

# PTRM 210: Nature-Based Tourism

Spring 2021

Tues/Thurs 9:30-10:50 a.m. (Offered Remotely via Zoom)

## Instructor Info:

Jenn Thomsen, Ph.D.

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## Teaching Assistant:

Kika Bradford

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## Required Readings:

There will be assigned readings posted for each day on Moodle under the date and topic that corresponds to the syllabus.

## Course Description:

This course introduces students to the tourism and recreation in a nature-based context. An initial link between the environmental, social, and economic aspects of nature-based tourism will be made. Students will combine introductory tourism, natural resources, community, and management concepts for future application.

## Course Overview and Goals:

This course introduces students to the concepts and principles of tourism within the context of a sustainable system. Emphasis is placed on understanding the tourism industry with a focus on the relationship between natural resources, their protection, management and other multiple and competing uses. Students will understand the planning, marketing, and management of tourism activities and development that promote cultural and environmental awareness.

## Course Objectives:

1. Knowledge of current trends in tourism and nature-based tourism.
2. Ability to discuss the importance of tourism in terms of ecology, culture, and economic development balanced with a social responsibility.
3. Ability to critically examine nature-based tourism operations.
4. Awareness of conserving natural resources and culture while still allowing for tourism.

## Grading scale:

Grade	Percentage
A	> 93
A-	90 - 93
B+	88 - 89
B	83 - 87
B-	80 - 82
C+	78 - 79
C	73 - 77

Grade	Percentage
C-	70 – 72
D+	68 - 69
D	63 - 67
D-	60 - 62
F	<60

### Class Information and Expectations:

1. 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 Lommason 154 or 406 243 2243. I will work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate accommodation.
2. Any assignments submitted later than the beginning of class will receive a reduced grade. If there are legitimate reasons (e.g. medical illness proven through a doctor’s excuse) which prevent an assignment from being completed on time, then a revised schedule for completing that assignment must be negotiated with the instructor.
3. All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at: [Student Conduct Code Web Page](http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php) ([http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student\\_conduct.php](http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php))

### Grading:

Overall Class Grading	Percentage
Midterm	25%
Sustainable Tourism Video	5%
NBT Memo	10%
Activity and Reflections	15%
Group Presentation	10%
NBT Activity	10%
Final Exam	25%

### Midterm (25%) and Final Exam (25%):

The midterm will cover class discussions, readings, and content from the start of the semester to the time of the midterm. The final exam will cover class discussions, readings, and content from the midterm to the end of the semester. There will only be make-up exams for excused absences and it is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor prior to the exam of the absence and a time to reschedule taking the exam.

### Sustainable Tourism Video Assignment (5%):

Students will be asked to find a video of less than five minutes in length that represents nature-based tourism and the potential positive or negative impacts that can be associated with this type of tourism. Students will supply the link to the video along with a half-page write-up on why they selected this video. Each student will then be assigned 7 videos to watch and review. The video finalists will be viewed by all students in class. Three winners will be selected and will be awarded extra credit points that can be applied to their Activity and Reflections grade.

**NBT Memo (10%):**

The student will select one topic covered in class during the semester and write a memo on the topic. Reflection papers can be turned in at the end of each section of the course for a topic covered in that section. The memo will be typed, 1.5-spaced, 12 pt font, and 2 pages in length.

**Activity and Reflections (15%)**

Students will be assigned readings each week and questions will be assigned to readings. Students will turn in responses on Moodle (see dates on syllabus). Students will also be asked to respond to questions/activities during the class. The questions will be used to guide a larger class discussion on the topic. Only students with excused absences will be given the opportunity to make-up an in-class activity.

**Discussion Group Project and Presentation (15%):**

At the beginning of the semester, each student will be assigned to a Discussion Group, which will be their group for the remainder of the semester. There will be time during each class period for discussion groups to engage with the subject material from the class and readings. Each group will be assigned to a nature-based tourism case study. Each group will need to address the challenges of their case study and offer recommendations in a short report and presentation at the end of the semester.

**Nature-Based Tourism Activity (10%):**

Students will choose a nature-based tourism activity of their choice to participate during the semester by April 1<sup>st</sup>. This could include hiking, skiing, snowmobiling, birdwatching, etc. Students can choose to either create a video that illustrates the positive and negative impacts from nature-based tourism activities OR can choose to interview a professional in the nature-based tourism field and write-up the interview and reflection. Guidelines and a rubric will be provided for how the assignments will be assessed.

