

COURSE SYLLABUS

IDH 4007 SUSTAINABLE TOURISM COSTA RICA 2025 PROFESSOR CAROLIN LUSBY

Course Introduction Sustainable Tourism

Students will be able to understand and apply the concept of sustainable tourism: An activity that takes full account of its current and future economic, social, and environmental impacts. Students will learn how sustainable tourism produces a ripple effect while developing local and global economies, benefiting communities, and enriching culture. This theoretical course explores success cases of sustainable tourism around the world and Costa Rica. This class is associated with all development and tourism courses.

COURSE AIM

This course stresses the interrelatedness of global tourism.

- To introduce concepts and tools of sustainable tourism operation and management.
- To identify global tourism stakeholders and sustainable tourism organizations as base and support for sustainable tourism development.
- To understand the role of key international initiatives, organizations and stakeholders as support of sustainable tourism development.
- To get to know major international, national, regional and local labels, certification programs and different types of initiatives for business, attractions, cultural heritage, protected areas and tourism destinations in general.
- To introduce the concepts of Environmental Management Systems and Sustainability Reporting as new processes that companies and organizations are now a day's adopting
- To present international case studies that demonstrates progress in sustainable tourism issues worldwide.

LEARNING OUTCOMES/OBJECTIVES

This class examines the issue of sustainability in tourism and hospitality at the global level, examining the interrelatedness of tourism impacts through different lenses. By the end of the class, students should be able to:

- Students will be able to evaluate the holistic and interrelated dimensions of sustainability.
- Students will be able to discuss sustainability through the lens of various local, national and international stakeholders and describe their rights and responsibilities towards more sustainable tourism development.
- Students will be able to identify different international certification programs.
- Students will be able to analyze the different tools to operate and manage companies, attractions and destinations with sustainability.
- Students will be able to explain the concept of accreditation and certification in an international context.
- Students will be able to understand ways to be globally engaged in improving sustainability in tourism.

TEXTBOOK & OTHER REQUIRED MATERIAL

ATTENDANCE

Classes will consist of lectures, discussions, audiovisual presentations, practical projects and the possible participation of invited guest speakers.

This course requires that students regularly attend class sessions since the topics will refer to national and international updates on events, case studies, data and which are not found in textbooks.

ASSIGNMENTS

There will be a class project, class discussions and quizzes. More detailed information is given in the course outline. Your project will be done in groups of 3-5 highlighting economic, socio-cultural and environmental impacts from the perspective of different stakeholders and how tourism impacts are interrelated. You will also highlight how sustainable tourism could minimize negative impacts and maximize positive impacts on the economy, local people/cultures and the environment.

EXAMINATION

There will be two exams, which may include true/ false, multiple choice matching and essay questions. If a valid reason keeps a student from attending one exam at the scheduled time, it is the student's responsibility to contact the professor prior the exam.

GRADING

Discussion/Quizzes	25%
Movie Activity	5 %
Individual Project	10%

Exam 2	20%
Mid Term exam	20%
Project presentation	20%
Final grade:	100%

Course Outline

Module	Topics and Global Learning Outcomes	Assignment and Grades
Introduction	Tourism Introduction Ch 1); History of Tourism Sociology and Psychology of Travel	Intro Blog (5pts)
Issues in Sustainable Tourism Day 1	Issues in Sustainable Tourism Sustainable Development Goals and Tourism Emergence of Sustainable Tourism	Quiz 1(5 pts)
Alternative versus Mass Tourism	Ecotourism	
Marketing versus Greenwashing	Marketing Sustainable Tourism Green Consumers Green Washing (GE)(GP) Costa Rica Intro	Discussion Board 2 (5 pts) The environmental tourist (5)
Quality Control Sociocultural Impacts and Indicators	Codes of Conduct Awards Certifications Green Globe Sociocultural Impacts/Indicators (GA)	Quiz 2 (5 pts) Discussion Board (5 pts)
Economic and Environmental Impacts/Indicators	Environmental and Economic Impacts and Indicators/Management (GP) (GA)	Test 2 20 points
Sustainable Destination Development	Spatial Techniques Visitor Management Techniques (GE)	Group Projects Due (20 pts)

Active Learning Strategies

Group Project: Pick a destination of your choice. Examine what stage of the destination life cycle it is in, what types of tourists it attracts and what major impact tourism has on

the environment, society and culture as well as the local economy. Describe these *through the lenses of various stakeholders such as local people, tourists, multinational corporations. At a minimum give the perspective of three different stakeholders (GP) Explain the interrelatedness of these stakeholders and issues (GA).* Then describe what can or is being done in the destination to enhance sustainability in these three areas.

