



TOURISM GEOGRAPHY

Credite points:	3 CP
Study course annotation	<p>Tourism Geography is the study of tourism and travel, as a cultural and social activity, and as an industry. World geography of travel and tourism considers the cultural, environmental, historical and political context in which international tourism takes place. The major themes and issues in tourism are seen as positioned in a regional context.</p> <p>Study course objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● to provide understanding of a number of notions and definitions used in geopolitical, social, and demographic processes occurring geographically, and having an impact on tourist activities; ● to develop knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of tourists' motivation linked to certain geographic places – destinations; ● to examine “push factors” encouraging individuals residing in certain geographic locations to move away from their home settings, and “pull factors” as attributes of a different place, which attract or 'pull' individuals towards it; ● to develop the understanding of how tourism is statistically estimated and develop the abilities to evaluate destinations based on statistical factors; ● to review the most significant international tourist traffic, flows and regions; ● to develop the ability to apply the acquired knowledge and understanding in creating tourism routes and tourist products.
Study results:	<p>Knowledge</p> <p>On successful completion of this course, students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● review the information on the world geographical resources, major tourism destinations, physical, political, economic and cultural factors as applied to destinations in tourism; ● become clear on a number of notions and definitions used in geopolitical, social, demographic processes occurring geographically, and having an impact on tourist activities; ● develop knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of tourists' motivation for travel to certain geographic places and destinations; ● know the information concerning historical and cultural confirmed and seen in the light of tourism resources development; ● become clear on periodization of history and culture development timeframe and will be able to identify in geographic places the legacy of past days' events and processes that lasts to this day; ● create a framework for accumulation of information and making sense of it viewing the separate territories as an interconnected world; ● have a notion of most preferred regions and destinations of the world for travel purposes and will be able to identify the criteria contributing to the attractiveness and popularity of the destination; ● become aware how tourism is statistically estimated and develop the abilities to evaluate destinations based on statistical factors. <p>Skills</p> <p>On successful completion of this course, student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● is able to identify geographical resources and attractions of tourism regions and destinations;



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● is able to identify the criteria contributing to the attractiveness and high demand of the destination; ● is able to identify political, economic and cultural factors relating to particular tourism destinations and their significance; ● can identify the legacy of past days' events and processes that lasts to this day and contribute to the "sense of place" of a particular destination; ● is able to evaluate particular tourism regions and separate destinations applying updated tourism statistics.
	<p>Competences</p> <p>On successful completion of this course, student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is able to evaluate the processes taking place in certain geographical regions in relation to tourism flows, "push" and "pull" factors from the perspective of tourism geography • is able to competently prepare and present projects related to tourism geography issues, concepts and definitions used in geopolitical, social, demographic processes that affect tourism activities; • is able to apply the acquired knowledge and understanding in the creation of tourism routes and tourism products; • is able to carry out research and studies regarding the quality and prospects of a specific destination, interpret and analyze their results.
<p>Study course plan:</p>	
No	Topics
1.	<p>Geography as an integrative discipline bringing together the physical and human dimensions of the world in the study of people, places, and environments. The themes in human geography. Historical context. Networks and interdependence. People and the environment. Culture and space. Social relations. Tourist demand and tourism supply.</p> <p>Understanding motivation of tourist flows; individual motivation factors. Four basic types of motivation. Push-pull factors model; tourist generating regions, tourist destination regions.</p>
2.	<p>Six tourism regions according to UNWTO. Europe introduction. Identifying the Boundaries «Wider Europe". Europe's historical pattern of development. Europe divisions and classifications. Regions of Europe. Tourism issues and insights: supranationalism, Schengen area. Population trends.</p> <p>Concepts in tourism geography: Sense of Place, Placelessness. Tourism & placemaking: definition of Disneyfication.</p>
3.	<p>Physical geography of Europe. Review of the human geography of Europe. The Influence of Ancient Greece. The Romans. The Great Migration. The Byzantine Empire. Middle Ages. Age of Discovery. Explored colonized, and conquered regions across the globe. Age of revolutions. The modern era. Contemporary history.</p>
4.	<p>Tourism in western Europe. Main Outbound Markets.</p> <p>The Nordic Countries. The Nordic Cultural Landscape. Lapland. Countries and autonomous territories, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden.</p>
5.	<p>The Benelux Countries. Germany and Austria. The British Isles. Major destinations. Cultural geography. Some of the main cultural phenomena.</p> <p>Switzerland the European Alps and Climate Change. The European Microstates.</p>
6.	<p>France. Greece. Italy. The Iberian Peninsula: Portugal and Spain. Human geography, cultural phenomena and major destination.</p>



