

GRADUATE MANUAL

for the
M.S. On-Line Program

**DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION,
SPORT AND TOURISM**

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

www.rst.illinois.edu

M.S. Graduate Program
Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism
104 Huff Hall
1206 South Fourth Street
Champaign, IL 61820
Telephone: 217-333-4410
Fax: 217-244-1935

January 2013

Preface

This manual is a guide to on-line graduate study in the Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism at the University of Illinois. Graduate students will be governed by the rules that are in effect at the beginning of the semester their graduate studies are initiated, for the degree to which they were admitted in the Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism. The graduate programs in the Department are under the rules and regulations of the Graduate College. This manual does not contain all policies and procedures of the Graduate College, and policies and procedures are continually being revised, so this manual may not be current. When situations or problems develop that are not mentioned in this manual, the student should contact his or her advisor, or the Director of Graduate Studies.

Table of Contents

I.	INTRODUCTION.....	4
II.	FACULTY/INSTRUCTORS/STAFF.....	6
III.	OVERVIEW OF THE ON-LINE GRADUATE PROGRAM.....	11
	Accreditation	11
	Master of Science (M.S.) Programs.....	11
	Academic Calendar.....	12
	Student E-Mail Accounts	12
	Student Support and Advising.....	12
	On-Line Orientation	13
	Student Portal.....	13
	Course Materials	13
	Computer Requirements	13
	Technical Support Services.....	15
IV.	FINANCIAL AID	15
V.	MASTER’S DEGREE IN RECREATION, SPORT AND TOURISM.....	16
	Course Requirements for Degree	16
	Time Limits.....	17
	Transfer of Credit	17
	Graduate Student Petition	18
	Degree Conferral.....	18
VI.	SATISFACTORY PROGRESS TOWARD DEGREE	19
	Good Standing.....	19
	Grades	19
VII.	QUESTIONS/CONTACTS.....	20

I. INTRODUCTION

Greetings

Welcome to the Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism, an academic unit of the University of Illinois. The Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism is situated within the College of Applied Health Sciences and its main office is located in 104 Huff Hall, 1206 South Fourth Street, Champaign, IL 61820. The department's main telephone number is 217-333-4410.

Department's Mission Statement

Our mission is to understand and promote the development and sustainability of healthy communities and advance the quality of life and well-being of individuals, families, and communities through parks, recreation, sport, and tourism.

This mission is accomplished through **teaching**, which conveys the knowledge and values necessary for individuals to lead responsible, productive and personally satisfying lives; through **scholarship** which advances knowledge; and through **engagement** with society which enriches the quality of life for individuals, families, and communities throughout a diverse society.

Message from the Department Head

Welcome to the Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Since its first course in 1936, the Department has been recognized as one of the premier units of its kind in the world. The Department is comprised by a diverse group of faculty who are recognized nationally and internationally for their research and their consultations to industry. The department has a distinguished history as a dynamic center for the development and dissemination of knowledge related to recreation, sport and tourism, for the preparation of students for academic positions, and for the preparation of professionals for the recreation, sport and tourism industry. You will find our department rich in possibilities for graduate education that include formal course instruction, seminars, and research opportunities. The department takes pride in fostering an atmosphere that provides strong organizational and infrastructure support, as well as careful attention to individual career development. We are a leader in both research and education. Consequently, we challenge our students intellectually, and we nurture ideas that they formulate.

Your academic career will proceed most smoothly and effectively if you maintain regular and ongoing communication with your faculty advisor, and you are also encouraged at any time to contact the Director of Graduate Studies to address questions or concerns as they arise. The faculty seek to instill in students a lifelong commitment to professional and intellectual growth, and to provide each student with the fundamentals on which to build a solid career.

Getting the most out of your experience here is simple. Get involved, work hard, and sample the wares and pleasures of your new community; meet your classmates, the faculty, and the staff; expect challenges, successes, and meaningful experiences.

Welcome!!

