

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism

TOUR 470—Senior Seminar (1)
Fall 2012

DAY/TIME:	Thursday/4:30-7:10 p.m.	LOCATION:	BRH 257
INSTRUCTOR:	Maryanne T. Hill	EMAIL ADDRESS:	mhill22@gmu.edu
OFFICE LOCATION:	Not Applicable	PHONE NUMBER:	703-966-1719
OFFICE HOURS:	Not Applicable		

PREREQUISITES

TEM Major (senior status), TOUR 241, HEAL 323, TOUR 340, TOUR 440 and PRLS 410

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Capstone educational experience focuses on current issues in tourism and event management, and career development strategies.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course students should be able to:

1. Analyze current trends and issues in the tourism and events management field.
2. Conduct research using public and secondary data.
3. Prepare a technical report and make recommendations for management.
4. Identify, create and assess materials pertaining to career placement in the tourism or events field.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course is a seminar and requires preparation, extensive in-class discussion, and peer presentation. It is expected that students will demonstrate the knowledge and competencies they have developed during preceding semesters in the BS-TEM program. The following rules and guidelines are in support of the effort to prepare seminar participants to enter the profession:

1. Attendance and participation are key elements to a successful learning experience. When tardiness or an absence is anticipated, it is the responsibility of the student to advise the instructor at a professionally appropriate time (preferably before, but no later than the scheduled end of the class period). However, notification alone does not necessarily excuse the absence. Further documentation should be offered and may be required. Advising the instructor of unexpected absence or tardiness should take place at the earliest opportunity. A passing grade will not be given if more than two seminar meetings are missed (including 'excused' absences). Extreme tardiness will be considered an absence.
2. Unless otherwise stipulated, assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the date they are due. Assignments will NOT be accepted after the due date. Excused absence does not necessarily change the submission deadlines, but may be considered in negotiating an appropriate accommodation (if necessary). Opportunities to complete exams or submit assignments on other than scheduled or due dates/times, or to participate in other learning activities or receive tutoring necessitated by absence from class will only be provided if the absence is excused by the instructor.
3. Unless required due to documented disability, laptop computers may NOT be used during class meetings. The use of communication and entertainments devices such as iPads, iPods, etc. during class time is also prohibited.

4. All assignments must be typed and presented in a professional format. Electronic versions of assignments will only be accepted when that form is specifically requested by the instructor or approved in advance of the submission deadline.
5. Students are encouraged to discuss class or content issues with the instructor in person (scheduled) or via email. All email inquiries will be answered, but appropriate time should be allowed for the message to be received and a response formulated. Tutorial discussions will not be conducted using e-mail.
6. The instructor reserves the right to change this syllabus in order to improve the quality of the overall learning experience. Changes may include scheduled activities, classroom policies, and future grading criteria, and will be communicated to all students in a revised syllabus document.

NATURE OF COURSE DELIVERY

As a seminar, this course is delivered in a facilitated discussion and student presentation mode.

REQUIRED READINGS

No required text. Newspaper (hard or electronic) is encouraged.

EVALUATION

This course will be graded on a point system, with a total of 500 possible points. Each unexcused absence will automatically reduce the points earned by 51 (one letter grade).

Requirements	Points
<i>Issue Analysis</i>	150
<i>Debate</i>	150
<i>Career Book</i>	200
TOTAL	500

Grading Scale

A+ = 97 – 100	B+ = 87 – 89	C+ = 77 – 79	D = 60 – 69
A = 94 – 96	B = 84 – 86	C = 74 – 76	F = 0 – 59
A- = 90 – 93	B- = 80 – 83	C- = 70 – 73	

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

DATE			TOPIC
TH	August	30	Introduction/Issues & Problems
TH	September	6	Career Development
TH	September	13	Gathering Information & Presenting Arguments
TH	September	20	Internship preparation
TH	September	27	Professionalism & continuing education
TH	October	4	Debates
TH	October	11	Debates

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary.

Student Expectations

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [See <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/honorcode/>].
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See <http://ods.gmu.edu/>].
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing [See <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/1301gen.html>].
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

Campus Resources

- The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance [See <http://caps.gmu.edu/>].
- The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing [See <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>].
- For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism, please visit our website [See <http://rht.gmu.edu>].

CORE VALUES COMMITMENT: The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles.