Case Studies: In your book you will find various international case studies related to impacts, management, marketing and certification we will discuss.

Blog Discussions: Various *blog discussions will be used to facilitate global learning.*

As an example there is a blog in module two about the UN millennium development goals: What are the 8 Millennium Development Goals? Which of these are particularly easy for tourism to influence? What is corporate social responsibility?

Movie assignment: As you watch the movie: “The environmental tourist,” take note of the different destinations being highlighted. *Global awareness and perspective are assessed with the following questions:* What are some of the issues in the safari parks in Africa? What initiatives are currently undertaken to combat these negative effects? What is the issue being discussed in Belize? What is currently being done about it? *Examine the effects through the lenses of different stakeholders discussed in the movie. How does it affect local people? Describe the interrelatedness of what is happening.*

Individual Project:

In this module we have been examining environmental indicators and standards. One way to be aware of the environmental impact of a person or business is to know the carbon footprint. In this assignment you will calculate your carbon footprint. Please write a short 2 page paper that you submit online, please make sure it is well written and properly cited. You will submit it through turn it in.

1. How did you calculate your carbon footprint? Tell me the calculator and website you used. Why did you use this calculator?
2. What is your carbon footprint? Were you surprised? Was it more or less than what you expected?
3. What are some ways you can reduce your own carbon footprint?
4. Did the calculator you used offer any ways to offset your carbon footprint? If so, what were they? How does it work?

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE

2024 STUDY ABROAD RULES

By registering for an Honors Study Abroad program, I commit to making my payments on time, to complying with the requirements on time, and to remaining with the program. Refunds are not awarded, and switching programs is not allowed.

Note: - IDH 4007 is the pre-travel class on campus; IDH 4008 is the class abroad.

- The Office of Education Abroad enrolls students in the class.
- Deadline dates that fall on weekends and/or holidays are NOT moved to the next business date.

I am aware that in order to I commit, I must (1) apply to the 2024 Honors Study Abroad & Study USA application, (2) apply to OEA application at abroad.fiu.edu (specific program application-link provided by Honors College), (3) sign this contract, (4) interview with the Honors College, and (5) pay a \$500 non-refundable, non-transferrable deposit to Student Financials or MyFIU within one week after your interview.

Documentation:

I am aware that I must upload the signed Course Registration Form to abroad.fiu.edu specific program application by DECEMBER 1, 2023, 11:59PM. If I fail to comply by the deadline, I will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4007 and/or IDH 4008, or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that I must upload ALL required Material Submissions to abroad.fiu.edu no later than MARCH 1, 2024, 11:59PM. If I fail to comply by the deadline, I will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4007 and/or IDH 4008, or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that the documentation required by Office of Education Abroad (OEA) includes the Medical Information Form, Course Registration Form, copy of valid passport, and four questionnaires: (1) personal information form, (2) emergency contact form, (3) special needs form, and (4) financial information form. I am aware that the Medical Form is valid for only 6 months as of the date it is signed by a physician licensed in the United States and cannot expire before the end of the program.

I am aware that students are strongly encouraged to review vaccination requirements, including against COVID-19, for countries they plan to visit. Failure to abide by vaccination requirements may prevent a student from entering a country and continuing participation in the Study Abroad program, in which case, refunds will NOT be awarded. (Read this: [COVID-19 | Disease Directory | Travelers' Health | CDC](#))

I am aware that my passport must remain valid for at least 6 months after the last day of the program.

I am aware that if I do not have a valid passport by the deadline mentioned above, I must instead submit proof that the passport application/renewal process has been initiated and must replace it with a copy of my actual passport no later than APRIL 12, 2024. If I fail to comply by the deadline, I will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4008, or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that I must clear any existing holds by DECEMBER 1, 2023, 11:59PM and again by MARCH 6, 2024, and I am responsible for ensuring that I have no new holds before I am enrolled in both IDH 4007* and/or IDH 4008*. If I fail to comply by the deadlines, I will not be allowed to participate in the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

*If I have a hold on my account, I cannot be enrolled for classes.

