Undergraduate Programs

Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism

The Department of Community, Agriculture, Recreation and Resource Studies offers a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism. By combining a body of specialized professional knowledge with the study of natural, social, management and behavioral sciences, the program provides an opportunity for students to obtain a broad, interdisciplinary education which emphasizes a professional area of knowledge. The Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism major is designed to prepare students for professional positions related to the enjoyment of the outdoors. Such positions include management of public parks, forests and protected areas, non-profit lands and other natural resources, and commercial enterprises that provide goods and services to outdoor enthusiasts. Meeting people's outdoor leisure needs, enhancing the quality of life, and providing sustainable economic and social development are hallmarks of the Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism major.

Students in the Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism major will acquire an understanding of natural resource recreation and tourism that integrates theory with practice. This includes the concepts of leisure, tourism, recreation and sustainability, as well as operation of delivery systems, policy, administration, management, planning and evaluation.

Requirements for the Bachelor of Science Degree in Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism

1. The University requirements for bachelor's degrees as described in the Undergraduate Education section of this catalog; 120 credits, including general elective credits, are required for the Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism.

   The University's Tier II writing requirement for the Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism major is met by completing Park, Recreation and Tourism Resources 370. That course is referenced in item 3. a. below.

   The completion of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources mathematics requirement may also satisfy the University mathematics requirement.

2. The requirements of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources for the Bachelor of Science degree.

   Certain courses referenced in requirement 3. below may be counted toward College requirements as appropriate.

3. The following requirements for the major:

   a. All of the following courses (25 to 28):
      
      ACR 202  Problem Solving in Community, Agriculture and Environmental Systems  3
      ACR 205  Agriculture and Natural Resources Communication Theory and Practice  3
      ACR 415  Program Planning and Evaluation  3
      ACR 492  Senior Seminar  1
      GEO 221  Introduction to Geographic Information  3
      PRR 211  Introduction to Natural Resource Recreation  3
      PRR 214  Introduction to Travel and Tourism  3
      PRR 370  Administration and Operation of Park and Recreation Systems (W)  3
      PRR 493  Professional Internship in Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism  3 to 6

   Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 grade-point average in all ACR and PRR courses referenced in item 3. a.

   b. One of the following courses (3 or 4 credits):
      
      FW 419  Applications of Geographic Information Systems  4
to Natural Resources Management

GEO 325 Geographic Information Systems 3

c. One of the following courses (3 or 4 credits):

PSY 295 Data Analysis in Psychological Research 3
STT 200 Statistical Methods 3
STT 201 Statistical Methods 4
STT 224 Introduction to Probability and Statistics for Ecologists 3

d. One of the following concentrations (30 or 35 credits):

**Natural Resource Recreation Management** (31 credits)

Federal, state and local governments and non-profit and for-profit entities offer a variety of career opportunities in natural resource recreation management. These opportunities include careers in park and land management, recreation and conservation law enforcement, and nature and cultural interpretation. They involve management of resources including facilities such as campgrounds, trails and water resources for people who enjoy the outdoors. Natural resource recreation professionals often work in teams with wildlife biologists, foresters, landscape architects, archaeologists, and historians in resource planning, facility development, and visitor management. A key characteristic of their efforts is to optimize recreational experiences while providing sustainable opportunities.

(1) One of the following courses (3 credits):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESA 200</td>
<td>Introduction to Environmental Studies and Agriscience</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOR 202</td>
<td>Introduction to Forestry</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FW 101</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Fisheries and Wildlife Ecology and Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) All of the following courses (22 credits):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BS 162</td>
<td>Organismal and Population Biology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS 172</td>
<td>Organismal and Population Biology Laboratory</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSS 210</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Soil Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESA 324</td>
<td>Water Resource Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOR 412</td>
<td>Wildland Fire</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRR 448</td>
<td>Foundations of Natural Resource Based Recreation Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRR 449</td>
<td>Natural Resource Based Recreation Management Applications</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZOL 355</td>
<td>Ecology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(3) One of the following courses (3 credits):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESA 440</td>
<td>Environmental and Natural Resource Policy in Michigan</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(4) One of the following courses (3 credits):
Commercial Recreation and Tourism (35 credits):
Commercial recreation enterprises and the entire tourism system are increasingly important aspects of our state, regional, national and world economies. Sustainability in this growing economic sector is a crucial factor as the industry seeks graduates who provide short-term and long-term perspectives on efficient, responsible use of resources that are the foundation of a customer’s willingness to pay for outdoor recreation experiences. Marinas, ski resorts, commercial campgrounds, charter boats, canoe or kayak liversies, and other direct providers as well as support businesses such as motels, recreation equipment retailers and manufacturers and travel service providers, depend on a healthy, productive natural-resource base to attract and retain customers. Government entities such as visitor and convention bureaus, state travel bureaus and private sector tourism associations are increasingly active in marketing natural resource recreation and tourism opportunities to sustain and diversify local economies. Careers include marketing, enterprise development and management, guiding and outfitting, and association management, which provides a bridge between public and private sectors such as concessionaires providing commercial recreation services on public lands.

(1) One of the following courses (6 credits):
- GEO 259 Geography of Recreation and Tourism 3
- GEO 459 Tourism in Regional Development 3
- PRR 272 Recreational Boating Systems and the Boating Industry 3
- PRR 410 International Studies in Tourism, Parks and Recreation 3

(2) All of the following courses (32 credits):
- ACC 230 Survey of Accounting Concepts 3
- FI 320 Introduction to Finance 3
- GBL 323 Introduction to Business Law 3
- HB 100 Introduction to Hospitality Business 2
- HB 237 Management of Lodging Systems 3
- HB 267 Management of Food and Beverage Systems 3
- MGT 325 Management Skills and Processes 3
- MKT 327 Introduction to Marketing 3
PRR 360 Marketing Communications in Recreation and Tourism 3
PRR 473 Commercial Recreation and Tourism Businesses and Organizations 3
PRR 474 The Tourism System 3

© 2013 Office of the Registrar, Michigan State University Board of Trustees. East Lansing, MI 48824
MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer.