

Fall 2016  
GEOG 233  
**Geography of Tourism**

Instructor: Sanjay K. Nepal  
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Office Hours: Wednesday 9:00 - 10:30 AM (Or by appointment)

Lectures: Monday/Wednesday 11:30 – 12:50 pm  
Room: DC 1351

Teaching Assistants:  
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*TA office locations and contact hours will be posted later*

### COURSE OUTLINE

**Course Objectives:** By the end of the course, participants should have a foundational understanding of the nature and scope of tourism geographies. In particular, students will become familiar with the significance of tourism to modern society, economy and the environment. Geographical approaches to the study of tourism and contemporary frameworks relevant to human behavior and actions in touristic landscapes will serve as the foundations to understanding tourist spaces and places.

**Course content:** The course content draws heavily from the textbook by Stephen Williams and Alan Lew (2015): *Tourism Geography: Critical Understandings of Place, Space and Experience*. Routledge, Third Edition. The content will be complemented with the instructor's research interests and experiences in the field.

### **Tentative Schedule**

September 12            Introduction  
                                  Course content, schedule, expectations

September 14	Tourism, geography, and geographies of tourism (Chapter Textbook)
September 19/21	The birth of modern tourism (Chapter 2)
September 26/28	International patterns of travel and tourism (Chapter 3)
October 3/5	Costs and benefits: The local economic landscape of tourism (Chapter 4) (Note: This week's lectures will be delivered by Tom Karrow, PhD candidate at UW)
<b>October 10/12</b>	<b>Reading Break! No Class!</b>
October 17	Tourism, sustainability and environmental change (Chapter 5)
October 19	<b>Mid-term Test</b>
October 24/26	Socio-cultural relations and experiences in tourism (Chapter 6)
October 31/ November 2	Cultural constructions and invented places (Chapter 7)
November 7	Theming the urban landscape (Chapter 8)
November 9/14	The past as a foreign country (Chapter 9)
November 16/21	Nature, risk and geographic exploration in tourism (Chapter 10)
November 23/28	Consumption, identity and specialty tourisms (Chapter 11)
November 30	Planning and managing tourism development (Chapter 12)
December 5	Review and Wrap up.

**Final exam will be scheduled during the examination period**

Minor adjustments in schedule may be required as a result of unforeseen circumstances or so that specific topics can be covered.

## READINGS

Required course text is Stephen Williams and Alan Lew (2015) *Tourism Geography: Critical Understandings of Place, Space and Experience*. Routledge, Third Edition. Participants are responsible for covering the materials in this text.

## ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION

Assignments	Due Date	Weight (%)
Mid Term Exam	October 19	30%
Final Exam	TBA	40%
Student Pair - Case Study 1	October 24	10%
Student Pair - Case Study 2	November 30	10%
Participation and Randomly scheduled	Random dates	10%
In-class Quizzes		

### **Mid-Term Exam: 30%**

This exam is scheduled for October 19, 2016. Please note it is right after the reading break so there is a good opportunity to prepare for this exam as there are no classes scheduled during the week of October 10. The exam will consist of several short-answer (not multiple-choice) questions. More details will be provided later. Content of this exam will cover Chapter 1 through Chapter 5.

### **Final Exam: 40%**

Final exam will be held as per UW Final Exam Schedule, more details will follow later. Final Exam will consist of several short-answer and essay questions. Content of this exam will cover Chapter 6 through Chapter 13 (note that in-class lectures will cover only up to Chapter 12, you are required to read the final chapter to prepare for this exam).

### **Student Pair - Case Study 1 - The KW Oktoberfest (Oct 7-15, 2016): 10%**

Each student will team up with another student (teams of 2) to experience and research concepts of space, place and environment in the context of KW Oktoberfest 2016. Each team will be responsible for documenting and observing happenings relevant to the Oktoberfest. In particular, based on participant observation, each team will summarize a 2 page (single spaced) report on how the Oktoberfest contributes to KW's tourism, what is its significance for KW's identity construction, its tourism space, place characteristics, and likely social and environmental implications (positive and negative). The instructor will provide a list of potential themes for research, exploration and experience relevant to the festival. The typed report is due October 24.

