Instructor: Christine Kennedy (she/her)
Email: csuck2@uwo.ca

Mode of Delivery: This course is 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.

Credit value: 0.5

Requisites:
Antirequisites: None.
Prerequisites: None.

Course Description:
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 the 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.

A detailed course outline, including specifics on assignments, a week-by-week breakdown of topics and assigned readings, and further course specific information will be available on the course’s OWL site before the first day of class.
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.

Additional required readings (such as journal articles and non-textbook chapters) will be accessible through the “Course Readings” feature on the OWL course site.

Evaluation:
Grades will be based on the following:
• Weekly contributions to the discussion forums
• 5 Quizzes (biweekly)
• Essay (1,500 to 1,700 words in length; due in the second half of November)
• Final Exam in the form of a take-home response paper (about 1,000 words; due during the December exam period)