

Anthropology 225
Tourism and Pilgrimage
Fall 2009

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SYLLABUS

Tourism and pilgrimage are generally regarded as travel for two very different purposes: one for fun and relaxation, the other for spiritual edification through contact with the sacred. But, are they necessarily so different? Can a tourist ever be a pilgrim, a pilgrim a tourist? The answer may be "yes" in the sense that travelers sometimes do find deeper meaning in a secular journey and end up as "accidental pilgrims." To answer this and other questions, the course reviews the parallel literature on tourism and pilgrimage with respect to: theories of tourism and pilgrimage, definitions and types of tourists and pilgrims, tourism/pilgrimage as a social process, motivations for such travels or "the quest in the guest", and the transformational experience of "voluntary journeys." These topics are explored in the theoretical literature and in case studies of pilgrimage to sacred sites such as Mecca, Jerusalem, and India, as well as secular places – battlefields, disaster sites, and iconic sites of popular culture – Graceland & Disney World.

Readings:

Coleman & Elsner *Pilgrimage: Past & Present in World Religions* (Harvard UP)
Erve Chambers *Native Tours. Anthropol. of Travel & Tourism, 2nd ed.* (Waveland)
Edward Bruner *Culture on Tour. Ethnographies of Travel.* (Chicago UP)
Jamaica Kinkaid *A Small Place*
Various authors: *Photocopied packet* available at cost.

Requirements and Grading:

Midterm exam	25%	(Oct 1)
Final exam	25%	(TBA)
*Homework (interview: 25 points)	5%	(due Oct 8)
**Research paper (5% outline & 25% for final draft)	30%	(Nov 3 & Nov 24th)
***Class Participation: (attendance & 2 presentations)	<u>15%</u>	
Total	100%	

***Homework:** Tourism interview; details at end of syllabus.

****Research Paper:** This is a Writing 2 class, so the research paper is done in two phases. Phase I: draft of detailed outline, intro paragraph with thesis statement, and bibliography. Hand this in for my critique on Nov. 3rd. We discuss draft in individual meetings in my office on Nov. 5th. Phase II: paper in final version on Nov 24th. **See topical suggestions at end of syllabus.**

*****Participation:** 150 points allocated for attendance, contributions to discussion, and assigned summaries of readings. You will do two readings' report.

Class Norms: You should attend all classes; points off for unexcused absences. Please do not miss the exam; there are no make-ups. Late penalties on papers apply, usually 10 points a day. A paper found to be plagiarized, in whole or part, will get a zero (F) grade. Please observe basic rules of civility: arrive on time, turn off phone, do not talk or eat in class. I thank you in advance.

Learning Objectives:

1. Pilgrimage is an old human activity found in many of the world's major religious traditions. Students learn about (1) examples from the world's religions, as well as "secular" pilgrimage; (2) why people seek contact with sacred things/places; and (3) what happens as a result of contact.
2. Tourism is also an old human activity, although not as old as pilgrimage. Students learn about theories of leisure travel and its transformation in the modern era to an activity of the masses.
3. Through the reading of case studies of tourism and pilgrimage, students will come to appreciate the points of intersection between tourism and pilgrimage, particularly in the discussion of the motivations to travel (the quest), the liminal nature of the journey, the experience with sacred things/places, and the transformational aspect of travel.
4. Pilgrimage and tourism require that destinations have helpful hosts, and services and accommodations for visitors. Students learn about the impact of both forms of travel on local inhabitants and destinations in the study of the social, cultural, and economic dimensions of tourism/pilgrimage.
5. Writing objectives: Since this course is a Wri-2 follow up to Comp. 100, great stress is put on learning productive research strategies and good writing (style, organization, grammar, and creativity). All together, about 30-40 pages of writing and re-writing are expected from students. Assessment by writing and rewriting assignments.

Outcomes and Assessment:

1. Understanding of the key concepts and theories of pilgrimage and tourism. Critical awareness of points of intersection between pilgrimage and tourism. *Assessed through exams and papers.*
2. Knowledge of the role that pilgrimage plays in major religious traditions and how aspects of pilgrimage may transpose to secular domains. *Assessed through exams.*
3. Skills: Writing. Through the writing of the research papers, students are expected to develop improved writing skills in these areas: organizing and planning a paper, thesis writing, engaging the reader, grammar and punctuation. *Assessed through writing assignments.*

Schedule (Please do readings before you come to class)

Week 1

Aug 24

Course introduction. Definitions: pilgrimage and tourism.

Aug 26

Video: *Divining the Divine* (57 °CCC)

°Week 2

Sept 1

Overview of pilgrimage as ritual activity. Durkheim, Eliade, and Otto on the sacred. Concepts: numen and the numinous.

Read: Turner, Eliade, and Otto papers in *photocopy packet*; pp 30-33 in Coleman and Elsener book.