Best of Luck,

Laurence Chalip

Department Head
Recreation, Sport and Tourism

I. Faculty/Instructors/Staff

Faculty Profiles

Lynn A. Barnett, Ph.D. (University of Illinois) - Educational Psychology

Areas of research include theoretical formulations of children's play; intrinsic motivation and rewards; and analysis of structured activity programs for children. Areas of application include analysis of play and its relationship to development; investigation of programs, toys, and play spaces as facilitative of play. lynnbm@illinois.edu

Laurence Chalip, Ph.D. (University of Chicago) – Policy for Recreation, Sport, and Tourism

Areas of research include policy issues for recreation, sport and tourism, event management and marketing, sport tourism, community sport and recreation, and the Olympic Movement. Areas of application include uses of recreation, sport, and tourism for economic and social development, policy requirements to manage and market recreation, sport, and tourism effectively and efficiently. lchalip@illinois.edu

Joy Huang, Ph.D. (Purdue University) - Hospitality and Tourism Management

Areas of research include brand management in travel and tourism industry. Areas of application include examinations on consumer-based brand equity, general consumer behavior investigations (such as motivation, perception, attitude, behavior, etc.), and branding strategies in various settings. joyhuang@illinois.edu

Cary D. McDonald, Ph.D. (University of Minnesota) – Recreation Resource Management, Department Head

Areas of research include the application of social and behavioral science principles for understanding behavior in natural environments. Areas of application include outdoor recreation resource planning, management and policy; human dimensions of natural resource management; and nature-based tourism. carym@illinois.edu

Jacqueline McDowell, Ph.D. (Texas A&M University) - Sport Management

Areas of research include: Examination of diversity management strategies and the effectiveness of diversity initiatives in intercollegiate athletics; Investigation of black female athletic directors' race, gender, and class identity negotiations. Areas of application: Advocate for the reduction and elimination of racial and gender inequalities in intercollegiate athletics via the dissemination of diversity research and consulting with members of the sports industry. jmcd@illinois.edu

Laura Payne, Ph.D. (The Pennsylvania State University) - Leisure Studies

Areas of research include examining the relationship between leisure engagement and health among older adults, the role of community park and recreation agencies in the delivery of health promotion/disease prevention programs, and the translation of clinically based physical activity research into community settings. Areas of application include the design and delivery of community-based health promotion programs for older adults, streamlined evaluation methods for use by leisure service professionals, and working to connect community parks and recreation agencies to the health care arena. lpayne@illinois.edu

Carla A. Santos, Ph.D. (The Pennsylvania State University) -Communications
Areas of research include the socio-cultural aspects of tourism. Areas of application include the dynamics of representation in the context of mass mediated travel messages, and the politics of representation. csantos@illinois.edu

Kimberly J. Shinew, Ph.D. (Clemson University) - Leisure Studies
Areas of research include examining the interrelated impact of race, social class, and gender on leisure preferences/behaviors; and the role of constraints and other factors that can make access to leisure services problematic for marginal populations. Areas of application include the delivery of leisure services. shinew@illinois.edu

William P. Stewart, Ph.D. (Arizona) - Watershed Management and Forestry
Areas of research include understanding development processes for parks and protected areas; investigation of strategies to foster citizen and stakeholder dialogue about landscape change; exploring opportunities for civic discovery and meaning-making potential of planning forums. Areas of application are natural resource and urban park contexts. wstewart@illinois.edu

Monika Stodolska, Ph.D. (University of Alberta) – Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
Areas of research interest include the effects of race and ethnicity on leisure behavior, adaptation processes among minority groups, constraints on leisure, and transnationalism. Other subjects prominent in her research include ethnic and racial discrimination in leisure settings and physical activity among minority populations. Areas of application include provision of leisure services for special populations. stodolsk@illinois.edu