I am aware that while taking the IDH 4007 class, I will have to complete the online mandatory pre-departure orientation on the study abroad application portal. I am aware that I must complete the session and associated quizzes, sign the paperwork, and upload it to my application at the abroad.fiu.edu portal by MARCH 6, 2024, 11:59pm.

Physicality:

I am aware that the faculty leader and/or support staff do not administer medical care or provide medication.

I am aware that if getting tested for COVID-19 were to be required for flying, I am expected to limit my exposure once tested. Should I contract COVID-19, I will have to abide by the rules of both the airline and my country of destination. It will be my responsibility to keep myself healthy and able to participate in my program. If I am not allowed to go because of having exposed myself, or if my departure gets delayed, I will be responsible for the extra charges, refunds will NOT be awarded, and posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware of my dietary restrictions and needs. I have also reviewed common foods of the country(ies) I will visit on the program. I am liable for any food that I consume while on the trip.

I am aware of the start and end dates of the travel portion of the program. I understand that I am required to be present for the entire duration of the program. Leaving early or arriving late may affect my grade in the class abroad.

I am aware of the physical requirements of the Honors Study Abroad program I am registering for, and I am capable of completing all physical requirements of the program.

Academics:

I am aware that in order to participate in an Honors study abroad program, I must maintain a minimum cumulative FIU GPA of 3.3. If I fail to comply, I will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4007 and/or IDH 4008. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that to be enrolled in IDH 4008, or travel with the program, I must receive a grade no lower than C in IDH 4007. If I cannot be enrolled, refunds will NOT be awarded and posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that I can enroll in a maximum of 18 credits per semester. If I want to go above that amount, I must get the Enrollment Adjustment Form signed by my major's Dean no later than DECEMBER 1, 2023, 11:59pm for Spring 2024 classes and MARCH 15, 2024, 11:59pm for Summer 2024 classes and send it to edabroad@fiu.edu.

Behavior:

I am aware that if I have been sanctioned under the FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code (<https://regulations.fiu.edu/docs=257>), which results in loss of privileges, and/or other sanctions that result in my not being considered to be in good standing with the University (e.g., conduct probation), I will not be eligible to participate in IDH 4008 or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that if I am found responsible for an Academic Misconduct Violation, I will be dismissed from the Honors College upon notification of findings and will not be allowed to participate in, or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that I am expected to represent the Honors College and FIU honorably and maturely. The faculty director and/or staff are authorized to end

my program early if my behavior becomes disruptive (and/or violates the FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code).

Payments:

I am aware that once I attend my interview, I must pay my \$500 non-refundable, non-transferrable deposit to Student Financials or MyFIU no later than two weeks after my interview to commit to the study abroad program. How to Pay: [How to Pay | OneStop | Florida International University \(fiu.edu\)](#).

I am aware that study abroad payments are non-refundable, non-transferrable, and are made in three installments. The OEA will post the charges on my account approximately 3 weeks before each payment deadline. Once the charges are posted, they cannot be removed.

I am aware that if I secure my spot after charges for an installment(s) have been posted, my overdue payments will be added to the next deadline's charges.

I am aware that I am responsible for ensuring with Student Financials that any payment made towards my study abroad program is indeed applied to that program. It is highly encouraged to make payments in-person at Student Financials to ensure that payments are being made to the intended fees.

I am aware that I must pay \$195 Education Abroad fee by MARCH 1, 2024, 11:59pm. If I fail to comply, I will not be allowed to participate. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that FIU and the Honors College strongly discourage making big purchases, such as airline tickets, before the programs are confirmed by OEA. If canceled, FIU cannot refund these, or any other expenses related to the programs not paid directly to FIU.

Program Cost Payments:

I am aware that if I am paying my Program Cost through a scholarship or Financial Aid, it is still my responsibility to have the payments made on time and in their entirety. Therefore, it is my responsibility to contact Financial Aid to ensure they will be complying. If any delays are foreseen, it is my responsibility to notify the Honors College of the situation before the deadline. If my aid/scholarship will not cover the full amount due, it is my responsibility to pay the remaining balance out of pocket by the deadline. If I fail to comply, I

will not be enrolled on the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that payments must be made no later than the deadline of DECEMBER 1, 2023, and FEBRUARY 1, 2024. If I fail to make them on time, the university will apply a \$100.00 late fee to my account. Late fees cannot be removed.