Sept 3

Video: *The One, the Many* (53° Muhlenberg)

Week 3

Sept 8 Pilgrimage in the world's religions: Christian and Jewish pilgrimage.
Students present assigned chapters.

Read: chapter 2, 4, 5 in Coleman and Elsener book

Video: *Sacred Journey and Conclusion* (CCC 29°)

Sept 10 Complete Christian/Jewish pilgrimage.
First discussion of writing: learning productive research strategies

Week 4

Sept 15 Pilgrimage in the world's religions: Hindu pilgrimage PPT on Hindu pilgrimage. *Students present assigned chapters.*

Read: chapter 6 in Coleman and Elsener book; Bhardwaj, *paper in photocopy packet.*

Sept 17 *Students present assigned chapters.* Background on Swaminaryan (Anoopam Mission) temple for field trip.

N.B. Anoopam Mission Web Site: <http://www.anoopam-mission.org/>

Video: *Varanasi* (50°, CCC)

Week 5

Sept 22 **Field trip to Swaminaryan Temple in Coplay** (Need extra time. I will cut time from another class as compensation)

Sept 24 Pilgrimage in the world's religions: the Hajj in Mecca

Read: chapter 3 in Coleman and Elsener book

Video: *The Hajj* (Muhlenberg 29°)

Week 6

Sept 29 Discuss the hajj.

Video: *Hajj: the pilgrimage* (57° Muhlenberg)

Oct 1 **Midterm exam.**

Week 7

Oct 6 What is tourism; kinds of tourism; who is a tourist; what do tourists want?
Students present assigned chapters.

Read: Chambers, *Native Tours*, chaps 1, 2, 4.

Oct 8 Discussion of homework interview.

Homework: interview someone about their tourist/travel experiences.
Write up interview as 2-3 pg. narrative and hand in – instructions at end of syllabus

Video: *Human Geography: Part 4 - Global Tourism* (27° CCC)

Week 8

Oct 13 Fall break

Oct 15 Impacts of tourism – economic, social, cultural, and ecological.
Read: *Native Tours*, chap 3.

Week 9

Oct 20 Tourists in search of

Read: *Culture on Tour* (Bruner), Introduction, chaps 1, 2

Oct 22 **Video:** *Cannibal Tours* (76°).

Week 10

Oct 27 Discuss *Cannibal Tours*.
Jamaican tourism and discussion of *A Small Place*.
PPT on Jamaica
Read: *A Small Place*.

Oct 29 Jamaica Kincaid's: *A Small Place*.
Students present assigned sections.
Class discussion of paper topic: be prepared to discuss your topic

Week 11

Nov 3 Search for authenticity. Christmas pilgrims to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
Video: PPT of Bethlehem's Xmas program
Read: *Culture on Tour* (Bruner), chap 7, 8; Cameron and Gatewood, *The Authentic Interior paper* in photocopy packet.

Detailed outline, thesis, intro paragraph and partial bibliography of paper due today.

Nov 5 **Meetings in my office to discuss your draft: times arranged.**

Week 12

Nov 10 Intersection of tourism and pilgrimage: tourist motivations and experience (Holocaust sites, African slave depots, diasporan tourism)
Students present assigned readings
Read: *Culture on Tour* (Bruner), chapter 3; *Visitation to Disaster Sites* (Blasi) in photocopy packet
I return paper outline today

Nov 12 **Video:** PPT African Slave Castles
Portion of, *Hallowed Ground* (My copy, 60°)

Week 13

Nov 17

Intersection of tourism and pilgrimage. Gettysburg National Military Park: discussion of *Battlefield Pilgrims*

Read: *War Grave Pilgrimage* (Walter); *Battlefield Pilgrims* (Gatewood & Cameron) in packet.

Go to this site to see clips on your own:

http://www.brotherswar.com/Video-Gettysburg_Cemetery_Hill.htm

Nov 19

Secular pilgrimage: Graceland and Disney World.

Students present assigned chapters.

Read: *His Truth Goes Marching On* (Knight); *Mickey, Minnie, and Mecca* (King); *Walt Disney World* (Moore); *The Happiest Place on Earth*. (Masur) – in photocopy packet

Week 14

Nov 24

Tourism and heritage: what is heritage and how is it constructed?

Read: *Beyond Sun, Sand, & Sea* (Cameron & Gatewood); *Unnatural History of Heritage* (Cameron) in photocopy packet

Final draft of paper due today.

Nov 26

Thanksgiving Break

Week 15

Dec 1

Field trip to Bethlehem.

[*Paper returned. You have the option to rewrite and turn in Dec. 7th.*]

Read: *Culture and Authenticity* (Lindholm) in photocopy packet

Dec 3

Course evaluations. I will be at professional meetings. Class can meet, and students present informally 5-10 minute version of paper.

