

Thomas P. Sweeney, Ph.D.
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Curriculum Vitae

Education

Middle Tennessee State University

Ph.D., Human Performance

May 2015

Concentration: Recreation and Leisure Studies

Dissertation: Virtual vs. Brick-and-Mortar Schools: Examining the Impact of School Type on Out-of-School Time Activities

Bowling Green State University

M.Ed. in Human Movement, Sport, and Leisure Studies

May 2009

Concentration: Leisure and Tourism Studies

Thesis: A Comprehensive Evaluation of University Recreation Centers

Bowling Green State University

B.A., Communications

May 2007

Concentration: Telecommunications

Minor: Political Science

Academic Experience

Associate Professor

2022

Georgia Southern University

Department of Recreation and Tourism Management

Statesboro, GA

- Instructor of record of Recreation, Tourism, and Community Leisure Services courses on a 3:3 teaching load.
- Center for Public Health Practice and Research Affiliate Faculty
- Mentor undergraduate students
- Engage in college and university service opportunities
- Serve on college and university committees
- Engage in research and scholarship within the field of recreation and leisure

Assistant Professor

2017-2021

Georgia Southern University

Department of Recreation and Tourism Management

Statesboro, GA

- Instructor of record of Recreation, Tourism, and Community Leisure Services courses on a 3:3 teaching load.
- Center for Public Health Practice and Research Affiliate Faculty
- Mentor undergraduate students
- Engage in college and university service opportunities
- Serve on college and university committees
- Engage in research and scholarship within the field of recreation and leisure

Limited Term Assistant Professor

2016-2017

Georgia Southern University
Department of Recreation and Tourism Management
Statesboro, GA

- Instructor of record of four core recreation courses on a 4:4 load
- Engage in college and university service opportunities

Adjunct Faculty

2015- 2016

Youngstown State University
Department of Human Ecology
Youngstown, OH

- Developed and taught a hybrid (online & seated) recreation-based course in the Hospitality Management Concentration major.
- Course added to curriculum in the Fall of 2016

Distance Learning Faculty

2015- 2016

Middle Tennessee State University
Department of Health and Human Performance
Murfreesboro, TN

- Taught online courses in the Department of Health and Human Performance recreation concentration area, 2:2 teaching load.
- Advised undergraduate students.

Ph.D. Candidate and Graduate Assistant

2014-2015

Middle Tennessee State University
Department of Health and Human Performance
Murfreesboro, TN

- Instructor of record in 4 core recreation courses, 2:2 teaching load.
- Aided faculty members in data collection and research for ongoing projects.
- Participate in COSMA reaccreditation process.
- Created a comprehensive marketing strategy to promote the recreation major.

Adjunct Faculty

2013

Middle Tennessee State University
Department of Health and Human Performance
Murfreesboro, TN

- Served as instructor of record in core recreation courses, 1:1 teaching load.
- Advised and mentored undergraduate students.

Ph.D. Candidate and Graduate Assistant

2010- 2013

Clemson University-Parks, Recreation, and Tourism
Management
Clemson, SC

Graduate Assistant

2008-2009

Bowling Green State University-Human Movement, Sport, and
Leisure Studies
Bowling Green, OH

- Taught physical education courses
- Served as a teaching assistant in undergraduate recreation courses.
- Assisted in topic research for faculty research projects.

University Teaching Experience

Georgia Southern University

RECR 3338: Commercial Recreation & Resort Operations	2020-Present
RECR 3215: Youth Sports Programming	2019-Present
RECR 2530: Leadership and Programming in Leisure Services	2018-Present
RECR 4790: Internship in Recreation	2017-Present
RECR 1530: Introduction to Recreation	2016-Present
RECR 4435: Managing Recreation Organizations	2016-Present
RECR 3236: Planning Recreation Areas and Facilities	2016-2019
RECR 4430: Financial and Legal Dimensions	2016-2018

Youngstown State University

HMG 5825: Recreation and Leisure in Our Lives	2016
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Middle Tennessee State University

LSTS 3000: Leisure in Your Life	2016
LSTS 4540: Organization and Administration of Leisure, Sport, and Tourism	2014
LSTS 4660: Evaluation of Leisure, Sport, and Tourism Studies	2014
LSTS 4890: Senior Seminar in Leisure, Sport, and Tourism	2013- 2014