Scott Tainsky, Ph. D. (Michigan) - Sport Management
Areas of research include: Labor and Policy Issues in Professional and Intercollegiate Sport. Areas of application: Measure how the demographic characteristics of players impact revenue streams in competitive sports leagues; identify biases for/against various demographic groups in the judging of sports contests; quantify the influence of consumer discrimination on demand for teams and leagues. tainsky@illinois.edu

Adjunct Faculty

Kellee, Caton, Ph.D., Thompson Rivers University

Michael Mulvaney, Ph.D. Eastern Illinois University

Jennifer Ruddell, Ph.D., University of Illinois

Steve Staples, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Princeton University

Retired and Emeriti Faculty

Joseph J. Bannon, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Leisure Studies

D. James Brademas, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Leisure Studies

Jerry Burnham, Ph.D., Associate Dean ALS (Retired)

Michael Ellis, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Leisure Studies

Robert D. Espeseth, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Leisure Studies

John R. Kelly, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Leisure Studies

William McKinney, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Recreation, Sport and Tourism

Bruce E. Wicks, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Recreation, Sport and Tourism

Lecturers

Ryan K. Gower, Ph.D. (University of Illinois) – Leisure Studies

Areas of interest include experiential education, the college experience, and the impact of the college experience on student self image. Areas of application include undergraduate instruction and development Should something more go here? gower@illinois.edu

Michael Raycraft, Ph.D. (University of Illinois) – Sport Management

Areas of research include marketing and finance and their relation to sport. Areas of application include analysis of winning and its relation to the funding of intercollegiate athletic programs; marketing and administration of intercollegiate sport programs; and the development of strategies to encourage student involvement in college athletics.

mraycraf@illinois.edu

Visiting Lecturers

Cindy Wachter, Ph.D. (University of Illinois) – Leisure Studies

Areas of interest include exploring contemporary social influences on leisure such as cultural understandings of leisure and its relationship to happiness and quality of life; the relationship between technology and leisure social factors affecting the work/leisure relationship (i.e. public policies, cultural/corporate values, time use, job structure); the value of barriers to unstructured play for children.

Don Hardin, B.S. (University of Illinois) – Physical Education

Coordinator of Illini Scholar's Program through which admitted applicants to our M.S. program are matched with assistantships in DIA (Division of Intercollegiate Athletics) and Campus Recreation.

On-Line Faculty

RST On-Line courses are taught by highly qualified instructors who are experts in their fields and have a thorough knowledge of the online learning environment. RST On-Line instructors provide prompt feedback to students and strive to create and support a positive learning environment.

In addition to our on-campus faculty, the following off-campus personnel are part of our instructional staff:

Carla A. Costa, Ph.D. (Ohio State) – Sport Management

Areas of research include inquiry into the strategic application of sport for community development; investigation of the challenges of aligning stakeholders' values, beliefs, and expectations when formulating and implementing policies that incorporate sport into community development. Areas of application: Inform the planning, design and delivery phases of community development processes that include sport; inform, influence and assist sport managers, policymakers, community developers and local residents.

ccarla@illinois.edu

Mike Mulvaney, Ph.D. (University of Illinois) - CPRP

Michael Mulvaney's area of research centers on management issues within public park and recreation agencies. Specific topics within Michael's research agenda include performance appraisal systems in public park and recreation agencies, family-friendly employee benefits programs, public participation strategies within park and recreation agencies, learning and the use of learning technologies in employee training, and planning processes in park and recreation agencies. Michael also has experience on the development and testing of the effectiveness of various modes of instruction and their relationship to student learning of park and recreation concepts.