I am aware that after each Program Cost payment deadline there is a one-week grace period, an extended deadline, when payments are still accepted. However, the late fee will still be applied, and I could get a hold on my account*. If I fail to complete my payment within exactly that one-week grace period, and had not notified the Honors College in advance, I will be withdrawn from the program and will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4007 and/or IDH 4008 or travel with the program, depending on the time the payment was missed. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges and late fees will not be removed.

*Students with holds on their accounts cannot be enrolled for classes.

Tuition Payments:

I am aware that if I am paying my program's Tuition through a scholarship or Financial Aid, it is still my responsibility to have the payments made on time and in their entirety. Therefore, it is my responsibility to contact Financial Aid to ensure they will be complying. If any delays are foreseen by Financial Aid, it is my responsibility to pay the balance out of pocket by JANUARY 17, 2024, 11:59pm for IDH 4007 and by MAY 14, 2024, 11:59pm for IDH 4008. If I fail to comply, I will not be allowed to participate. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

Switching, Withdrawals, and Cancellations:

I am aware that once I registered, switching programs is not allowed. If I still want to change programs, I will have to withdraw from the initial one, first, with no refunds. Then I would need to secure my spot in the new program, pay the \$500 deposit again, and complete all the new program's missing payments. Permission to apply for the second program is at the full discretion of the Honors College.

I am aware that withdrawal from a program will only be permitted for medical reasons. To request a medical withdrawal, I must provide appropriate medical

documentation from a physician licensed in the United States. Otherwise, I will remain responsible for all charges.

I am aware that if I am dismissed from a program for lack of payment, lack of documentation, or due to FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code sanctions, I will still be responsible for the charges already posted to my account. That balance will still be due.

I am aware that FIU and/or the Honors College reserve the right to cancel study abroad programs—the only case in which a refund will be made. The refund will cover the program's cost and the \$500 deposit. Late fees will not be refunded or removed. I will be responsible for fees or losses incurred in cancelling or changing my airfare ticket and any other expenses not covered by the program fee. Consideration to purchase Trip Cancellation insurance coverage is recommended. Refunds for the \$195 Education Abroad Fee will be at OEA's discretion.

I am aware that FIU and/or the Honors College reserves the right to cancel study abroad programs. If the program gets canceled once the IDH 4007 course has started, I will continue that course until it is finished. I will obtain three credit hours for it and my tuition for the course taken will not be refunded.

By signing up to participate in an Honors College study abroad program, students are assuming all the above-mentioned responsibilities are committing to complying with them without further notice.

Honors College Policies and Requirements

Academic Misconduct Procedures and Policies

In The Honors College, the term “honor” refers both to academic accomplishment and character. Students in Honors should therefore adhere to and be held to the highest standards of personal academic accountability. Academic dishonesty in any form, including plagiarism, is antithetical to the very definition of being an Honors student at FIU. Consequently, an Honors College student found responsible for academic misconduct will be dismissed from the College.

An Honors faculty member may bring charges of academic misconduct against an Honors student if the faculty member suspects plagiarism or other forms of academic misconduct. The faculty member will decide whether to pursue informal resolution, file formal resolution charges, or take no further action,

and will follow the procedures outlined in the Academic Misconduct Procedures available at <https://studentaffairs.fiu.edu/get-support/student-conduct-and-academic-integrity/academic-integrity/index.php> . Please refer to the following documents for additional information: FIU Student Handbook: <https://studentaffairs.fiu.edu/about/student-handbook/index.php>

Artificial Intelligence Policies

This policy acknowledges the potential benefits of AI while emphasizing the importance of transparency, equity, privacy, and ethical considerations. Faculty who employ AI technologies in their courses will inform students of their use in the course. This will inform students the purpose of AI integration and its impact on the learning experience.

Students are not to use AI unless explicitly stated in the respective assignment. Students are expected to use AI responsibly and ethically. This includes respecting intellectual property rights, avoiding plagiarism, and adhering to any relevant guidelines established by the university. Students who choose to use AI for assignments, must only do so with permission of the instructor. AI can be a powerful tool and can be used to assist students in brainstorming, drafting, and creating when permitted by the instructor. Be aware that AI may not develop high-quality work that earns a passing grade, and it is the student's responsibility to revise all work before submitting assignments.

