

Recreation, Park & Tourism Management

Students in the Recreation, Park and Tourism Management (RPTM) program enjoy learning from a distinguished and dedicated faculty who are active in teaching, research and professional work. Each student receives personal attention intended to foster the intellectual growth and personal development necessary to produce future leaders in the recreation, park and tourism industries. Kent State's RPTM program is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Related Professions (COAPRT). This distinction makes RPTM graduates eligible to take the exam for the Certified Park and Recreation Professional certification.

Evidence of Student Learning & Success

INTERNSHIP SUPERVISOR EVALUATIONS

Internship Supervisor Survey: 2013-2016; N=52

88% of supervisors rated our seniors as either Expert or Practitioner in terms of their understanding of the RPTM profession.

85% of supervisors rated our seniors as either Expert or Practitioner in terms of the quality of their work completed during their internship.

RPTM EXIT SURVEY: 2013-2015

These statistics represent the percentage of students selecting Agree Completely or Agree Somewhat; N=44

98% I can facilitate recreation & related experiences for a diverse clientele.

96% I understand the interrelationship between leisure behavior and the natural environment.

91% I have the ability to design recreation programs that apply knowledge of professional practice, science, and philosophy

RPTM Internships

Students complete a hands-on, semester long internship with a RPTM related business, government agency or organization during their senior year. Past internships include:

- National Park Service
- Alaska State Parks
- Cleveland Metro Parks
- The YMCA
- KSU Hotel & Conference Center
- Xanterra Resorts
- Deer Creek Golf Course
- Camp Asbury

Minors/Certificate

Students can enhance their career options with a RPTM minor or certificate!

Minors

- Recreation Management
- Park Management
- Tourism Management

Certificate

- Disability Studies & Community Inclusion

Faculty Accomplishments

Dr. Mary Ann Devine

Top national and international researcher on the inclusion of people with disabilities in recreation environments. She developed the Disability Studies and Community Inclusion minor/certificate, which is an innovative learning opportunity for KSU students.

Dr. Andrew Lepp

Worked for the US Forest Service, US Park Service, and the Uganda Wildlife Authority in East Africa. His research on new media (smartphones, etc.) and leisure has been reported upon by TIME Magazine, the LA Times, NBC's Today Show, Public Radio and other popular news outlets.

Dr. Mary Parr

Member of the Education Network of the National Recreation Park Association, Ohio Parks and Recreation Association, and Buckeye Trail Association. Her research and teaching focuses on preparing students to be strong advocates for investment in parks, recreation, & leisure.

Dr. Philip Wang

Teaches courses relating to travel and tourism as economic and cultural development. His research has a focus on tourism marketing and the aesthetics of travel.

Student Satisfaction

What did you like the most about the RPTM program?

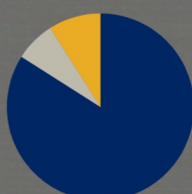
"The life and career experiences of our faculty."

"The class size was wonderful."

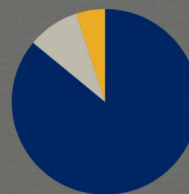
"The practical experience. It is a lot of work, but it's completely necessary and prepares you for a career in the field."

"The passion of the people involved, shared experiences, and instructors who have worked in the field."

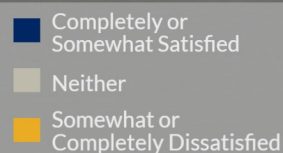
Exit Survey Results
2013-2015; N=44



Incorporation of research-based knowledge into course content



Instructors' expertise related to course content



Fall 2016 Enrollment



88 Fall 2016 Major Enrollment

32 Fall 2016 Minor Enrollment

Source: Kent IR Office

For more information on the Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management program...

please visit our website: www.kent.edu/ehhs/fla/rptm

or contact Dr. Andrew Lepp, alepp1@kent.edu