Note:

Final grade will be available on Campus Web. Kindly do not contact me for final grade or grade on final exam (unless you think there is a problem).

Information about homework

Homework (50 points)

Interview someone you know about a recent tourist experience. Please write up 2-3 page narrative of interview. Organize narrative using topical paragraphs; do not use verbatim questions to organize. I want a kind of story (as in, you are a journalist)
Discuss in class and **hand in Oct 8th**.

Info: Interview someone who recently (as in past year) has traveled somewhere as a tourist. Destination should be some distance from home and can be in the US or abroad. The trip should *not* be to a cabin or cottage where people routinely go, but to a new place. The interview should probably take **45 to 60 minutes**.

Prepare a list of questions *based on some of* the ideas below and conduct the interview.

- How and why they chose destination
- What kind of experience they wanted to have
- How they prepared for trip: get info from Internet, from AAA, from brochures, from friends
- How they got there and kinds of things they did at their destination: get list of activities from them; perhaps get a sample day
- How long at destination
- Did their trip live up to expectations
- Comments about dealing with others at destination: other tourists, locals
- Whether they scheduled special events or anything educational at destination, as museum trip. If yes, why and did they learn anything
- What was most fun about trip; what was rewarding
- Importance of fun versus other kinds of experiences, such as learning about new places, talking to locals there, doing something completely different
- Try to find out if they like the “bubble” form of tourism: as in taking the comforts of home with them, relaxing and loafing versus seeking to learn about other places and people in the world (the “authentic” experience)
Whether they would return to same place again

Information on Research paper (25% or 250 points):
Topic can be Pilgrimage or Tourism:

Instructions:

- I want you to try to develop a thesis statement as your research proceeds.
- Outline, intro paragraph with thesis statement, and partial bibliography are due on Nov. 3rd. We will discuss in my office on Nov. 5th.
- I will return corrected outline to you on Nov. 10th.
- Prepare **final paper** and turn in Nov. 24, class before Thanksgiving.
- I will return to you on Dec. 1. You have option to rewrite paper and turn in final draft on Dec. 7th.
- Use standard style format for paper, as MLA or APA.
- Avoid long quotes from sources. Use proper paragraph structure.
- Paper should be in 12-point font with normal margins.
- Length of paper should be about 8-10 pages, plus biblio. Can be longer.
- Plagiarism will be rewarded with a zero on paper and failure in course.
- *You must go beyond the course readings to get full credit for paper.*

Possible Paper Topics

(if you want to do something else, please clear with me)

1. **Pilgrimage:** In depth coverage of pilgrimage from a major religious tradition (as Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism). You will need to decide whether you are doing broad coverage (as in time period and place) or whether you will do a specific description of pilgrimage to one place and one time period. I want you to focus on pilgrims' experiences – construct a thesis statement about this. These are the possible areas you can cover in your paper:
 - Who are these pilgrims (characteristics and background)?
 - Pilgrim's various motivations
 - Aspects of the pilgrim's journey to the sacred site(s)
 - Site description
 - Requirements of pilgrimage as in dress and demeanor
 - Ritualistic behaviors expected
 - Presence of guides, guidebooks, or other means of educating the pilgrims about what is expected of them
 - Descriptions of the pilgrims' experiences
 - Post-pilgrimage: how experience has altered pilgrims.

2. **Secular pilgrimage:** as mentioned in class: historic sites or museums (holocaust, battlefields, disaster); slave pilgrimages sites in Africa or New World; wilderness destinations; Disney destinations; Graceland pilgrimage; etc.
 - Who are these pilgrims (characteristics and background)?
 - Pilgrim's various motivations
 - Site description: full description

- What is considered sacred at site?
 - Behaviors at site
 - Reported experiences
 - Post-pilgrimage: how are people changed (people's reports)
3. **Tourism and/or Tourists:** pick one of the topics we discussed in class to fully develop in this paper. I would suggest topic of "search for authenticity," but you can do something else. If you do the authenticity topic, see books below. Topics to cover are:
- Tourists' motivations
 - Why authenticity?
 - Who are these tourists who quest authenticity?
 - What do they do at site?
 - How do they interact with locals?
 - Collection of art, crafts etc
 - Photographing
 - Post-visit transformation

Books/Articles for tourism topic. (*remember: you can get books through Inter-Library Loan*) Also, see biblio in my article, *Unnatural History*

- Michael Ames: *Cannibal tours and glass boxes*
- Dean MacCannell: *The Tourist* (new edition)
- Pierre van den Berge: *Quest for the Other*
- Charles Lindholm: *Culture and Authenticity*
- Dennis O'Rourke: *Cannibal Tours* (article in *Tourism and Cultural Developments in Asia* (Yamashita – I can give you copy of article))
- Nick Stanley: *Being Ourselves for You*