

Course Syllabus
Geography 3352-01 (CRN 23854)
Tourism Geography
Academic Community Engagement (ACE) Course
3 credit hours
Spring Semester—2018

Classroom: LDB 321
Class time: MWF 11:00-11:50am

Instructor: Dr. Velvet Nelson
Office: LDB 334
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Email: vnelson@shsu.edu
Office Hours: MWF 8:30-9:30am and 12:30-2:30pm
By appointment

Course Description: Provides an introduction to the geography of tourism. Topics include the historical development of travel and tourism, place promotion, location of tourism destinations, geographic resources of tourism, and the physical and social outcomes of tourism. *Prerequisites for this course include at least one of the following courses*—GEOG 1321 People, Place and Environment; GEOG 2355 World Regional Geography: Europe, Asia, Australia; or GEOG 2356 World Regional Geography: Latin America, Africa, South Asia.

Objectives: This course is intended to a) to create a greater understanding of tourism as a global phenomenon, b) to explore the interrelationships between tourism and geography, and c) to apply a theoretical knowledge of tourism in various destination contexts.

Methods of Instruction: This course is structured as a combination of lectures, guest lectures, videos, discussion, assignments, and a project to achieve the objectives stated above.

Textbook: *An Introduction to the Geography of Tourism*, 2nd edition, published by Rowman & Littlefield (ISBN 978-1-4422-7108-1).

Academic Community Engagement: In this course, students will not only become familiar with the concepts/theories of tourism but will use this knowledge to create an artifact (i.e. a video) about a destination and share that knowledge with the community (local, national, international). This assignment will be part of a larger project that will be discussed and shared within the class.

Attendance: Attendance is required. Students will be permitted up to 6 absences – excused or unexcused – without penalty. Each absence more than six will result in a 1% reduction of the final grade. Students are expected to arrive on time and stay until class is finished. Failure to do so will result in a tardy. Three tardies will be counted as one absence. Students are responsible for signing in each class; failure to do so will result in an absence. Students are responsible for all lecture notes, assignments, schedule changes, and any other information covered in class.

Grading: Final grades will be based on a total of 350 points broken down as follows: 150 points from mid-term and final exams; 100 points from assignments; 80 points from a project; and 20 points from participation in in-class activities. Letter grades will be assigned on the following scale: A = 90%, B = 80%, C = 70%, D = 60%, F = less than 60%.

Completion of Work: Assignments will be necessary preparation for participation in in-class activities; therefore, all assignments must be completed by the beginning of class. *No late work will be accepted.* Students will submit

their assignments electronically via Blackboard. You are strongly encouraged to submit assignments in advance of the deadline in case any technical issues arise.

The mid-term and final exam must be taken on the scheduled date. Students must be prepared at the start of each test with a Scantron 882-E form and a pencil. Students who arrive late to the mid-term (i.e. after the first student has left the classroom) and students who miss the mid-term due to extreme and unavoidable circumstances will be permitted to make up the exam at the end of the semester. If more than one test is missed, the student will only be permitted to make up the first missed test. Please be aware that the make-up exam will cover the same material, but it will not be the same test given to the rest of the class. No make-up exams will be given for a late or missed final exam.

Note: If unusual circumstances arise during the semester that affect your class performance, please discuss this with me as soon as possible and provide the appropriate documentation. Under these conditions, I will do my best to accommodate your situation. However, there is nothing I can do if you wait until after the fact, at the end of the semester, to let me know that you were experiencing adverse circumstances.

Classroom Policies: Students will be expected to maintain a respectful classroom environment at all times. Due to copyright and privacy issues, photo, audio, and/or video recordings in class will not be permitted. Phones should be on vibrate and put away during class. Laptops will be permitted so long as they are used for classroom purposes. If your laptop use becomes a distraction to others, you will be asked to put it away as well.

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students turning in work that has been copied or plagiarized from any other source, or cheating in any form on an exam, will receive a zero for that assignment/exam and may be referred to a University committee for further review. All electronic devices must be completely turned off and put away while students are taking and reviewing exams. Any electronic device use during this time will result in automatic failure of the exam.

University Policies: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Any student with a disability that affects his/her academic performance should contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities in the SHSU Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786) to request accommodations. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/811006.pdf>

Please refer to www.shsu.edu/syllabus to view additional University's policies.

Course Outline and Tentative Schedule:

**Please note that this schedule is subject to change as various circumstances arrive over the course of the semester. Any changes will be announced in class and posted on Blackboard.

The Geography of Tourism:

- Chapter 1 – Geography and Tourism
- Chapter 2 – Basic Concepts in Tourism
- Chapter 3 – Overview of Tourism Products

The Geographic Foundation of Tourism:

- Chapter 4 – The Historical Geography of Tourism
- Chapter 5 – The Transport Geography of Tourism
- Chapter 6 – The Physical Geography of Tourism
- Chapter 7 – The Human Geography of Tourism

Mid-Term Exam – March 5**The Geography of Tourism Effects:**

- Chapter 8 – The Economic Geography of Tourism
- Chapter 9 – The Social Geography of Tourism
- Chapter 10 – The Environmental Geography of Tourism
- Chapter 11 – Tourism and Sustainable Development

Tourism and Place:

- Chapter 12 – Representations of Place and Tourism
- Chapter 13 – Place Promotion in Tourism
- Chapter 14 – Experiences of Place in Tourism

Project – April 25**Final Exam – May 9 at 12:00 (final exam schedule)**