School of Management

TOUR 345 Tourist Behaviour

Trimester 2 2012

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Coordinator
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Tutorial Administrator
Bob Capistrano
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Trimester Dates

Teaching Period: Monday 16 July – Friday 19 October
Study Period: Monday 22 October – Thursday 25 October (Monday 22 October is a public holiday, Labour Day)
Examination Period: Friday 26 October – Saturday 17 November (inclusive)

Withdrawal from Course

1. Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before Friday 27 July 2012.

2. The standard last date for withdrawal from this course is Friday 28 September. After this date, students forced to withdraw by circumstances beyond their control must apply for permission on an “Application for Associate Dean’s Permission to Withdraw Late” including supporting documentation. The application form is available from either of the Faculty’s Student Customer Service Desks.
Class Times and Room Numbers
Mondays and Wednesdays  8:30 – 9:20   GB LT3

Tutorial Schedule
There will be no tutorials during the first and final weeks of the trimester.

1. Monday  9:30 – 10:20   RWW 128
2. Monday  10:30 – 11:20   RWW 128
3. Monday  11:30 – 12:20   RWW 128
4. Wednesday  9:30 – 10:20   RWW 313
5. Wednesday  10:30 – 11:20   RWW 413

Course Content
This course examines tourist behaviour from both theoretical and practical perspectives. The study of tourist behaviour has utility for students who plan to have a career in the tourism sector. It is important that different stakeholders within the tourism industry (state institutions, business owners, tourism marketers, service employees, and even tourists) understand tourist behaviour and its ramifications. Research that explores tourist behaviour can be used to develop sound tourism policy and better tourism products. An understanding of tourist behaviour will be useful to those students considering jobs in the fields of visitor management, services management, and marketing.

The course will explore an array of themes and issues related to tourist behaviour. A number of questions will be addressed. Why do tourists travel? What inspires tourists to undertake certain types of travel? How do researchers study tourist behaviour? What variables influence the choices and decisions made by tourists? The course also reviews different ways to classify tourists. What types of typologies do researchers and marketers use to categorize tourists? Why is it important to identify different tourist types? The course will then examine different types of tourists and their behaviour. Why do certain types of tourists behave in certain ways? What factors, for example, shape the behaviour of senior travellers, travellers with disabilities, backpackers, or business travellers? It is hoped that students, once they complete the course, will appreciate the study of tourist behaviour and its importance to the tourism industry.

Bachelor of Tourism Management (BTM) Learning Goals and Objectives

Learning Goal #1: Our graduates will possess and apply specific knowledge of tourism management as well as a range of transferable skills

Learning Objectives
Graduates will be able to:
(a) demonstrate a systematic understanding of theoretical and applied aspects of tourism management
(b) display an appreciation for concepts and methods that inform the management of tourism organizations, businesses, and resources
(c) demonstrate a breadth of tourism management expertise: managing tourism businesses, visitors, and impacts
(d) acquire skills and knowledge that provide a solid platform for graduate study

Learning Goal #2: Our graduates will demonstrate application of critical and creative thinking skills to practical and theoretical tourism management problems

Learning Objectives
Graduates will be able to:
(a) assess, appraise, and synthesise a range of tourism management issues, plans, and concepts
(b) identify, access, and evaluate a range of information and data sources
(c) undertake and apply research in tourism management
(d) analyse, evaluate, and interpret tourism data (on businesses, destinations, and industry sectors)
(e) use innovative thinking and creative skills in the context of the tourism business environment and tourism research

Learning Goal #3: Our graduates will be effective and confident communicators

Learning Objectives
Graduates will be able to:
(a) present original ideas and material effectively using a range of media
(b) apply advanced written communication skills
(c) prepare and deliver polished and professional oral presentations
(d) communicate effectively with peers when undertaking group projects

Learning Goal #4: By meeting the above learning goals, our graduates will display leadership and be able to assume positions of responsibility

Learning Objectives
Graduates will be able to:
(a) engage in effective individual and group decision making
(b) develop an understanding of tourism leadership qualities and issues
(c) acquire an appreciation for good leadership in the workplace through the practicum

Overall Course Objectives
This course is designed to explore the behaviour of tourists both within New Zealand and overseas. TOUR 345 has a demand-side focus and will help students:

- become familiar with research that addresses tourist behaviour
- appreciate different approaches to the study of tourist behaviour
- make connections between theory and practice in the study of tourist behaviour
- realize that tourism demand continues to evolve, and that this evolutionary process should be understood by tourism researchers, marketers, policy makers, and other stakeholders within the tourism industry
- further develop generic research, communication, and critical thinking skills

Course-Related Learning Objectives and Skills
On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- analyse, appraise, and synthesize concepts relevant to the study of tourist behaviour
- demonstrate a theoretical and practical understanding of tourist behaviour
- understand applications of tourist behaviour research as well as the ethical implications of these applications
- use a variety of library-hosted research databases (for example, Hospitality & Tourism Complete and ProQuest)
- exchange ideas with their peers on topics related to tourist behaviour with confidence

Course Delivery
Students are expected to attend two lectures each week (Monday and Wednesday) and their allocated tutorial (once a week for ten weeks).

