

Identification	Subject (code, title, credits)	THM 302 Sustainable tourism – 3KU (6ECTS)
	Department	Economics and Management
	Level	Undergraduate
	Term	Fall 2025
	Instructor	Rovshan Karimov, PhD
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	Classroom/hours	41 Mehseti street (Neftchilar campus), Khazar University
	Office hours	Thursday, 12:00 to 13:00 or by appointment
Prerequisites	THM 105 Tourism Geography	
Language	English	
Compulsory/Elective	Compulsory	
Required textbooks and course materials	<p>Readings: Core: 1. Fennell, D.A., Cooper Ch. (2020). Sustainable tourism: principles, contexts and practices. Channel View Publications. 504 p. 2. Hall. C.M., Gossling, S., Scott, D. (Eds.) (2015). The Routledge handbook of tourism and sustainability. London: Routledge. Additional: 3. Education for sustainability in tourism: A Handbook of processes, resources, and strategies. Edited by Moscardo G., Benckendorff P. (2015). Springer Publications. 4. Kiper T. (2013). Role of ecotourism in sustainable development. In a book: Advances in Landscape Architecture. pp. 773-797. 5. Andy Drumm, Alan Moore. (2015). Ecotourism development. A Manual for Conservation Planners and Managers. Vol. I. 6. The encyclopedia of ecotourism. (Edited by David B. Weaver). (2001). CABI Publishing, NY. 7. Hall, Colin Michael and Lew, Allan (2009). Understanding and managing tourism impacts: an integrated approach, London: Milton Park: Routledge. 8. Eynalov H., Mammadov R. The development of ecotourism in the world: Azerbaijani case. 2013.</p>	
Course outline	<p>The course is intended as an introduction to the concept of sustainability and sustainable development in the field of tourism. The analysis will cover the principles of sustainable tourism and its practical application from the point of view of the tourism destinations and tourism businesses as well. One of the basic goals will be to better know the theoretical and practical aspects of environmental management in the tourism sector, as well as issues related to economic and social sustainability of tourism development.</p> <p>More specifically, the course will provide lectures on theoretical concepts and fundamental issues of sustainable tourism, including main categories, market development, growth, the environmental, socio-cultural and economic impacts of tourism on host destinations; aspects of planning, management; as well as key players in tourism, including accommodations, tour operators, tour guiding and institutions. Special emphasis is laid on learning of tourism by different venues, biomes, continents and regions of the world in context of conservation concerns and sustainability. Teaching of this course will also provide the knowledges on problems of sustainable tourism in Azerbaijan.</p>	
Course objectives	<p>The following objectives are pursued in this course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provide knowledge on how to express the application of the concept of sustainable development to the field of tourism. - provide understanding of nature-based tourism challenges. - enable to identify environmental impacts of tourism and behaviors of tourists in relationship with other types of tourism. - discuss key questions and problems relevant to tourism on a global and regional scales, including in the case of Azerbaijan. 	
Learning outcomes	<p>Upon completion of essential readings and activities, at the end of this course, students should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the principles of sustainable tourism and the different applications of this concept. • Know the main impacts that tourism exerts on the environment, economy and society of the destinations and what are the main tools to manage and reduce the negative impacts. • Know the geographical spread of natural resources, used in tourism in context of conservation and sustainability. • Know about the main destinations of tourism, including the protected natural areas present in different 	

	regions and countries of the world, including Azerbaijan. • Understand tourism as a tool for economic and social development, which can contribute to economic improvement and reduction of social inequalities at the destination level. • Understand the main environmental concerns related to tourist activities and be aware of opportunities for compliancy of these activities with sustainable development principles through tourism managements. • Be able to describe the instruments for environmental improvement of tourist destinations and businesses;		
Teaching methods	Lecture		✓
	Group discussion		✓
	Comparison of features		✓
	Case analysis		✓
	Explanation by schemes, diagrams and maps		✓
Evaluation	Methods	Date/deadlines	Percentage (%)
	Midterm Exam	November	30
	Project	18 th December	10
	Quiz	To be announced	10
	Attendance		5
	Class activity		5
	Final Exam	To be announced	40
	Total		100
Policy	<p>Attendance and participation: The students are required to attend all classes as part of their studies and those having legitimate reasons for absence (illness, family bereavement etc.) are required to inform the instructor. Generally, eight (8) unauthorized absence marks will lead to the students' expulsion from the course. The attendance and participation will account for 10% of the total course grade, which depends on students' good class attendance and active participation in class discussions.</p> <p>Preparation for class The structure of this course makes your individual study and preparation outside the class extremely important. The lecture material will focus on the major points introduced in the text. Reading the assigned chapters and having some familiarity with them before class will greatly assist your understanding of the lecture. After the lecture, you should study your notes and work relevant problems from the end of the chapter and sample exam questions. Throughout the semester we will also have a large number of review sessions. These review sessions will take place during the regularly scheduled class periods.</p> <p>Withdrawal (pass/fail) This course strictly follows grading policy of the School of Economics and Management. Thus, a student is normally expected to achieve a mark of at least 60% to pass. In case of failure, he/she will be referred or required to repeat the course the following term or year. For referral, the student will be required to take examination scheduled by instructor.</p> <p>Assignments/quizzes There will be two quizzes and two assignments. Quizzes and home assignments will constitute 20 percent of the total grade. Makeup quizzes will not be given except in the case of dire emergency. Students are required to turn in answers to assignments at the beginning of the classes at which they are due. Late assignments will not be accepted.</p> <p>Cheating/plagiarism Cheating or other plagiarism during the Quizzes, Mid-term and Final Examination will lead to paper cancellation. In this case, the student will automatically get zero (0), without any considerations.</p> <p>Professional behavior guidelines The students shall behave in the way to create favorable academic and professional environment during the class hours. Unauthorized discussions and unethical behavior are strictly prohibited.</p> <p>Rules of Professional Conduct The students shall behave in the way to create favorable academic and professional environment during the class hours. Use of any type of devices (including mobile phones) during the class is prohibited. Unauthorized discussions and unethical behavior are strictly prohibited. Classroom behavior that seriously interferes with either (a) the instructor's ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to benefit from the course program will not be tolerated. When a student's behavior in a class is so seriously disruptive as to compel immediate action, the instructor has the authority to remove a student from the class on an interim</p>		

		<p>basis, pending an informal hearing on the behavior.</p> <p>Projects Each student has to prepare one project, a topic and a brief description of which will be explained by the instructor. The title page of the project must include all the details (name of student, topic and etc.). Projects must be written at around 7 pages with 14 Kegel, Times New Roman and 1.5 space. All the used data (references) should be shown at the last page of the project work. Insertion of tables on the topic and small-size pictures are allowed and recommended. Using the recent data is allowed while too old data should be avoided. Works must include brief (about 1 page or less) "Conclusion" part reflecting results, findings of the author, main tendencies identified, etc. Project works will be evaluated as 0-10 points depending on the quality of work (relevance, content of arguments, sequence of thoughts, accuracy, conclusion etc.) carried out.</p> <p>Exams The midterm and final exams will include both open questions and multiple choices. Each open question should be answered in half a page, one page, or one and a half page, it will be shown on the exam sheet accordingly. Additional information on this will be given later, at least one week before the exams.</p>	
Tentative Schedule			
Date / Day		Topics	Readings
1		Sustainable development and sustainable tourism	1. Fennell, D.A., Cooper Ch. (2020). Sustainable tourism: principles, contexts and practices. Chapter 1. 2. Hall. C.M., Gossling, S., Scott, D. (Eds.) (2015). The Routledge handbook of tourism and sustainability. London: Routledge. Chapter 1.
2		Ecotourism and sustainability	1. Fennell, D.A., Cooper Ch. (2020). Sustainable tourism: principles, contexts and practices. Chapter 2. 2. The Encyclopedia of Ecotourism (Edit. by Weaver D.B.). 2001. pp. 5-18, 23-24. 3. Kiper T. (2013). Role of ecotourism in sustainable development. In a book: Advances in Landscape Architecture. pp. 773-797.
3		Tourism and nature	1. The Encyclopedia of Ecotourism (Edit. by Weaver D.B.). 2001. pp. 5-18, 23-24. 2. Hall, C.M., Gossling, S., Scott, D. (Eds.) (2015). The Routledge handbook of tourism and sustainability. London: Routledge. Chapter 2.
4		Participants of sustainable tourism	1. Kiper T. (2013). Role of ecotourism in sustainable development. In a book: Advances in Landscape Architecture. pp. 773-797. 2. Education for Sustainability in Tourism: A Handbook of Processes, Resources, and Strategies. Edited by Gianna Moscardo, Pierre Benckendorff. (2015). Springer Publications. Pp. 75-91.
5		Business of tourism and sustainability	1. Hall. C.M., Gossling, S., Scott, D. (Eds.) (2015). The Routledge handbook of tourism and sustainability. London: Routledge. Chapter 27. 2. Andy Drumm, Alan Moore. A Manual for Conservation Planners and Managers.V.1
6		Management planning in tourism	1. Hall. C.M., Gossling, S., Scott, D. (Eds.) (2015). The Routledge handbook of tourism and sustainability. London: Routledge. Chapter 13. 2. Education for Sustainability in Tourism: A Handbook of Processes, Resources, and Strategies. Edited by Gianna Moscardo, Pierre Benckendorff. (2015). Springer Publications. Pp. 59-74.
7		Socioeconomic and environmental impacts of tourism	1. Hall. C.M., Gossling, S., Scott, D. (Eds.) (2015). The Routledge handbook of tourism and sustainability. London: Routledge. Chapter 35. 2. The Encyclopedia of Ecotourism (Edit. by Weaver D.B.). 2001. pp. 5-18, 23-24. Quiz #1
8		Tourism in various biomes. Part 1	Midterm Exam 1. Holden, A. (2008). Environment and tourism (2nd ed.). London: Routledge 2. The Encyclopedia of ecotourism (Edited by David B. Weaver). pp. 189-247.
9		Tourism in various	1. Holden, A. (2008). Environment and tourism (2nd ed.). London: Routledge

		biomes. Part 2	2. The Encyclopedia of ecotourism (Edited by David B. Weaver). pp. 251-280.
10		Tourism in protected areas	1. Hall, C.M., Gossling, S., Scott, D. (Eds.) (2015). The Routledge handbook of tourism and sustainability. London: Routledge. Chapter 30. 2. The Encyclopedia of Ecotourism (Edit. by Weaver D.B.). 2001. pp. 5-18, 23-24.
11		Tourism in urban and peri-urban landscapes	1. Holden, A. (2008). Environment and tourism (2nd ed.). London: Routledge 2. The Encyclopedia of ecotourism (Edited by David B. Weaver). pp. 315-341. Quiz #2
12		Sustainable tourism in Europe and Anglo-America	The Encyclopedia of ecotourism (Edited by David B. Weaver). pp. 155-169.
13		Sustainable tourism in Asia	The Encyclopedia of ecotourism (Edited by David B. Weaver). pp. 123-136.
14		Sustainable tourism in Africa	The Encyclopedia of ecotourism (Edited by David B. Weaver). pp. 89-104.
15		Ecotourism in Azerbaijan	Eynalov H., Mammadov R. The development of ecotourism in the world: Azerbaijani case. 2013. Lecture materials of the instructor.
Final Exam			

Additional readings and assignments will be provided by the instructor for this course.
If necessary, some minor modifications may be made to this syllabus by the Instructor.