Dr. Mulvaney received a Ph.D. in Recreation, Sport, & Tourism from the University of Illinois. Prior to obtaining his Ph.D., Michael was employed with the Decatur Park District (Decatur, Illinois) in a variety of capacities including Facility Management, Fitness, Programming, and Special Recreation. Michael is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association, the Illinois Association of Park Districts' Research Advisory Council, and the Certified Park and Recreation Professional Examination Development Committee.

mamulvaney@eiu.edu

Jennifer Ruddell, Ph.D. (University of Illinois) – Sport Management. Dr. Ruddell earned her Doctorate in Recreation, Sport and Tourism from the University of Illinois where she focused her research on disability sport. She has instructed in the Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism since 2001. She has taught courses in Contemporary Issues in Sport, Leisure and Technology, Services Marketing, Foundations of Leisure, and Introduction to Leisure. Dr. Ruddell also developed and taught two courses for the University of Illinois; Disabilities in Recreation, Sport and Tourism as well as a course in Wheelchair Basketball.

jenruddell@gmail.com

Steve Staples, Ph.D. – (University of Illinois) – Leisure Studies. Areas of interest include sport marketing and sport management. Dr. Staples has extensive experience in online education. He has taught online courses in the University of Illinois' Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism since January 2009. He helped start the Sports Leadership program at Northeastern University in 2004 and continues to teach its foundations of sports management course.

Dr. Staples also serves as the Regional Director of Capital Giving in Princeton University's Office of Development. He earned his Master's and Ph.D. from the Department of Leisure Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. staples@princeton.edu

Cindy Wachter, Ph.D. (University of Illinois) – Leisure Studies. Areas of interest include exploring contemporary social influences on leisure such as cultural understandings of leisure and its relationship to happiness and quality of life, the relationship between technology and leisure social factors affecting the work/leisure relationship (i.e. public policies, cultural/corporate values, time use, job structure), and the value of and barriers to unstructured play for children. cwachter@illinois.edu

Academic Professionals

Robin Hall, M.S. (University of Illinois) - Leisure Studies

Areas of interest include the planning, operation and evaluation of park and recreation agencies, citizen involvement in the planning and evaluation of parks and recreation, art in outdoor public spaces, the relationship between park design and park use, public policy issues and trends that relate to parks and recreation. Over thirty-five years experience in the field of community parks and recreation management. rrhall@illinois.edu

LoriKay Paden, M.S. (Illinois State University) - Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance

In addition to being the Department Undergraduate Advisor, LoriKay's areas of interest include recreation programming, program & facility evaluation, service delivery, leadership, and fitness and wellness. Over 20 years of experience in the field of public recreation management and private fitness and wellness instruction and management. lkpaden@illinois.edu

Timothy Tiger, M.F.A (University of Illinois) - Fine Arts

Recruit, advise and coordinate the Master of Science in Recreation, Sport and Tourism Online Program. Seek qualified candidates who are currently involved in and related areas of recreation, sport or tourism who looking to advance in their current position or another area of interest. Establish a personal relationship with each student to ensure the highest quality of customer service available. Over five years of online recruiting and advising experience with the University of Illinois. ttiger@illinois.edu

Office Staff

Karen Nichols	Administrative Aide	klp68@illinois.edu 104 Huff, 300-8343
Jill Gurke	Graduate Student Records	jgurke@illinois.edu 104 Huff, 244-8243
Karen Bickers	Secretary/Receptionist	kbickers@illinois.edu 104 Huff, 300-7755

Advising

Tim Tiger	On Line Advisor	ttiger@illinois.edu 309 Armory, 333-3629
------------------	-----------------	--

III. Overview of the Online Graduate Program

Accreditation

All University of Illinois campuses award the degrees under their individual accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Master of Science (M.S.) Programs

The Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism at the University of Illinois offers both on-line and on-campus graduate programs leading to the degree of Master of Science (M.S.) in Recreation, Sport, and Tourism.

On-Line: Students can earn a Master of Science degree in Recreation, Sport and Tourism On-line. Consisting of nine courses in 8 week segments starting every two months, the degree can be completed in 18 months. Courses in the on-line program are designed and taught by expert faculty and instructors. In the course of their study students are engaged in collaborative projects, culminating in a professional paper.

