



Course Code THOM 455	Course Title Special Topics	ECTS Credits 6
Department Hospitality, Tourism and Sports Management	Semester Fall / Spring	Prerequisites Senior
Type of Course Compulsory/Elective	Field State of the art reflections in the field of tourism	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 1 st Cycle	Year of Study 4 th	Lecturer
Mode of Delivery face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None

Objectives of the Course:

The main objectives of the course are to:

- Update students on topical issues in the tourism industry.
- Stress the constantly changing framework-conditions for the industry, e.g.:
 - Climate change
 - Economic recessions
- Develop in students:
 - awareness on screening actual events and their possible impacts on the industry
 - awareness on the interaction of several sectors with the tourism industry
 - the ability to analyze and forecast possible changes in the industry

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students should be able to:

1. Articulate the unique aspects of the industry (students should acquire knowledge on the different stakeholders of the tourism industry and be able to critical evaluate and discuss of the uniqueness of the tourism industry)
2. Demonstrate an understanding of world geography, major international tourism destinations and the concept of cultural diversity (students should acquire the necessary knowledge and understanding of world geography, major tourism destinations and the important role of cultural diversity)
3. Examine and discuss critical issues that affect tourism (students should be able to generate understanding in relation of the external and internal factors that influence tourism and be able to discuss issues that affect tourism such as accessibility, economy, climate, safety)
4. Evaluate the role of international tourism as an instrument for socio-economic development (students will have the knowledge and should be able to understand

- how tourism can be used for social and economic development)
5. Examine the unique problems involved in tourism development in different region (students should be able to critical evaluate problems involved in tourism development for different regions and have an in-depth understanding of different regions development process)
 6. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts of E-tourism and its application in the Tourism Industry (students should be able to comprehend the role of e-tourism , its implications and possible applications in the tourism industry)
 7. Analyze current trends and niche tourism products (students should be able to generate understanding and knowledge in the different niche tourism products and a chosen product will be in depth analysed and explained provide to students the ability to evaluate and critically discuss current and future trends in tourism industry)

Course Content:

Depending on the actual situation possible topics could be:

- Top Destinations: Involves the reasons of specific countries such as France / Spain / United States / China / Italy / UK / Mexico / Turkey / Germany /Greece/ Russian Federation attracts tourists and travelers , explain the unique aspects of tourism,
- Emerging Markets: China, Korea, Latin America, Asia, explain the importance of cultural diversity
- Impacts of Global tourism: Future Trends in the tourism Industry, WTO and - emerging international policies affecting the tourism industry, explain external and internal factors influencing the global tourism.
- Ethical tourism and sustainable development : natural resource tourism, climate changes, economic recession , explain the importance of sustainability
- Cultural tourism: introduction to some of the major cultural Tourism destinations, importance of protecting destinations character and identity
- E-Tourism: Involves practises of e-tourism, advantages- disadvantages, implication for the traditional tourism industry and applications for the tourism industry.
- Niche Tourism: Spa Tourism, Dark Tourism, Space Tourism Medical Tourism, Religious Tourism, Culinary Tourism, Sex Tourism. Rainbow Tourism, Battlefield Tourism, Ecotourism.

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

PowerPoint Lectures, assignments, practical exercises, student presentations/assignments

Assessment Methods:

Students' PowerPoint presentations, assignments, exercises, Fieldtrip, Mid-Term exam, Final exam

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Author	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Douglas, N. , Ngaire, D. and Derrett, R.	Special Interest Tourism	John Wiley	2002	9780471421719

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Author	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Ritchie, B. W., with Carr, N. and Cooper, C. Tribe, J.	Managing Educational Tourism	Channel View Publications	2002	1853150512
	Philosophical Aspects of Tourism	Channel View Publications	2009	1845410963
Jack, G. and Phipps, A.	Tourism and Intercultural Exchange: Why Tourism Matters	Channel View Publications	2005	1845410173