Expected Workload
Students can expect the workload to be approximately 13 hours per week of student work, including both scheduled contact time (lectures and tutorials) and preparatory work outside of class. TOUR 345 is a 20-point course.
Group Work
While the course has a tradition of study group collaboration, there are important elements in the assessment process that are strictly individual. Collaboration on individual assignments is not allowed beyond general discussion as to how one might interpret the nature of the assignment question. Please do not work together to formulate a response and do not loan out your completed assignments. You will be expected and encouraged to work in groups on tutorial assignments; however, essays must be individual submissions.

Tutorial Sign-up Instructions (S-Cubed)
Tutorials will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays (see page 2). There are no tutorials during the first and final weeks of the trimester. Please attend the tutorial for which you sign up.

Tutorial attendance and active involvement in discussions are an important component of the course. **If you attend fewer than 8 tutorials, you will not meet one of the mandatory requirements for the course (see page 9).** Exemptions from individual tutorials will only be granted with a medical certificate or in exceptional circumstances. You must always attend your allocated tutorial session; if you attend a different session, your attendance will not be recorded. Exemption from tutorials will only be accepted with a medical certificate or in exceptional circumstances. Tutorials start in the second week of the course (the week commencing 23 July 2012).

Tutorial sign-up will be via the online sign-up system called s-cubed ([https://signups.victoria.ac.nz](https://signups.victoria.ac.nz)). Requirements to use this system:

1. You must be enrolled in the course for the tutorial you want to sign up for; and
2. You will need your SCS username and password.

Instructions regarding tutorial sign up can be accessed from the “key documents” section of the TOUR 345 Blackboard site.

You will be able to login and signup (or change your signup) anytime **between Monday 16 July at 10am and Thursday 19 July 10am**.

You can view/confirm details of the sessions that you are enrolled and waitlisted for by clicking on “My Signups” on the left hand menu. Click on “Support” on the left hand menu if you are having problems.

**Confirmation of your tutorial group will be posted on Blackboard on Thursday 19 July after 1pm.**

If you miss the **Thursday 19 July at 10am** tutorial enrolment deadline you will need to contact the Tourism Management Group’s tutorial administrator, Bob Capistrano (robert.capistrano@vuw.ac.nz). Your e-mail should state why you were not able to sign up on time using the online system, along with other relevant documentation such as a medical certificate. You should detail all the tutorial times you can make and you will then be allocated into a tutorial which has space. There is NO GUARANTEE that you will get your preferred tutorial time. If there are “exceptional circumstances” why you require a particular tutorial session these should be explained in the e-mail.

Class Schedule

**Week 1**

Class #1 – Introduction: Course Structure, Expectations, and Evaluation
Class #2 – Tourist Behaviour: An Overview
Week 2
Class #3 – Tourist Behaviour: Approaches and Concepts

Week 3
Class #5 – Tourist Typologies: Examples and Approaches
Class #6 – The Active Considerer
Two short articles from Tourism New Zealand’s website will be distributed in class. The first examines the Australian Active Considerer and the second addresses the Chinese Active Considerer.

Week 4
Class #7 – Travel and Accessibility
Class #8 – Senior Citizens and Travel

Week 5
Class #9 – Tourist Behaviour and Culture
Class #10 – Backpackers

Week 6
Class #11 – Food and Tourist Behaviour
Class #12 – Wine Tourists

Mid-Trimester Break

Week 7
Class #13 – Tourist Behaviour and Technology
Class #14 – Tourist Behaviour and Corporate Surveillance

Week 8
Class #15 – The Visiting Friends and Relatives (VFR) Market
Class #16 – Business Travellers
Week 9
Class #17 – Tourist Behaviour and Responsible Tourism

Class #18 – Adventure Tourists

Week 10
Class #19 – Tourist Behaviour and Customer Satisfaction

Class #20 – How Do Corporations Try to Influence Tourist Behaviour?