On-Campus: Students in the Master of Science degree program have four areas of interest/emphasis from which to choose: Leisure Behavior, Park and Recreation Management, Sport Management and Tourism Management. A candidate for the M.S. degree must spend at least one semester on campus and complete a minimum of 36 graduate hours. Students select a thesis or a non-thesis option to fulfill their requirements. The thesis option requirements include 12 hours of core course work in recreation, sport, and tourism, 16 hours of restricted electives,

and 8 hours of thesis. Students selecting the non-thesis option are required to complete 24 hours in core course work in recreation, sport and tourism, 8 hours of restricted electives, and 4 hours for a professional paper. A fulltime student can complete the program in three or four semesters.

Academic Calendar

The RST On-Line Program operates on three semester terms. Within each semester are two parts-of-term which are each eight weeks in length. Semesters begin the first Wednesday of January, May and September. Parts-of-term begin the first and third month of each semester. For instance, in the January semester, parts-of-term begin in January and March. In any year, there are three semesters and six parts-of-term. Students can access the searchable academic calendar from the StART page: <http://www.ao.uiuc.edu/support/start/RST/>

Student Email Accounts

The University of Illinois assigns email accounts to all of its students. New students are given a checklist to complete upon official admission. The checklist will include information on how to obtain their NETID and university e-mail account. Your online advisor will also send a mandatory preparation checklist that is available from the StART page.

<http://www.ao.uiuc.edu/support/start/RST/>

Student Support and Advising

You will be provided with an academic advisor upon your first contact with our department. Your advisor will remain with you from your first question until your graduation. Your advisor has been trained to assist you in many ways. He/she will help you with the application process, the admission process, the course registration process, disability services, financial aid, academic advising, and career services. Your advisor should also be your point of contact if you need to stop out for a brief period or if you need to cancel a class or withdraw from the program. Your advisor will be able to share with you how the change in your status will affect you in the future.

The Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism is committed to providing exemplary student services and the relationship you have with your advisor should prove to be nothing less. Any question you have should be directed to your advisor who can answer your question, find the answer to your question or connect you with the appropriate person. Your advisor will also act as your advocate for any interaction within the department or the university system. In order to get the most from this relationship, we suggest the following:

- Be an active learner and participate fully in the advising experience
- Be prepared when contacting your advisor
- Ask questions if you do not understand a policy or procedure
- Contact your advisor frequently
- Keep a record of your progress and course completions

Online Orientation

The purpose of the Orientation is to welcome you; acquaint you with the On-Line Program; provide information about your chosen program; help create a sense of community and build relationships; and to provide resources and support that will prepare you to be a successful online student. All new students are invited to a live webinar orientation before the term begins.

Student Portal

All online students have access to the StART page. The StART page is your portal to student services and your course platform. It includes information about the university, courses, technical assistance, payment, financial aid and personal information. Admitted students can access the StART page at: <http://www.ao.uiuc.edu/support/start/RST/>

Course Materials

Textbooks

Textbooks are available through the Illini Union Bookstore. Your advisor may also provide other sources for textbooks.

Computer Requirements

For PC Users:

Minimum System Requirements

- Processor: 800MHz Pentium III or Athlon, or better
- RAM: 256 Megabytes
- At least 20 MB free disk space
- Monitor: 1024X768 resolution
- Sound card with speakers and microphone or headset
- Video card: nVidia GeForce 2, GeForce 4mx, or better) OR ATI Radeon 8500, 9250, or better
- High speed Internet connection
- DVD or CD player
- Web Cam

Operating System

- Windows XP/ 2000 (Service Pack 4 or later)

Additional Required Software

- Microsoft Office suite (e.g. Word, Excel, and PowerPoint), Microsoft Windows Media Player, Apple QuickTime player, Adobe Flash player, and Adobe Acrobat Reader

Internet Browser

- Internet Explorer 5.5 or higher
- Netscape 7.0 or higher
- Firefox 2.0 or higher
- Cookies Enabled
- JavaScript Enabled

For Macintosh Users:

Minimum System Requirements

- Processor: 1.25GHz G4
- RAM: 256 Megabytes
- Monitor: 1024X768 resolution
- Sound card with speakers and microphone or headset
- High speed Internet connection
- DVD or CD player
- Web Cam

Operating System

- Mac OS 10.4.3

Additional Required Software

- Microsoft Office suite (e.g. Word, Excel, and PowerPoint), Microsoft Windows Media Player, Apple QuickTime player, Adobe Flash player, and Adobe Acrobat Reader

Internet Browser

- Safari 1.0 or higher
- Netscape 7.0 or higher
- Firefox 2.0 or higher
- Mozilla 1.3 to 1.7
- Cookies Enabled
- JavaScript Enabled

Technical Support Services

Our online students have dedicated Student Technology Support. If students have any problems, they may contact Technology Support at CITES: consult@illinois.edu or (217) 244-7000 or (800) 531-2531. Please refer to the StART page for further information.
<http://www.ao.uiuc.edu/support/start/RST/>

IV. Financial Aid

Federal financial aid is available to all of our graduate students. Students interested in federal financial aid will need to complete the FAFSA form online with our school code of 001775. <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

Students eligible for military benefits can access guidelines from the financial aid web page. <http://www.osfa.uiuc.edu/aid/veterans/index.html>

Master's Degree in Recreation, Sport and Tourism

Course Requirements for Degree

- RST 501-Theories and Concept of Leisure-4 hours
- RST 502-Critical Issues of Recreation Management-4 hours*
- RST 520-Critical Issues of Sport Management-4 hours*
- RST 530-Critical Issues of Tourism Management-4 hours*
- RST 515-Marketing in RST-4 hours
- RST 518-Event and Facility Management-4 hours
- RST 512-Human Resources in RST-4 hours
- RST 516-Finance and Budgeting-4 hours
- RST 503-Advanced Leisure Research Methods-4 hours
- RST 593-Special Problems-4 hours

*Students will take one of these three courses, depending on their chosen specialization.

- Degree/Certificate: Masters of Science Degree

Total credit Hours: 36

OPTIONAL

RST 584: Managing Internship

Credit: 2 Sem Hr(s)

Course Starts: Available January, March, May, July, September and November of each year.

This optional course provides current online students who have an opportunity for an internship to gain valuable experience in the field. Emphasizes preparation, evaluating progress and maximizing benefits of the internship experience.

*This optional course does not substitute for any of the 36 required hours of the Master of Science in Recreation, Sport and Tourism. In other words, it is in addition to the 36 required hours.

Time Limits

The Graduate College requires that all Master's degree candidates must complete all degree requirements, under normal circumstances, within five years after their first registration in the Graduate College.

Transfer of Credit

General Requirements

In order to transfer credit, the following requirements must be fulfilled:

- a. a student must submit a formal petition requesting a transfer of credit;
- b. official transcripts of graduate work completed at another institution must be attached to the petition if not previously filed in the Graduate College;
- c. work involved must be at the graduate level with grades of A or B;
- d. the student must have completed 8 hours at Illinois; and
- e. the student must be registered at the time the petition is submitted.

Specific Requirements

In particular, courses to be transferred from other institutions of higher education to UIUC for graduate credit must meet the following criteria:

- a. The institution at which the course is offered must be accredited by an approved accrediting association to offer graduate level coursework.
- b. The content and quality of the course must be at a level meeting the standards for graduate study both at that university and at the University of Illinois.
- c. The course must be identified as carrying graduate credit and be usable as such in obtaining a graduate degree at the institution at which it is being offered.
- d. The student, at time of enrollment, must have met graduate student admission standards and be enrolled as a graduate student in the university offering the course or have been admitted to the graduate school of the University of Illinois.
- e. The course must be consistent with and contribute to the student's declared program of study at the University of Illinois. Students can receive some assurance that the credit will be accepted toward a degree by obtaining the advisor's approval in writing prior to enrolling in the course.