## **Student Pair - Case Study 2 - St. Jacobs Farmers Market, The Production of Tourist Space in the KW Region: 10%**

Similar to Case Study 1, each team of two students will experience, observe, explore and research concepts of heritage, identity, local economy, and host-guest interactions in St. Jacobs' Farmers Market. The field observations the team will make are not time bound, that is, you can visit the market anytime (but only during scheduled Market days in Fall) and at any frequency to explore and record/document your observations. However, the written version of this case study is due November 30. The instructor will provide a list of potential themes for research, exploration and experience relevant to this assignment. The typed report (two pages, single spaced) is due November 30.

### **Participation and Randomly Scheduled In-Class Quizzes:**

Up to 4 In-Class Short Quizzes will be given out during the Fall semester. There won't be any announcements about these quizzes – they will be distributed and collected either before the lecture begins or after lecture ends. No extra preparation is needed for taking the quizzes as long as you are on top of your game (regularly attending classes, reading the textbook, participating and engaging in class discussions, etc). The quizzes are designed to test your knowledge on important concepts and issues discussed in class. Participating and correctly answering these quizzes will determine your participation marks (10%).

### **COURSE POLICIES:**

1. Be prompt to class. Please do not walk in late or leave early (talk to the instructor prior to lecture if you have to leave early)
2. Please silence your cell phone, and refrain from doing crossword puzzles, loud talking etc, during the lecture.
3. Laptops are permitted only if you are using it for class purposes; no other activities online (e.g. checking your Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Email, etc) will be permitted. If found to be engaged in off-course activity, you will be asked to shut off your computer, or leave the classroom.
4. Please be respectful to one another, to your instructor, and to your TAs; above all, respect yourself by respecting others!

### **ALL PARTICIPANTS PLEASE NOTE:**

All course requirements (except the final exam) must be completed by **December 5, 2016**. This requirement can be waived for the following reasons:

1. Valid medical reason such as illness or accident (appropriate proof such as a Doctor's note is required);
2. Personal or family emergency (with suitable proof where possible);
3. Other valid reasons beyond the control of the student (to be approved on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the instructor).

**Plagiarism:** Participants are directed to read Student Academic Discipline Policy #71 in the Undergraduate Calendar regarding plagiarism (or refer to the following web address:

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.pdf>). Plagiarism offenses are normally treated seriously by the University and can result in significant penalties being assessed (e.g. failing grade, suspension or expulsion).

Plagiarism detection software (Turnitin) may be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all materials and sources in assignments is documented. Students will be given an option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin in this course. For further information on UW's Turnitin guidelines, see:

<http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/home/guidelines-instructors>

**Unclaimed assignments:** Unclaimed assignments will be retained until one month after term grades become official in quest. After that time, they will be destroyed in compliance with UW's [confidential shredding procedures](#).

**Academic Integrity:** In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. [www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/)

Students who are unsure what constitutes an academic offence are requested to visit the on-line tutorial at <http://www.lib.uwaterloo.ca/ait/>

**Research Ethics:** Please also note that the 'University of Waterloo requires all research conducted by its students, staff, and faculty which involves humans as participants to undergo prior ethics review and clearance through the Director, Office of Human Research and Animal Care (Office). The ethics review and clearance processes are intended to ensure that projects comply with the Office's Guidelines for Research with Human Participants (Guidelines) as well as those of provincial and federal agencies, and that the safety, rights and welfare of participants are adequately protected. The Guidelines inform researchers about ethical issues and procedures which are of concern when conducting research with humans (e.g. confidentiality, risks and benefits, informed consent process, etc.). If the development of your research proposal consists of research that involves humans as participants, the please contact the course instructor for guidance and see <http://iris.uwaterloo.ca/ethics/>

**Note for students with disabilities:** The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.

**Religious Observances:** Student needs to inform the instructor at the beginning of term if special accommodation needs to be made for religious observances that are not otherwise accounted for in the scheduling of classes and assignments.

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, [www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm). When in doubt please contact your Graduate Advisor for details.

**Discipline (as noted above under 2a):** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offence, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Graduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71, Student Discipline, [www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm). For typical penalties, check Guidelines for Assessment of Penalties, [www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm)

**Appeals:** A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71 – (Student Discipline) may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72 (Student Appeals) [www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm)

**LEARN:**

Users can login to LEARN via:

<http://learn.uwaterloo.ca/>

use your WatIAM/Quest username and password

Documentation is available at:

[http://av.uwaterloo.ca/uwace/training\\_documentation/index.html](http://av.uwaterloo.ca/uwace/training_documentation/index.html)