ANTHROPOLOGY 2272G-650
Anthropology of Tourism

COURSE OUTLINE
Winter 2021

Vanimo, Papua New Guinea, 2007 (photo courtesy of J. Kennedy)

Instructor: Christine Kennedy
Email: csuck2@uwo.ca

Credit Value: 0.5 credit

Mode of Delivery: For 2020/2021 this course will be conducted online. It is asynchronous, meaning that students will be provided with a variety of lesson materials and activities that can be done throughout the week, although there may be tasks that must be completed by specific times.

Calendar Course Description: This course examines various aspects of tourism from an anthropological point of view. Topics will include the cultural effects of tourism on both hosts and guests, on the political and economic issues involved in tourism, on the connection between tourism and environmental concerns, and on conflict over local resources.

Antirequisites: None.

Prerequisites: At least a 0.5 Essay course in any faculty.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.
Territorial Acknowledgement: Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Attawandaron peoples. The First Nations communities in closest proximity to the University are: Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, and Munsee-Delaware Nation.

Course Syllabus:
This course explores various aspects of tourism from an anthropological point of view. As we will see, there is more to tourism than it simply being a leisure activity for the comparatively wealthy. Through engaging with studies based on ethnographic research, we will discuss questions such as: Who benefits from tourism and how? Is tourism a way of the wealthy to exploit the poor? How are local people represented, and how do they represent themselves, to tourists? How do the expectations and intentions of tourists shape their encounters with the people they visit? Which role do mediators (e.g., governments, guides and media) play, and how do they influence tourists’ experiences?

The objective of this course is to critically examine tourism, particularly its effects on both hosts and guests. Topics will include: tourism and culture; the political and economic issues connected with tourism; tourism and the environment, with special attention to ecotourism; conflict over resources; tourism and development, including volunteer tourism; sex tourism; medical tourism; and photography and material objects.

Learning Outcomes:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Assess the effects of tourism on local people, cultures and the environment.
- Discuss the complexity of tourism and the contributions anthropologists have made to the study of this subject.
- Examine what is being promoted and what is being ignored in tourism advertisements.
- Reflect critically on their own perspectives of and experiences with tourism.

Course Materials:

Paperbacks will be available for purchase at Western’s Bookstore. An electronic version of this book can be purchased via Amazon and VitalSource; for more information, please consult the OWL course website or contact the instructor.

Additional required readings (such as journal articles and non-textbook chapters) can be accessed through the “Course Readings” feature on the OWL course website.
**Evaluation:**

Grades will be based on the following:

- Forum Postings #1 – 20%
- Forum Postings #2 – 20%
- Quizzes – 10%
- Essay – 30%, due March 17
- Final Exam – 20%, scheduled during the final exam period (April 14 to 30)

**Evaluation Details:**

**Forum Postings**

Forum Postings #1 (weeks 1 to 6) – 20%
Forum Postings #2 (weeks 7 to 12) – 20%

The purpose of the forums is for students to discuss the readings and engage with other students’ thoughts. The forums provide us with the opportunity to learn from each other.

Students are asked to make **at least 1 substantial contribution** to the forum of each week. The contributions should be thoughtful, well-supported, clear and coherent, no longer than 2 paragraphs (per contribution), but contain more than 2 or 3 sentences. Your posts need to engage with the readings (and films). I am looking for evidence that you have read, understood and thought about the book chapters and journal articles.

Your contributions can be responses to questions and comments posted by the instructor or other students. You can also start conversations.

Posts are due by Friday although you are encouraged to submit posts by Thursday to get discussions started; **exceptions:** contributions for week 1 are due Friday, January 22, 2021 and contributions for week 11 are due Thursday, April 1, 2021. There is no penalty for late submission of posts. However, forums will be **locked 3 days after the respective due dates at 7:00pm EST:** **exceptions:** the forum of week 1 will be locked on Monday, January 25, 2021 (at 7:00pm EST), and the forum of week 11 will be locked on Monday, April 5, 2021 (at 7:00pm EST). Once a forum is locked, you cannot make any contributions to that forum. It is therefore imperative that you submit posts within 3 days if you miss a due date (except in cases where students have been granted academic consideration). You are not allowed to submit more than 4 posts per weekly forum.

I will count the best 5 contributions for each mark. Consequently, your mark will **not** be negatively affected if you miss 1 post in each period. Bonus marks will be assigned for additional posts. Please note: If you submit 5 posts in a period but contribute to the forums of less than 4 weeks, marks will be reduced. More information on the forums, including grading, bonus marks and mark reductions, will be posted on the OWL course website.

**Quizzes – 10% total**

There will be 5 quizzes (worth 2.5% each) throughout the term, in weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10. The quizzes will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. Each quiz will be based on material
covered over two weeks, including video lectures, written lesson information, journal articles and book chapters, documentaries and so on. Each quiz will be open for 8 days (Sunday to Sunday).