7.	The human geography of Southern Europe the Mediterranean. Major tourism destinations of the Mediterranean region ranking among the largest international tourist destinations in the world. The Island States of the Mediterranean: Malta and Cyprus.
8.	Eastern Europe - EU Countries. Central Europe Landscape Tourism in Central and Eastern Europe. Hungary. The Former Czechoslovakia. Poland, Slovenia, Romania, Bulgaria.
9.	The Baltic States: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.
10.	Eastern Europe - Non-EU: Countries Albania, the Former Yugoslavia.
11.	Russia and the CIS Siberia; Transcontinental countries. Turkey, the Transcaucasia.
12.	Central Asia countries. Human geography. Major destinations.
13.	Island tourism. SIDS. The island nations and territories of the Indian and Pacific Oceans Indian Ocean islands. Pacific Ocean islands. (IOW)
14.	INDOSPHERE. Indic world. Cultures and regions of the Indian subcontinent: Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka. India, main destinations.
15.	Pacific region. Oceania region. Pacific islands. Indonesia. Australia. Main tourist destinations.
16.	Eastern world: Cultures and regions of Asia, including China, Japan, Korea, and Southeast Asia. The major regions and distinct t cultural and environmental characteristics. Sinitic (Chinese) influences.
17.	The MENA region: the countries in the Middle East and in North Africa. Mena region travel and tourism competitiveness index. Cultural and historical influences. The Arab world. The Arab League. The Maghreb countries. Morocco. Western Sahara. Algeria. Tunisia. Libya. Destinations and attractions. Transcontinental country of Egypt, main attractions. Palestine. Israel. Types of tourism and main destinations.
18.	The Atlantic Ocean: islands. Destinations in America. North America. Urban destinations in America.
19.	Central America. Mexican states. Caribbean countries.
20.	South Africa. The big five. Distinctiveness of cultural influences. Criteria contributing to the attractiveness of African tourism destinations.

Form of final examination:

Diferencēta rakstiska ieskaite

Mandatory literature of the study course:

1. Lew, A., Hall C. M., Dallen, T. 2008. World Geography of Travel and Tourism. A regional Approach. Elsevier Butterworth-Heinemann. (Reviewed in the USA in 2018) . Available as an e-book at https://library.pib.ac.id/index.php?p=show_detail&id=4564
2. De Blij, Harm J. Geography: realms, regions and concepts. 2016.17th edition. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
3. Finlayson, Caitlin. World Regional Geography. Licensed under a Creative Commons 2019 available at [WRGTextbook_regional_geography.pdf](#)
[europe_geography_creative-commons.pdf](#)
caitiefinlayson.com/WRGTextbook.pdf
4. Boniface B. & Cooper C. 2016. Worldwide destinations. The geography of travel and tourism. Oxford, Elsevier Butterworth - Heinemann.

Study course supplementary literature:

1. Stephen Boyd, Ivan Koppel. Geography of Tourism. Routledge, 2009.



2. World Regional Geography. People, Places and Globalization. University of Minnesota is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License](#)
3. Williams, Stephen. Tourism geography. Williams Taylor & Francis e-Library, 2003.
4. Williams, Stephen. Tourism Geography. A new synthesis. 2009 Routledge. Williams Taylor & Francis e-Library, 2009

Periodicals and other sources of information:

1. World Tourism Organization (annual) Compendium of Tourism Statistics. WTO
<https://www.unwto.org/tourism-statistics>
2. World Tourism Organization (monthly) World Tourism Barometer. WTO
<https://www.unwto.org/tourism-data/unwto-tourism-dashboard>
3. Area Studies
<https://www.britannica.com/topic/area-studies>

During the study process changes and additions to the program and the list of references are possible