Clemson University (Graduate Teaching Assistant)

PRTM 3250: Global Perspectives in Leisure, Recreation and Tourism	2013
PRTM 2200: Conceptual Foundations of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management	2012-2013
PRTM 2000: Profession and Practice in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management	2011
LS 1850: Bowling	2010-2013

Bowling Green State University (Graduate Teaching Assistant)

RTD 2600: Leisure Services for Older Adults	2009
PED 2110: Bowling	2008-2009

New Course Development

Georgia Southern University

Introduction to Esports

2022

The rapid growth of esports in all sectors of recreation provision requires aspiring recreation professionals to have a deep understanding of the current technological developments and trends in the recreation industry. This course is designed to explore the history and development of esports, discuss global issues and current trends, and expose students to hardware, software, and equipment commonly used in the global recreation industry to attract participants and provide quality technology-based experiences.

Golf Operations

2018

Provides students with a basic understanding of operations, planning, and management related to the golf industry. Students will engage in a historical examination of the golf industry, including the sociological, economic, and psychological, benefits of participation, as well as the political and technological considerations effecting the industry in modern society.

Resort and Commercial Recreation Management

2018

Provides students with an overview of the resort and commercial recreation segment of the recreation industry. Students will gain an understanding of the organizations who facilitate recreation experiences, economic implications, management and programming techniques, and current events effecting the industry.

Campus and Community Recreation

2018

Provides students with an understanding of the operation and management of campus and community recreation agencies. Students will gain an understanding of the physical, social, psychological, and economic impacts of recreation programs on college and university campuses and communities. They will also examine managerial issues and programming strategies within the two areas.

Youth Sports Programming

2018

Explores the history, administration, programming, and current issues related to youth sports. Students will gain an understanding of planning and administrative strategies to deliver youth sport activities within public, private, and non-profit settings.

Youngstown State University

Recreation and Leisure in Our Lives

2016

Addresses issues related to choices made by individuals and society in relation to leisure. Content covered hospitality and tourism as related to Recreation and Leisure and impact on personal and collective well-being.

Middle Tennessee State University

Legal Issues in Leisure, Sport, and Tourism Studies

2014

Concentrates on legal issues relevant to sport, recreation, and leisure services. The course provides students with an understanding of a broad range of legal issues pertaining to all areas of specialization and the practical application of the topics discussed. The goal of the course is to help students better understand the

law to serve participants, protect the organization and employees, and avoid or reduce the probability of litigation.

Scholarship (* Denotes Peer Reviewed)

Zorotovich, J., & **Sweeney, T.** (2022). Preparing students for intergenerational programming through cross-disciplinary collaborations. *Interprofessional Collaboration in Parks, Recreation and Human Services: Theory and Cases*. Sagamore-Venture*

Sweeney, T. & Zorotovich, J., (2021). Examining Retirees' Perceptions of the Effects of COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies on Leisure Participation and Social Relationships. *World Leisure Journal*. *

Sweeney, Thomas P. & Zorotovich, Jennifer R. (2020). Recreation, Leisure, and Late Adulthood: Examining the Benefits of Participation during Retirement. *Positive Sociology of Leisure*. Basingstoke, United Kingdom: Palgrave MacMillan*

Sweeney, T., & Gray, H. (2019). Examining the Impact of School Type on Leisure Constraints in High School Students. *Children, Youth and Environments*, 29(2), 108-118. doi:10.7721/chilyoutenvi.29.2.0108*

Sweeney, T., Peden, J., Peden, A., Kimsey, L., Harvey, D., Hizine, M., & Riddle, S. (2019) *Hancock County Community Based Participatory SWOT Analysis: Activity Strategy*. Statesboro, GA: Georgia Southern University, Center for Public Health Practice and Research.

Kimsey, L., Peden, A., Peden, J., **Sweeney, T.,** Harvey, D., Hizine, M., Onifade, O., Hatchett, D., & Finn, S. (2019) *Hancock County Community Based Participatory SWOT Analysis: Community-Clinical Linkages Strategy*. Statesboro, GA: Georgia Southern University, Center for Public Health Practice and Research.