The quiz with the lowest score will be dropped from the overall quiz mark; consequently, your overall quiz mark will not be negatively affected if you miss 1 quiz. Students who miss quizzes should contact the instructor. Accommodations will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Essay – 30%**

In this essay, you are asked to critically analyze tourism advertisements. Choose a holiday destination and search for advertisements promoting this destination (e.g., printed ads, websites and commercials). Examine what these ads emphasize (in regards to, for example, landscape, culture and local people) and what they leave out that you as a tourism student would like to know. For your analysis, you are expected to use points from **at least 7 different class readings**. As **class readings** count those journal articles and book chapters listed in the course outline. Non-class readings and films count in addition to the 7 class readings. The essay is expected to be 1,500 to 1,700 words in length (excluding the reference list).

This assignment is an exercise in critical thinking, in developing a thesis/a main argument, in synthesizing information from scholarly sources, and in properly acknowledging the ideas, wording and data of other authors.

The essay is due on **March 17, 2021 (11:55pm EST)**. There is one day “grace period,” meaning if you submit the essay by March 18, 2021 no marks will be reduced. The penalty for late submission of the essay, starting March 19, 2021, is **2% per weekday**. I will **not** accept papers submitted after March 24, 2021 (11:55pm EST). Submit an electronic copy of your essay via “Assignments” on the OWL course site.

A detailed assignment outline (including format guidelines) will be posted on the OWL course site.

**Final Exam – 20%**

The final exam will be a take-home essay. The exam is due within the exam period, date TBA.

**Academic Integrity - Statement on Plagiarism:**

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing. It is also a scholastic offence to submit the same work for credit in more than one course. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence.

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.

**Course Specific Conditions Required to Pass this Course:**

In order to pass an essay course, the student must exhibit some minimal level of competence in essay writing and the appropriate level of knowledge of the content of the course.
In order to pass this essay course, students need to submit the written assignments (i.e., the essay and the forum posts) and receive a passing grade on the essay and either forum postings #1 or forum postings #2.

**Course Specific Statements and Policies:**

**Statement on Email**

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I endeavour to reply to messages within 24 hours (Monday to Friday until 5:00pm EST). I will respond to emails sent on Friday after 5:00pm (EST) and on the weekend on Monday of the following week. I am also happy to talk with you face to face via Zoom. Please contact me to set up a date and time for a Zoom session.

**Statement on Technology**

Because this is an online course, it is imperative that students have the proper equipment (computers, laptops etc.) and internet connection. Students must familiarize themselves with the OWL course site and its different features. Non-working computers, computer programs, internet connections etc. or lacking the knowledge of how to use OWL will not be accepted as valid excuses for having missed assignment deadlines. If you experience technical difficulties or have technical questions regarding OWL, please contact the Helpdesk, Western Technology Services and not the instructor.

**Accommodation Policies:**

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

**Academic Consideration for Student Absence:**

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an online portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student’s final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student’s final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are not met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.
Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student’s Home Faculty.**

No academic consideration will be granted retroactively more than 10 days after an assignment’s due date or a missed quiz or test. Please see your academic counsellor immediately if you will be seeking academic consideration based on medical or compassionate grounds.

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see: [Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#)

**Student Medical Certificate (SMC)**

**Religious Accommodation:**

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

**Institutional Statements and Policies:**

All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current academic policies regarding accessibility, plagiarism and scholastic offences, and medical accommodation. These policies are outlined in Western’s academic policies by clicking on this link: [Western’s academic policies](#).

**Course Schedule and Readings:**

**Week 1 (January 11 - 17): Introduction to the Anthropology of Tourism**

*Native Tours:*

"Introduction: Shedding Light on Travel Experiences"


**Week 2 (January 18 - 24): Scholarly Views, Economic Effects and Politics**

*Native Tours:*

“Chapter 1: From Travel to Tourism”

“Chapter 2: Tourism, Society, and the Political Economy”

**Quiz #1**
**Week 3 (January 25 - 31): Tourism and the Environment**

**Native Tours:**

**Week 4 (February 1 - 7): Struggle over Resources**


**Quiz #2**

**Week 5 (February 8 - 12): Tourism and Culture**

**Native Tours:**
“Chapter 4: Tourism and Culture”

**February 13 - 21: Reading Week (no class)**

**Week 6 (February 22 - 28): Tourism and Culture (cont.)**


**Quiz #3**

**Week 7 (March 1 - 7): Tourism and Development**


**Week 8 (March 8 - 14): Sex Tourism**


**Quiz #4**

**Week 9 (March 15 - 21): Medical Tourism**


**March 17: ESSAY due**

**Week 10 (March 22 - 28): Tourism, Photography and Material Objects**


**Quiz #5**

**Week 11 (March 29 - April 4): Tourism in Times of a Pandemic**


**Week 12** (April 5 - 11): Conclusion

*Native Tours:* "Epilogue"

**Week 13** (April 12): Catch Up

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