WHAT CAN I DO WITH A RESORT RECREATION AND HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT DEGREE?

The Resort Recreation and Hospitality Management (RRHM) degree prepares students for positions in the resort recreation, hospitality, meeting/event management and tourism industries. Students can obtain positions as a resort recreation manager, front desk manager, special events planner, conference sales or conference services manager or general manager. Jobs can be obtained in hotels, resorts, cruise lines, meeting and conference centers, country clubs, municipal recreation centers and campgrounds.

RESORT RECREATION AND HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT AT SRU

Professional preparation in the RRHM curriculum enables its students to meet challenges including programming for special events, planning activities for conference groups and training and managing personnel within a department. A variety of hospitality and business skills are necessary to handle the day-to-day challenges of these positions. A minor in business administration is highly recommended. Additional minors or concentrations in communication, safety, leadership, aquatics or a foreign language are encouraged.

WHY CHOOSE RESORT RECREATION AND HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT AT SRU?

1. Top-notch program: SRU’s RRHM program is rated as one of the top programs in the country.
2. Job placement: There is a 90-100 percent job placement after graduation.
3. Practical experiences: Each student will complete two supervised practical experiences during their academic career.
4. Support and advisement: Each student will be assigned an academic adviser that will work with them during their time at SRU. The adviser will also assist with decisions about practical experience opportunities and setting career goals.
5. Experienced faculty: Classes are taught by full-time faculty members who will share real life industry experiences that will enhance the students’ educational experience.
INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
SRU RRHM students have completed internships at various locations including:

• Omni Amelia Island Plantation, Florida
• Kiawah Island Golf Resort, South Carolina
• South Seas Island Resort, Florida
• Sunriver Resort, Oregon
• Seven Springs Mountain Resort, Pennsylvania
• Marriott Vacation Worldwide
• Carnival Cruise Lines
• Upper Saint Clair Township Recreation, Pennsylvania
• Cranberry Township Recreation, Pennsylvania
• Disney World, Florida

CAREER OUTCOMES
After graduation, RRHM graduates find employment at resorts, hotels, cruise lines, country clubs, meeting and convention centers, municipal recreation centers and campgrounds. Listed below are several examples of career job titles and location of our graduates:

• Director of recreation, Omni Amelia Island, Florida
• Director of recreation and special events, South Seas Island Resort, Florida
• Special events coordinator, Ocean Reef Club, Florida
• Recreation programs and operations manager, Sunriver Owners Association, Oregon
• Event coordinator, David L Lawrence Convention Center, Pennsylvania
• Event sales coordinator, Butler Country Club, Pennsylvania
• Sales manager, Seven Springs Mountain Resort, Pennsylvania
• Sales executive, The Westin Convention Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
• Director of recreation and leisure services, Township of Upper St. Clair, Pennsylvania
• Assistant General Manager, Hampton Inn & Suites, Butler, Pennsylvania

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS
• Resort and Commerical Recreation Association (RCRA)
• HATSS Student Organization

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT
Samantha Hartz, ’19 Masters, ’21
Membership Executive, Seattle Sounders FC Professional Soccer Club

“My time at SRU was nothing short of stellar. From putting on networking conferences, serving as President of the University Program Board, studying abroad in Italy, developing lifelong friendships, and being part of the inaugural Graduate Cohort, this program truly set me up for success. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunities Slippery Rock granted me.”

Jenica Dismuke, ’18
Human Resources Compliance Coordinator, KitchenSync

“My SRU experience was one that I will always cherish. My time at SRU not only taught me the knowledge needed to enter the hospitality industry, but it taught me the small, important things in life such as time management, independence, and responsibility. My professors and peers throughout the years have left an everlasting impression on me and I will always be thankful for the time spent with them.”

Eric McElhone, ’06
Sales manager, Seven Springs/Hidden Valley Resort

“When I came to SRU, I was undecided on a major until my sophomore year, which is when I was introduced to the HEMT program. The faculty prepared me with knowledge, tools and realistic expectations heading into the industry that has allowed me to be successful immediately and throughout my 13-year career.”

DEPARTMENT CONTACT: Eisenberg Classroom Building
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