government as well as in commercial and private recreation settings. This concentration emphasizes instruction in the natural sciences, government, business and social services with regard to recreation and leisure. Agencies which accept interns and are a source of employment for graduates include: urban, county and regional park and recreation departments, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Army Corps of Engineers, and other public, commercial and private agencies. For more information about the Park Resource Management concentration, please contact Jill Cody at [jcody@casa.sjsu.edu](mailto:jcody@casa.sjsu.edu).