

Running head: REC 408 SYLLABUS

**Department of Kinesiology and Leisure Studies  
College of Educational, Professional and Graduate Studies  
Grambling State University**

**Course Syllabus**

*Producing knowledgeable, skilled and compassionate educators and other school professionals in the place “Where Everybody is Somebody”*

Course: REC 408: Research and Computer Use in Recreation

Semester Hours: 3

Semester Offered:

Instructor:

Office phone:

Email:

Room:

**Pre-Requisite(s):**

TREC 205: Introduction to Therapeutic Recreation

REC 301: Programming in Recreation

**Course Description**

Emphasis placed on principles and procedures of research and evaluation in recreation and leisure services. The computer is a research and evaluation tool which will be used in this course.

**Rationale**

The course provides students with an introduction to research methods, designs and measurements. It is designed to provide students with the basic understanding needed to read, interpret and apply research findings as results impact principles and practices in the field of recreation and leisure services. Historically, recreation professionals have disregarded the importance of research in the field. However, accountability, grant writing, discovering new and exciting recreational and leisure practices have made it necessary and desirable that research methods and concepts be an integral part of the educational criteria of aspiring recreation professionals. This course is needed to equip students with the tools necessary to develop an introductory level understanding of research methods. The level of this course will provide students with the beginning reading and interpreting skills of research.

**Disability Services for Students**

Grambling State University maintains the Office of Disability Services for Students (DSS) to help assure compliance with the rules and regulations set forth by various congressional acts, i.e., the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 1990. This office has created an atmosphere of opportunity by providing services and mediating considerations for students.

The primary goal of the Office of Disability Services for Students is to ensure access for students with documented disabilities and to contribute to the development of self-advocacy and confidence of students with disabilities. We encourage students to take control of their own learning and to discuss the means for arranging types of appropriate support. In addition, we serve as an advocate for students in determining appropriate considerations.

The Office of Disability Services is located in the GSU Student Counseling Wellness and Resource Center, it is recommended that you read the handbook located on the GSU Webpage, as it will be a useful reference throughout college and beyond or visit and/or call the center on campus 318-274-3277.

### **Conceptual Framework Theme and Selected Program Outcomes for this Course**

Through broad-based curricula, consisting of performance- based assessment, research- based instruction and strategic field experiences, the Leisure Studies program at Grambling State University graduates competent, skilled Leisure Studies professionals. Content, professional knowledge, skills and dispositions enable the Leisure Studies faculty to develop coursework that challenges students to pursue their full potential. The department recognizes and adheres to the standards and evaluative criteria set forth by the **Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Related Professions (COAPRT)**.

### **Learning Outcomes**

At the end of the semester, the student will be able to:

1. Explain various evaluative tools and methods and show the ability to collect and utilize evaluation information to document client and programs outcomes. 7.01
2. Identify roles, responsibilities and duties of a professional in the leisure service. 7.01
3. Recognize trends and issues related to the delivery of leisure services 7.01
4. Practice the effective utilization of a variety of tools for oral and written communication including technical writing, speech and audio-visual techniques. 7.03
5. Describe the theoretical approaches for conducting research in leisure services.7.01
6. Experience, observe and discuss ethical principle to guide research in a responsible manner.

7. Plan your presentation, practice the presentation and develop strategies for handling questions. 7.03
8. Analyze and write ten research journals literature for the final report. 7.03

**Textbooks**

Riddick, C. & Russell, R. (2008). *Research in Park Sport and Tourism* Urbana, IL: Sagamore Publishing.

**Recommended Journals in the Profession**

During the semester the class will review several research papers in refereed journals. The following are partial listing of acceptable journals for your article review assignment:

*Journal of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance*

*Journal of Leisure Research*

*Therapeutic Recreation Journal*

*Parks and Recreation Magazine*

**Evaluation Procedures**

Refereed Journal Articles ( 10)

Format for Identifying Critical 100 pts.

Elements of a Research Study 100 pts.

Final Report 100 pts

Chapter Quizzes 100 pts.

Midterm Exam 100 pts.

Final Exam 100 pts.

Total 600 pts.

**Grading Scale**

600 – 500 A

499 – 400 B

399 – 300 C

299 – 200 D

199 - below

**Course Outline and Assignment Due Date**

Week 1	What is Research? Overview of the course Complete in-class “Who Am I” Questionnaire.
Week 2	The Research Process Online Writing Resources How to Read a Research Article
Week 3	Sources for Research Idea Measuring Program Effectiveness: The Five Ps Sort through Ideas
Week 4	How Literature Reviews Can Help You Conduct the Search Review and Analyze Primary Source Write up The Literature Review
Week 5	What is Theory? Overheads for Lectures on Theory <u>“Decision-Making Procedures for Distinguishing Among Four Types of Statements of Fact”</u>
Week 6	Quantitative Approaches
Week 7	Experimental Designs
Week 8	Pre-Experimental Designs
Week 9	Midterm Examination
Week10	Survey Research
Week 11	Qualitative Approaches
Week 12	Who Lives Here? The use of Vignettes in Household Roster Research
Week 13	Using Racial and Ethnic Concepts: The Critical Case of Very Young Children
Week 14	Final Examination

**Class Format, Reflection Process and Teaching Strategies Used in the Course**

This course will be taught through traditional, active learning and electronic modes using Lectures, discussion, group activities, multimedia presentations and on-line/internet Enriched assignments. Collaborative learning groups will be formed to promote diversity

**Technology Infused into this Course**

Undergraduate students will be required to use email, the internet and/or Smart board, and Power Point will be used for individual/group presentations Assignments can be submitted via email and/or Moodle/Canvas.