Graduate Student Petitions

The right to petition is virtually unlimited with regard to any Graduate College requirement or regulation. However, frivolous petitions are not often granted and both the petitioner and those recommending approval lose credibility with them. The Graduate College does not often approve petitions not recommended at the Department level. A petition approved at a lower level may still be denied at a higher level.

It should also be noted that the Graduate College has become increasingly more stringent in what they view as allowable petitions. In addition, there have been an increased number of petitions that request relaxation of requirements on the basis that the students does not feel he/she should have to fulfill such requirements. Such petitions will be denied.

The Graduate Student Petition form should be completed by the student in consultation with his/her advisor to request any exceptions to Graduate College rules, regulations, or requirements. More specifically, (1) the petition should be neatly typed or printed; (2) all 3 pages of the petition form must be completed; and (3) a clear, cogent and convincing rationale must be provided by both the student and his/her advisor as to why the petition should be approved.

Degree Conferral

Master's degrees are conferred in May, August, and December. In order to receive a degree, a student must be on the graduation list for the appropriate graduation date. Students use the Web Self-Service system to complete an Application for Degree. The deadline for placing a name on the list for each graduation date is noted in the Graduate College Calendar.

A student who has fulfilled all of the requirements for an advanced degree, but will not actually receive the degree for some time, can obtain a letter of certification from the Graduate College that all requirements have been met and that the degree will be awarded at the next conferral date. Requests for obtaining the letter of certification should be addressed to the Office of Admissions and Records, 901 West Illinois Street, Urbana, Illinois 61801, or a form can be obtained from the Graduate College Thesis Office. **A student may not receive certification if he or she owes money to the University.**

VI. Satisfactory Progress Toward Degree

Good Standing

To remain in good standing, a graduate student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0, complete required courses in order and in the expected time period, unless exceptions are granted.

If a student fails to meet the requirements for good standing in any given semester, the student may be given a grace period of one semester to meet the requirements. However, if an Advisory Committee concludes that a student will be unable to meet the requirements within the allowable period, then the student can be terminated immediately.

Grades

Grading System

Final grades for courses are recorded as follows: A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D- and F (failure), with numerical computations of grade point averages based on a system where A = 4.0. Other symbols in use, but not included on the computation of grade-point averages are:

W -- Officially withdrawn from a course

I -- Approved extension of time to complete the final examination or other requirements of the course. Failure to complete the work within these time periods results in a grade of F. This is termed the "F by rule".

Minimum Grade Point Average

The Graduate Program in Recreation, Sport and Tourism requires that all graduate students must maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0. More specifically, graduate students at UIUC with a GPA lower than 3.0 will receive a letter of warning from the Graduate College. Graduate students with a GPA below 3.0 will be re-classified to Limited Status for a maximum of one semester (academic semester or summer session). Note that students on Limited Status are not eligible to receive graduate degrees. After one semester on Limited Status no further registration will be permitted unless the GPA has been raised to 3.0 and the Department submits a request to the Graduate College for reinstatement to Full Status.

Minimum Grade Requirements:

Master's students must earn a minimum grade of C- in all core and foundation courses (RST 501, 502, 503, 512, 515, 520, 530, 594FB). If a student receives a grade lower than C-, the student will be required to repeat the course until he/she earns a final grade of C- or higher.

VII. Questions: For any questions, concerns or more information, please contact:

Tim Tiger, Program Coordinator/Student Advisor
205 N Huff, 1206 S. Fourth Street
Champaign, IL 61820
RST-Advisor@ad.uiuc.edu
217-333-3629

Dr. Mike Raycraft, Program Supervisor
310 Armory
Champaign, IL 61820
mraycraf@illinois.edu
217-265-6485

Dr. Laurence Chalip
Head, Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism
104 Huff Hall, 1206 S. Fourth St.
Champaign, IL 61820
lchalip@illinois.edu
217-300-0314