Peden, A., Kimsey, L., Peden, J., **Sweeney, T.,** Harvey, D., Hizine, M., & Ekpo, I. (2019) *Hancock County Community Based Participatory SWOT Analysis: Nutrition Strategy*. Statesboro, GA: Georgia Southern University, Center for Public Health Practice and Research.

Sweeney, Thomas P., & Gray, J. (2019). Examining the Impact of School Type on Physical Activity Participation in High School Students. *American Journal of Distance Education*, 1-9. *

Sweeney, Thomas P., & Barcelona, R. J. (2012). An integrative review of published research in the Recreational Sports Journal, 1998–2010. *Recreational Sports Journal*, 36(2), 91-103. *

Presentations

Sweeney, Thomas P. & Zorotovich, Jennifer, R. (2022) *Connecting Generations Through Transdisciplinary Collaborations*. Southern Gerontological Society Annual Meeting and Conference, Panama City Beach, FL*

Sweeney, Thomas P. & Zorotovich, Jennifer, R. (2020) *Recreation, Leisure, Play, and Late Adulthood: Examining the Benefits of Participation during Retirement*. Conference on the Value of Play, Clemson University, Clemson, SC*

Sweeney, Thomas P. & Zorotovich, Jennifer R. (2018) *Recreation, Leisure, and Late Adulthood: Examining the Benefits of Participation during Retirement*. Social Gerontology Conference, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA.*

Sweeney, Thomas P. (2011). *An Integrative Review of Published Research in Recreation*. Graduate Research and Discovery Symposium, Clemson, SC.*

Awards and Grants

Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) Grant, Centers for Disease Control, Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity (Primary Funder); North Central Health District (NCHD), Georgia Department of Public Health (2019). Peden A., Kimsey, L., Peden, J., and **Sweeney, T.** Amount: \$25,000, *Funded*.

Works in Progress

Sweeney, T., Zorotovich, J. *Examining the role of leisure in negotiating normative life changes complicated by non-normative events: A phenomenological multi-case study of widowhood during a global pandemic.*

Professional Service

Academic Program Accreditation Visitor Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Related Professions	2020-Present
Reviewer World Leisure Journal	2020-Present
Reviewer International Journal of the Sociology of Leisure	2020-Present
Reviewer American Journal of Distance Education	2019-Present

University Service

Georgia Southern University
 Member, Georgia Southern University Faculty Senate
 Member, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences High Impact Practices Committee
 Member, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research Committee
 Member, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences Award Committee
 Member, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences Technology Committee

Chair, School of Human Ecology Mission, Vision, and Values Statement Committee
 Member, School of Human Ecology Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
 Member, School of Human Ecology Marketing Committee
 Member, School of Human Ecology Scholarship Committee
 Advisory Board, Center for Social Gerontology
 Faculty Advisor, Recreation Student Association
 Chair, Recreation and Tourism Management Award Committee
 Graduate Faculty
 Author, TCLS website promotional content
 Creator/Editor of RTM internship website

Employment

Graduate Facility Supervisor

2009

Bowling Green State University Student Recreation Center
 Bowling Green, OH

- Managed student recreation center
- Supervised student staff, facility, and patrons
- Implemented risk management policies
- Assisted in staff training

Manager

2008-2009

Dick's Sporting Goods
 Boardman, OH

- Managed in-store fitness department and employees
- Assisted in regional training of fitness department staff in multiple locations.
- Sold and maintained fitness equipment

Pro Shop Manager

2005-2007

Bowling Green State University Student Recreation Center
 Bowling Green, OH

- Managed pro shop employees
- Addressed customer complaints
- Enforced risk management plan
- Supervised facility safety inspections
- Sold fitness equipment and accessories

Pro Shop Assistant

2004

Bowling Green State University Student Recreation Center
 Bowling Green, OH

- Addressed customer complaints
- Enforced risk management plan
- Sold fitness equipment and accessories
- Conducted facility safety inspections

Professional Affiliations

Georgia Recreation and Parks Association

2018-Present

Savannah Tourism Leadership Council

2016-Present

The Academy of Leisure Sciences

2009-Present

National Recreation and Park Association

2009-2016

National Intramural- Recreation Sports Association

2004-2009

Certifications

The Association of College and University Educators Effective Teaching Practices	2022
Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Related Professions (COAPRT) Program Review Visitor	2020-Present
Quality Matters Teaching Online Certificate	2019-Present