Week 11
Class #21 – Promotional Competitions, Vacation Prizes, and Consumer Behaviour

Class #22 – Guest Speaker from the Tourism Industry

Week 12
Class #23 – Tourist Behaviour: Trends and Future Directions
Class #24 – Course Review and Examination Preparation

Readings
There is no textbook for this course. The readings can be obtained from the TOUR 345 Blackboard site. Printed materials distributed in class (for example, class handouts and tutorial assignments) that students fail to collect will be placed in a box in front of Room 927 (9th floor of Rutherford House).

A Tutorial Schedule
Week #1: No Tutorial
Week #2: (1) Discuss Essay #1 (2) Medical Tourism and Medical Tourists
Week #3: Tourist Typologies and Market Segmentation (Domestic Tourists in New Zealand)
Week #4: Travellers with Disabilities
Week #5: Tourist Behaviour and Culture
Week #6: Food and Wine Tourists

Mid-Trimester Break
Week #7: (1) Return Essay #1 (2) Discuss Essay #2 (3) Tourists and Technology
Week #8: VFR and Business Travellers
Week #9: UNWTO’s Global Code of Ethics for Tourism
Week #10: Tourist Behaviour and Customer Satisfaction
Week #11: Tourism and Emerging Niche Markets
Week #12: No Tutorial

Assessment
In TOUR 345, students will be assessed in ways that are designed to promote the development of certain attributes and skills (see pages 2 and 3). The two essays will provide students with an opportunity to engage with tourist behaviour research – and its applications – at an advanced level and to develop written communication skills further. Students will be rewarded for producing work that addresses the question directly, is well organized, demonstrates critical and creative thinking, engages with the ideas featured in scholarly sources, and presents concepts and arguments clearly and effectively. All assignments must have a cover sheet. Guidelines for the evaluation of the essays will be distributed in the first tutorial.
The final examination will assess students’ cumulative understanding of concepts addressed in the course. In addition, examinations test individual mastery of course material and critical thinking skills. Tutorial participation is an important component of TOUR 345; tutorials are a forum within which students can discuss, debate, and develop ideas relevant to the study and management of tourist behaviour. Students will be encouraged to think critically and creatively in tutorials as well.

There are three items of assessment in this course:

| Assessment #1 | Essay #1 | 25% | Due: noon August 23rd (Thursday) |
| Assessment #2 | Essay #2 | 25% | Due: noon October 4th (Thursday) |
| Assessment #3 | Final Examination | 50% | Exact date and time to be advised |

The final examination for this course will be scheduled at some point during the period from Friday 26 October – Saturday 17 November (inclusive). Students who enrol in courses with examinations are obliged to attend an examination at the university at any time during the formal examination period. The final examination is worth 50% of the total marks available for this course. It is a closed book 3-hour examination. Essay style answers are expected. You will be asked to answer four questions. Lecture material, assigned readings, and tutorial exercises covered during the course are examinable.

Essays
Essays should not exceed 2,500 words in length. Essays submitted by e-mail will not be accepted.

Options for Essay #1:

1. Why should tourism managers and marketers study the needs and preferences of travellers with disabilities? How could tourism businesses better serve this market?

2. What measures should be taken by tourism businesses to improve the way in which they serve Chinese travellers? Why should these measures be widely adopted?

Options for Essay #2:

3. How have recent advances in information and communication technologies influenced tourist behaviour?

4. Why does the VFR market deserve more attention from tourism managers and marketers? What can be done to encourage this type of travel?

Further Comments about the Essays
Prepare your essays with care and pride. Your essays should be polished and professional pieces of work. Essays for this course must be fully referenced and should not exceed 2,500 words. Further details on referencing and essay format are discussed in the Guide for Tourism Management Courses. A copy of this document is available on Blackboard.

There are a number of books that will be helpful to you as you prepare your essays:


**Quality Assurance Note**

Your assessed work may also be used for quality assurance purposes, such as to assess the level of achievement of learning objectives as required for accreditation and audit purposes. The findings may be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of Faculty of Commerce programmes. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential, and the outcome will not affect your grade for the course.

**Submission of Assignments**

Assignments should be submitted to the TOUR 345 box (box # 22) on the Mezzanine Floor of Rutherford House (Pipitea Campus) in hard copy form by the due time on the due date. All completed assignments must have a cover sheet (see the *Guide for Tourism Management Courses*). Students must also keep an electronic copy of their work archived in case the original assignment goes missing. Failure to do so will jeopardise any claim by you that your work was submitted in the rare cases where your work goes astray.

