

University of Western Ontario

Geography 2144A

Geography of Tourism

Winter 2018

Instructor:

Dr. L. Graham Smith

Room 2405 SSC

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Meetings:

Monday, 3:30 – 5:30 pm, NSC 145 lecture

Monday, 5:30 – 6:30 pm, NSC 145 discussion + office hour

Additional T.A. office hours are posted on Owl

Calendar Description:

Examination of tourism as a global, national and local phenomenon, with economic, social, and environmental impacts; emphasis on tourism in developing countries; hosts, guests, and tourism operators; tourism trends; mass versus alternative tourism; relationship between 'ecotourism' and nature protection.

Scope:

This course examines the nature of tourism and its defining characteristics, emphasizing personal experience and understanding. The course is highly interactive in its approach to the subject matter and places a premium both on student engagement with the material and their reflective understanding of the dynamics of tourism. It is taught using an online text, designed around the use of gateway cities from around the world. Gateways are primary access and entry points from which tourists explore and discover tourism spaces and their own tourist places through their activities and travels as tourists.

We are all tourists when we travel to and stay in locations outside our usual environment. Tourism is the active utilization of gateways of discovery to expand one's engagement with the world.

Tourism is experiential and individual: its meanings are tied to our individual reflections and understanding of space and place as we engaged both with and within them. The intent of the course is not to proscribe a singular vision of tourism but, rather, to facilitate the discovery within each student of:

- Their own sense of self as a tourist
- The meaning of tourism to them
- An understanding of the pathways to lifelong learning and discovery that results from being a tourist.

Learning Objectives:

- An understanding space and place within the context of tourism
- A personal sense of the meaning of tourism
- An understanding of self as a tourist

Required Text:

- Smith, L. G. (2012)
Gateways to Discovery. Dubuque, Iowa: Kendall Hunt
ISBN 978-1-4652-0938 <http://www.grtep.com> (purchase access code online)

Course Requirements and Grading Guidelines:

- **Midterm Exam [40%] (Monday, February 12, 2018)**
- **Final Exam [60%] [scheduled April 14-30, 2018]**

Course evaluation will be based upon two examinations.

The Mid-Term Exam will consist only of multiple-choice questions (40) based on material from the opening 5 lectures and the accompanying text materials.

The Final Exam will have a mix of multiple choice questions (20), short answers (4 x 5), and an essay worth (20) marks. The Final Exam will cover material *from the whole course* and will draw on material from both the assigned text and from class lectures. Lecture attendance is considered essential. Content on each examination may cover material that is presented only in lectures and not covered in readings.

Failure to attend class and/or purchase the assigned text may not be used as a basis for any grade revision or appeal.

Marks will reflect the following guidelines:

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work that is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	Below 50	Fail

Class Schedule:

Jan. 8	Objectives and Foundational Constructs
Jan. 15	The Visitor
Jan. 22	Hosting and Tourism Hospitality
Jan. 29	Motivation
Feb. 5	Tourist Attractions
Feb. 12	Mid-Term Exam
Feb. 19	Reading Week Break
Feb. 26	Infrastructure
March 5	Activities
March 12	Effects: Characteristics + Impacts of Tourism
March 19	Development and Management
March 26	Marketing
April 2	Trends + the Future of Tourism
April 9	Review and Reflection
April 14-30	Final Exam

Caveats:

- Academic accommodation can only be granted by the Dean's office (Academic Counselling) of a student's home faculty. The professor cannot grant permission for an alternate exam or an accommodation for a missed exam without receiving a prior written request for Academic Accommodation from the appropriate office of Academic Counselling (see also the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness below)
- In addition, the professor reserves the right **downgrade** any material for which a grade review is requested once marks have been submitted within Owl.
- The course is specifically designed to provoke participants to question, assess and formulate their thinking, beliefs, ideology and/or philosophy: a premium is placed on the development of thought rather than reliance upon pre-existing opinion. However, it is not a requirement of the course that students agree with, nor subscribe to, the beliefs, ideology and/or philosophy of the professor.
- All marking is a qualitative assessment, especially when the subject material is as individualized and experientially defined as tourism. The professor commits to ensuring that the grading within the course is fair and consistent with both the criteria for the assignment and the performance standards of the specific class cohort. However, the final assessment of any individual's performance within the course is his and not that of any individual Teaching Assistant.

A statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Students in geography are expected to conduct themselves in a polite and civil manner. Students are reminded of the University Code of Conduct for Students:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/board/code.pdf>

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the

licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

No electronic devices will be allowed during either the Mid-Term or the Final Examination.

Support Services

- Registrar Services: <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>
- Student Development Services: <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness:

- http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf
- Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf
- Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.
- Students with special accommodation will write make-up tests and examinations administered by the department on Fridays during respective periods of fall and winter terms. To prevent prior disclosure, the format and contents of make-ups may differ substantially from the scheduled test or examination.

Mental Health

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for more information on these resources and on mental health.

Western's commitment to accessibility

The University of Western Ontario is committed to achieving barrier free accessibility for persons studying, visiting and working at Western.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.