**Extra Credit:** Students can earn extra credit points during the semester that can be applied to their activity and reflections grade, their NBT memo grade, or their nature-based tourism activity grade. Students can find articles in the news, media, etc. related to topics/themes in the class of nature-based tourism. The student will submit the link to the article and a half page write-up on the relevance of the article to the class and topics. Each article can earn the student 3 extra credit points. A maximum of 15 extra credit points (5 articles) can be submitted during the semester. The last day to turn in extra credit assignments is April 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Attendance and Classroom Behavior:**

Students are expected to attend all class sessions and attendance will be taken. Students will earn points for attending class and participating in activities/discussion that can be applied to their grades at the end of the semester. Instructors may excuse brief and occasional absences for reasons of illness, injury, family emergency, religious observance or participation in a University sponsored activity. It is important that everyone take part in the classroom activities and discussions, and are not disrespectful of other students, faculty or guest speakers.

**Important Dates Restricting Opportunities to Drop a Course Spring 2021:**

Description	Date Range
Students can drop classes on CyberBear with refund & no "W" on Transcript	Feb. 1
A class drop requires a form with instructor and advisor signature, a \$10 fee from registrar's office, student will receive a 'W' on transcript, no refund.	Feb. 2 - March 18
Students are only allowed to drop a class under very limited and unusual circumstances. Not doing well in the class, deciding you did not want to take the class after all, switching majors, and similar reasons	March 19-April 23

Description	Date Range
are not among those limited and unusual circumstances. If you want to drop the class for these reasons, make sure you do so by the end of the 45 <sup>th</sup> instructional day. Requests to drop must be signed by the instructor, advisor, and Associate Dean so if you pursue this request, leave sufficient time to schedule meetings with each of these individuals (at least 3-5 working days). A \$10 fee applies.	

**Tentative Class Schedule and Due Dates (subject to change):**

<b>Section 1: Benefits and Costs of Nature-Based Tourism</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Assignments Due</b>
January 12 <sup>th</sup>	Class overview, Intro to NBT	
January 14 <sup>th</sup>	Intro to Ecotourism and Sustainability	
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	Philosophies and Constructs of NBT	
January 21 <sup>st</sup>	Ethics and Tourism	<b>Reflections Assignment due on Moodle</b>
January 26 <sup>th</sup>	Cultural and Social Impacts of Tourism	
January 28 <sup>th</sup>	Environmental Impacts of Tourism	
February 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Economic Impacts and Marketing of NBT	<b>Tourism Video Assignment Due</b>
February 4 <sup>th</sup>	COVID and NBT	<b>Reflections Assignment due on Moodle</b>
<b>Section 2: Nature-Based Tourism in Montana</b>		
February 9 <sup>th</sup>	Sustainable Tourism Video Contest & Group Project Time	
February 11 <sup>th</sup>	River Tourism and Recreation	
February 16 <sup>th</sup>	Character of place & CORR in MT	
February 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Guest Speaker:</b> Montana Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research	<b>Reflections Assignment due on Moodle</b>
February 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Guest Speaker:</b> Destination Missoula & Glacier Country	
February 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	<b>Midterm Exam</b>
<b>Section 3: Common &amp; Emerging Types of Nature-Based Tourism</b>		
March 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Cruise Tourism	
March 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO CLASS: "Spring Break Day"</b>	
March 9 <sup>th</sup>	Hunting & Fishing Tourism	<b>Reflections Assignment due on Moodle</b>
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Exclusive Wildlife Tourism	
March 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO CLASS: "Spring Break Day"</b>	
March 18 <sup>th</sup>	Mountaineering Tourism	
March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Scuba Diving Tourism	
March 25 <sup>th</sup>	Voluntourism	<b>Reflections Assignment due on Moodle</b>
March 30 <sup>th</sup>	Dark & High Risk Adventure Tourism	
April 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>NO CLASS: NBT Tourism Activity</b>	
April 6 <sup>th</sup>	Recreational Drone Use and E-bikes	<b>NBT Tourism Activity Due</b>
April 8 <sup>th</sup>	Agrotourism	
April 13 <sup>th</sup>	Nature-based Festivals & Races	<b>NBT Memo Due</b>
April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Spiritual & Health NBT	
April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Group Presentations	<b>Group Presentations Due</b>

April 22<sup>nd</sup>

Group Presentations

April 26<sup>th</sup>

**Final Exam (8:00-10:00)**

**Final Exam**