**Mandatory Course Requirements**

To meet Mandatory Course Requirements, students are required to:

a. attend at least 8 out of the 10 tutorial sessions;
b. submit all assignments within the allowable timeframe (see “penalties” section below);
c. obtain at least 40 per cent of the final examination marks available.

Students who fail to satisfy the mandatory requirements for this course but who obtain 50% or more overall, will be awarded a “K” grade. Standard fail grades (D or E) will be awarded when the student’s overall course mark falls below the minimum pass mark, regardless of whether the mandatory course requirements have been satisfied or not. Notice of Failure to meet Mandatory Course Requirements will be posted on Blackboard.
Penalties for Lateness & Excessive Length of Assignments

(i) In fairness to other students, work submitted after any deadline will incur a penalty for lateness. The tourism management group has implemented a standardized late penalty for all tourism management courses. Students who submit late assignments will be penalized at a rate of 5% per day. **Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays** will be included when counting the number of days late. Assignments received **more than 7 days after the due date** will not be accepted and the student will automatically fail the Mandatory Course Requirements.

(ii) Course outlines provide a signal to students of forthcoming workload, dates of submission etc., and thus student study plans should take account of course requirements across all courses. Consequently, workload issues related to other courses and employment will not be accepted as reason for dispensation from mandatory requirements or waiver of penalties. **Extensions** to submission deadlines for any assigned work will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

(iii) Students who are unable to comply with any of the mandatory requirements should make a written application for an extension to the due date for submission of assigned work or for waiver of a penalty, **in advance**, to the **course coordinator**, providing documentary evidence of the reasons of their circumstances. All such applications must be made **before** the deadline and be accompanied by documentary evidence, eg. a medical certificate, or counsellor’s report clearly stating the degree of impairment, and the dates the illness or event prevented you from undertaking your academic studies. This can be applied retrospectively.

(iv) In the event of unusual or unforeseeable circumstances (e.g. serious illness, family bereavement or other exceptional events) that precludes an application in advance, students should make contact with the **course coordinator** as soon as possible, and make application for waiver of a penalty as soon as practicable.

(v) Please adhere to the word limit of 2,500 words for the TOUR 345 essays. The penalty will be 10% of the grade for an assignment which is 10% over the word limit.

Grading Guidelines

The following broad indicative characterisations of grade will apply in grading assignments and the exam:

- A+ excellent performance in all respects at this level
- A excellent performance in almost all respects at this level
- A- excellent performance in many respects at this level
- B+ very good, some aspects excellent
- B, B- good but not excellent performance at this level
- C+, C work satisfactory overall but inadequate in some respects
- D poor performance overall, some aspects adequate
- E well below the required standard
- K failure to achieve mandatory course requirements and have achieved at least an average "C" over all the assessment. Note this is a failing grade.

Policy on Remarking

Every attempt is made to ensure that marking is consistent and fair to students. Students may ask for their written work to be remarked. If you have a question about your grade, first talk to the TOUR 345 course coordinator. As per Faculty of Commerce policy, students may ask for their written work to be remarked. Assignment grades could potentially go up, stay the same, or go down.

Application for remarks must be made within 5 days after the marks are available. To apply for a remark, please contact the course coordinator. Write an e-mail to him (or meet with him) and explain why you
think the mark you received does not, in your view, fairly reflect the quality of your work. Resubmit the assignment to the Tourism Management Group’s administrator, Luisa Acheson, in RH 1022 (10th floor of Rutherford House). Allow up to 7 days for remarks to be completed.

Referencing

There are many different styles of referencing. For tourism management courses, please refer to the 2012 version of the Guide for Tourism Management Courses. A copy will be made available on Blackboard.

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person’s name and contact details made available to VUWSA, the course coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the course coordinator on behalf of students. Class representatives from TOUR courses will be asked to join the tourism management group’s student-staff consultation group for one trimester.

Communication of Additional Information

Additional information or changes will be conveyed to students via Blackboard and/or an e-mail sent to the entire class. Please ensure the Faculty of Commerce has your most up-to-date e-mail address.

For the following important information follow the links provided:

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism
http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx

General University Policies and Statutes
Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study

Find out about academic progress and restricted enrolment at http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress.aspx

The University’s statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the Calendar webpage at http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Further information about the University’s academic processes can be found on the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/default.aspx

AVC (Academic) Website: information including: Conduct, Academic Grievances, Students with Impairments, Student Support
http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx

Faculty of Commerce Office
http://www.victoria.ac.nz/vbs/studenthelp

Te Putahi Atawhai
Maori and Pacific Mentoring Programme
http://www.victoria.ac.nz/tpa/