

Sample Syllabus
Please note that this syllabus
is from an earlier semester.
The current syllabus may
differ in all areas except
the course description
and course objectives.

George Mason University
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism

Course Title: TOUR 311 Women and Tourism (3:3:0)

[cross-listed as: WMST 300 Women and Tourism]

Program Code, Course Number and Section Numbers – [TOUR 311 001]
Semester and Year- [TBD]

DAY/TIME:	TBD	LOCATION:	TBD
PROFESSOR:	TBD	EMAIL:	
OFFICE LOCATION:	TBD	ADDRESS:	
OFFICE HOURS:	TBD	PHONE NUMBER:	
	T-TH 1:00–2:00 p.m.	FAX NUMBER:	703-993-2025

PREREQUISITE

None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on women as hosts and guests in the context of tourism. Using social theory, issues regarding the history and evolution of tourism as a gendered system are explored. In this context, the course addresses family, solo and business travel, and employment, taking into consideration issues related to more and lesser developed countries as they relate to the roles of women in international tourism.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- describe the history and evolution of international tourism from a gender perspective;
- articulate the social theory through which the gendered nature of tourism can be examined;
- discuss the manner in which travel and tourism advertising contributes to the gendered nature of tourism;
- describe what motivates women to travel and how this is influenced by culturally specific expectations associated with personal, family and employment roles;
- articulate multiple perspectives in the on-going discussions about the impacts of tourism employment on women’s lives, including differences between opportunities in more and lesser industrialized nations;
- discuss the controversies surrounding sex tourism and prostitution as it impacts hosts and guests; and
- defend the importance of healthy and intelligent interaction between hosts and guests to the future of international tourism.

Sample Syllabus
Please note that this syllabus
is from an earlier semester.

NATURE OF COURSE DELIVERY

The course is structured around readings, discussions, case studies, class projects that utilize technology, and exams. This course will be taught using lectures, discussions, and relevant group activities. Instructor may use web-based technologies (e.g., WebCT or Blackboard) to support teaching.

TEXTBOOK

Swain, M. B. & Momsen, J. H. (Eds.). (2002). *Gender/Tourism/Fun(?)*. New York: Cognizant Communication Corporation.
Best, S. (2003). *A Beginner's Guide to Social Theory*. London: Sage Publications.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Semester Project:** Students will be asked to research an issue related to women and tourism beyond that which is presented on that issue in the course material. Students will be responsible for handing in a research paper and making a presentation to the class.
2. **Course Journal:** Students will be required to keep a weekly journal. Each entry must relate in some way to women and tourism, through reflection on the readings for the week, or connection between women and tourism in the media / recent public eye. Students will find this journal useful in preparing for class discussions and preparation for examinations. This journal will be used by the course instructor for evaluation of the students' comprehension of the material and progress in the course.
3. **Examinations:** There will be two in-class applied examinations.
4. **Class Participation and Attendance:** Lectures and in-class discussions are an important component of this course. Students are therefore encouraged to actively participate by reading, thinking, and joining in class discussions and activities. Involvement will be reflected in 10% of their final course grade.

AREAS OF EVALUATION

Semester Project	25 %
Course Journal	15 %
Examinations	50 %
Class Participation and Attendance	10 %
TOTAL	100 %

Letter grades will be awarded as follows:

Sample Syllabus
 Please note that this syllabus is from an earlier semester. The current syllabus may differ in all areas except the course description and course objectives.

To earn an:	Total points you must earn:
A+	97 to 100
A	94 to 96
A-	90 to 93
B+	87 to 89
B	84 to 86
B-	80 to 83
C	70 to 79
F	69 or lower

TOUR 490: Tentative Course Organization and Schedule

Date	Topic
Unit 1	Introduction: The Tourism System – History and Evolution of Tourism from a Gendered Perspective
Unit 2	Introduction: Social Theory – Explaining the Gendered Nature of Tourism
Unit 3	Women as Tourists – Traveling in a Couple or Family
Unit 4	Women as Tourists – Friends and Solo Travelers
Unit 5	Women as Tourists – Business Women Travelers
Unit 6	Women as Hosts – Employment in Tourism in More Industrialized Countries
Unit 7	Women as Hosts – Employment in Tourism in Less Industrialized Countries
Unit 8	Women as Hosts – Sex Tourism and Prostitution
Unit 9	Interaction of Tourists and Hosts
Unit 10	Conclusion: the Future of Women in Tourism



- ❖ All students are held to the standards of the George Mason University Honor Code.
- ❖ University policy states that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the professor.
- ❖ STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Students having documentation on file with the Disability Resource Center should bring this to the attention of the professor at the beginning of the semester.
- ❖ <http://www.gmu.edu/departments/hfr>