

PTRM 451 W – Tourism and Sustainability

Instructor Info:

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Course description:

This course will explore ideas of development and sustainability as they pertain to tourism in a variety of settings from local destinations to the global economy and environment. We will critically assess, through case studies, the opportunities and challenges for implementing sustainable tourism from an economic, social and environmental perspective. This class is designated as an upper division writing course therefore students will also learn and practice formal writing with an academic voice.

Purpose:

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a fundamental understanding of the concepts of development and sustainability within a tourism context.

Learning Outcomes:

- Understand and explore some basic concepts of development
- Learn about the history and origins of sustainable development and the types of sustainability.
- Critically analyze the concepts of development and sustainable development.
- Explore and understand some basic concepts of tourism including the destination lifecycle model.
- Be able to explain the economic, social and environmental impacts of tourism at a given destination and globally.
- Critically analyze the sustainability of tourism at a given destination and globally.
- Be able to define and differentiate between ecotourism, adventure tourism, responsible tourism and nature-based tourism.
- Engage with current literature on sustainable tourism.
- Identify and pursue more sophisticated questions for academic inquiry.

- Find, evaluate, analyze, and synthesize information effectively from diverse sources.
- Manage multiple perspectives as appropriate.
- Recognize the purposes and needs of discipline-specific audiences and adopt the academic voice necessary for the chosen discipline.
- Use multiple drafts, revision, and editing in conducting inquiry and preparing written work.
- Follow the conventions of citation, documentation, and formal presentation appropriate to that discipline.

Learning materials:

Reading materials for this course will consist of book chapters and articles from peer-reviewed journals. All reading materials will be available on Moodle. All lecture notes and handouts will also be available on Moodle.

Assignments and assessment:

The assignments and assessments for this course will be used to measure your understanding of the topics covered and your ability to communicate that understanding verbally and through writing. The assignments will also provide additional opportunities for learning about and synthesizing the topics covered in this course. All assignments are due at the beginning of class and late assignments will not be accepted unless the student has a written and verifiable excuse.

Explanation of assignments:

Planning assignment and presentation: Students will conduct a planning exercise for sustainable tourism in a protected area. The final output will be a draft plan for sustainability using planning frameworks and sustainability concepts from class. The plans should be grammatically correct and should not contain spelling or capitalization errors. In addition, students will present their paper in class in a conference presentation format. Presentations will last 15 minutes.

Sustainability analysis: Students will pick a tourism destination and catalog the impacts of tourism on that destination, analyze its current sustainability and provide recommendations to improve sustainability, using concepts learned from class lectures and readings. The sustainability analysis will be six to eight (6-8) pages double-spaced, minimum. All stages of the paper will be returned with comments and opportunities will be given for revision. The first stage will be to write an outline and abstract for the chosen topic. Students will then conduct a literature review to find the concepts they will use in their analysis. After that, students will prepare a first draft of the final paper. This draft will be graded and returned with comments. At the final stage, students will prepare their paper keeping in mind the comments made on the draft. This final paper is expected to be a minimum of six to eight (6-8) pages, double-spaced. All papers should be properly cited, grammatically correct and should not contain spelling or capitalization errors.

Quizzes: During the semester, there will be 10 reading quizzes given to students. These quizzes are designed to assess students' comprehension of the assigned readings.

Class participation and attendance:

The success of this course depends on lively in-class discussion. Therefore, students are expected to come to class everyday well-prepared and ready to discuss the assigned readings and topics from the lectures. Students who do not prepare and those who miss class will find it difficult to succeed in this course. Those of you who do prepare and attend class regularly will learn a great deal and have fun in the process.

Academic Integrity:

Students are expected to abide by the University of Montana Student Conduct Code. Academic misconduct will not be tolerated. The Student Conduct Code can be found here in case you have any questions: [Student Conduct Code Link](#)

Course Schedule:

This is only a guide and is subject to change.

Week of	Topic	Assignment/Assessment
29 & 31-Aug	theories of development (K&J)	
5 & 7-Sept	sustainable development (K)	No class on the 5 th for Labor Day
12 & 14-Sept	tourism theory (J)	
19 & 21-Sept	tourism as development (K)	Paper topic due (9-21)
26 & 28-Sept	impacts of tourism/globalization (K)	
3 & 5-Oct	Library/writing center (K)	
10 & 12-Oct	impacts of tourism/globalization (J)	
17 & 19-Oct	sustainability and tourism (J)	Literature review due (10-19)
24 & 26-Oct	Industry responses: ecotourism/responsible tourism (J)	
31-Oct & 2-Nov	Planning for sustainability (J)	Planning assignment
7 & 9-Nov	Managing sustainable tourism (J)	First draft of sustainability analysis due (11-09)
14 & 16-Nov	Monitoring and sustainability (J)	
21 & 23-Nov	Systems approach and resilience (K)	No class on the 23 rd for Thanksgiving

Week of	Topic	Assignment/Assessment
28 & 30-Nov	best practices, organizations and certifications (K)	Planning assignment due (11-30).
5 & 7-Dec	Student presentations (K&J)	
12-Dec	Course wrap up (K&J)	Final draft of sustainability analysis due 12-19

Equal Access: The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommasson 154. I will work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate accommodation.

Grading:

There will be a total of 1000 points offered in this course. Extra credit will not be given. The breakdown is as follows:

Assignment	Points
Planning assignment	200 points
Paper topic and abstract	50 points
Literature review	100 points
First draft	150 points
Final draft	150 points
Oral presentation	150 points
Quizzes 10@ 20points each	200 points
total	1000 points

Range	Points	Letter Grade
900-1000	points	A
800-899	points	B
700-799	points	C
600-699	points	D
below 600	points	F