Note, each course may have additional policies on AI.

Honors Engagement Requirements

In The Honors College we strive to build a sense of community, the kind you get at a small liberal arts college, but with all the resources of a major public university. Our events, workshops, and activities are all designed with the purpose of enriching your life and giving you an experience that transcends mere classroom learning. We hope that you will take advantage of all these opportunities to learn and grow. Your 11-activity HC Engagement Pathway and 20 volunteer hours will be tracked using Panther Connect and Give Pulse, respectively. Make sure to login and create your profile for both systems. Don't forget to read your weekly Next Week in Honors newsletter for awesome opportunities! It lands in your FIU Inbox every Friday. See Engagement and Community Service for more information.

Religious Observances

Every effort will be made, where feasible and practical, to accommodate students whose religious practices coincide with class

requirements or scheduling. Please make sure to notify your instructor at the beginning of the semester of which dates you will be absent or any anticipated problems with completing course work.

Physical, Mental and Sensory Challenges

Every effort will be made, where feasible and practical, to accommodate students who are so challenged. Should you require accommodations, contact the Disability Resource Center, if you have not done so already.

Resources:

Panthers Care & Counseling & Psychological Services

If you are looking for help for yourself or a fellow classmate, Panthers Care encourages you to express any concerns you may come across as it relates to any personal behavior concerns or worries you have, for the classmate's well-being or yours; you are encouraged to share your concerns with FIU's Panthers Care website.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) offers free and confidential help for anxiety, depression, stress, and other concerns that life brings. Learn more about CAPS at caps.fiu.edu. Professional counselors are available for same-day appointments. Don't wait to call 305-348-2277 to set up a time to talk or visit the online self-help portal

Academic Misconduct Policy

Registration in this course implies an acceptance of and compliance with the Honors College policies for students and the FIU Code of Academic Integrity. Please refer to the following documents for additional information:

FIU Code of Academic Integrity: <http://undergrad.fiu.edu/academic-integrity/index.html>

Honors College Academic Misconduct Statement

In The Honors College, the term *honor* refers both to academic accomplishment and character. Students in Honors should therefore adhere to and be held to the highest standards of personal academic accountability. Academic dishonesty in any form,

including plagiarism, is antithetical to the very definition of being an Honors student at FIU. Consequently, an Honors College student found responsible for academic misconduct will be dismissed from the College.

FIU Honors College Plagiarism Policy:
<http://honors.fiu.edu/students/policies/#misconduct>

Procedures and Penalties

An Honors faculty member may bring charges of academic misconduct against an Honors student if the faculty member suspects plagiarism or other forms of academic misconduct. The faculty member will decide whether to pursue informal resolution, file formal resolution charges, or take no further action, and will follow the procedures outlined in the Honors College website (<http://honors.fiu.edu/honors-policies/#misconduct>), and the Academic Misconduct Procedures.

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Honors Citizenship Requirements

Beginning in Fall 2014, Honors College students are required to accumulate at least **20 citizenship points** each academic year (Fall and Spring) by attending Honors College activities. Students attending only one semester (Fall or Spring) are required to accumulate **10 citizenship points**.

Student Portfolios

The Honors College will be using a portfolio method to assess students' learning outcomes. The portfolio method allows for maximum flexibility in gauging student learning. You will decide (with instructor consultation) what "artifacts" or assignments to include for consideration in your portfolios to demonstrate successful achievement of each of the student learning outcomes.

Portfolios provide a rich context for students to show what they have learned and to explain their learning process. Because the Honors curriculum is meant to be thought provoking and reflective, student self-assessment through portfolios will facilitate learning and provide in-depth assessment.

Each Honors College course includes at least one assignment that could potentially fit portfolio requirements.

Honors Education in the ARTS (HEARTS)

The HEARTS program is designed to give Honors College students opportunities to "explore and appreciate different artistic and cultural traditions and modes of artistic

expression. HEARTS will also serve as a clearinghouse (and curatorial framework) for our students to experience the arts on campus and in the community by providing them with information about cultural activities and access to performances with free or discounted tickets. See <http://honors.fiu.edu/hearts/>.

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