

Graduate Admissions Information

For more information about the Masters Degree Program in Recreation and Leisure Studies, please complete this card and return it to us.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (home) _____ Telephone (work) _____

E-mail _____

Bachelor's Degree (College, Year Awarded) _____

Undergraduate Major _____

Check as many as apply.
Please send:

Application materials for the Masters Degree Program in Recreation and Leisure Studies

The SCSU Graduate Catalog

The schedule of courses for the up-coming semester

Other _____



Masters Degree Program in Recreation and Leisure Studies



Advancing our agenda for excellence.





Recreation and leisure activities and experiences are vital to the American lifestyle, contributing to individual and community health, well-being, and life satisfaction. As a multi-billion dollar industry, recreation and leisure is one of the fastest growing segments of the economy, with Americans spending about a third of their time, income, and automobile miles engaging in leisure activities. A better understanding of the physical and emotional benefits of recreation has led to increased structure, more scheduled activities, and a wide range of individual recreational pursuits.

Southern's Masters Degree Program in Recreation and Leisure studies prepares students for supervision, administration, and management of recreation programs and facilities. Two tracks—recreation administration and therapeutic recreation—provide flexible, individualized avenues of study reflecting both the varied backgrounds and diverse goals of the students enrolled in the program. The specialization in recreation administration qualifies graduates for certification by the National Recreation and Park Association. The therapeutic recreation specialization is designed to meet certification requirements of the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification. The Southern master's program can also be a steppingstone toward a doctoral degree and a college-level teaching career in the field.

Program Description

The master's degree program in recreation and leisure studies is a minimum 36-credit program, typically completed in a cohort during a two-year period, including summers. Each student is required to take four core courses that cover the foundations of leisure and recreation,

as well as management, research, and supervision/leadership in the parks, recreation, and leisure services area. Beyond that, students divide their remaining coursework between their chosen specializations, departmental electives, and a practicum. The program is designed with an emphasis on flexibility to provide students with the opportunity to tailor their degrees to their personal goals and objectives. Students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average to remain in good standing.

Each student must complete a culminating experience—either a master's thesis; a comprehensive oral and written exam; or a supervised special project. Typically, the thesis is the choice of those pursuing academia while the comprehensive exam or special project are more frequently chosen by therapeutic recreation or recreation administration students and often involve their professional experiences.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the master's degree program in recreation and leisure studies requires application to both the department and the School of Graduate Studies. Candidates must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited university with a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better on a 4.0 scale. In addition, applicants must express their interest and reasons for seeking a master's degree in either a personal essay or an interview with recreation and leisure studies faculty.

Some students who do not meet the stated requirements may be accepted on a conditional basis and must maintain a grade of B or better in each class to continue in the program.

How to Apply

Both the School of Graduate Studies and the recreation and leisure studies program have rolling admission policies. It is best to contact the Graduate Program Coordinator to begin the application process.

The School of Graduate Studies application is available on the Web site at www.SouthernCT.edu/grad or can be forwarded upon request. You must request that official transcripts from all previously attended undergraduate and graduate programs be sent to the Graduate School. Send the application and \$50 application fee to:

School of Graduate Studies
Southern Connecticut State University
501 Crescent Street, EN B110
New Haven, CT 06515-1330

All other materials should go directly to the following address:



Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies
Southern Connecticut State University
501 Crescent Street
Office Building 1, Room 108A
New Haven, CT 06515-1330

Accepted applicants will receive a letter from the School of Graduate Studies.

Faculty

Graduate courses in recreation and leisure studies are taught almost exclusively by full-time faculty members, all of whom have doctoral degrees and a myriad of experience in rehabilitation environments, program administration, and educational settings. Adjunct faculty members lend their expertise in facilities management and community development, as well.

Careers

Graduates of the master's degree program in recreation and leisure studies come from different backgrounds and have a wide array of options open to them upon graduation. Some students are already working in therapeutic recreation or recreation administration and can use the degree to seek greater responsibility or greater compensation. Others come from less typical professions—teaching, elderly care, and human resources, for example—and seek to infuse more recreation and leisure activities into their work.

Still others come to recreation and leisure studies from unrelated careers, following a passion or seeking a new challenge.

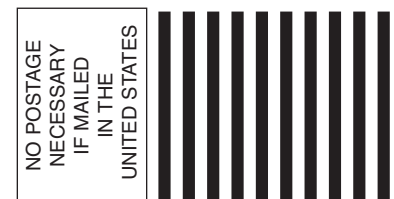
Graduates of Southern's program can be found throughout the state and the region in municipal, state, and federal parks departments, health and fitness clubs, YMCAs, travel and tourism centers, wilderness and adventure programs, public and private agencies, corrections facilities, substance abuse facilities, schools, hospitals, nursing facilities, and academia.

Contact Information

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Southern Connecticut State University

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New Haven, CT 06515-1330
(203) 392-5240 or 1-800-448-0661
gradinfo@SouthernCT.edu
www.SouthernCT.edu/grad



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