



“FOREST RECREATION AN TOURISM” SYLLABUS

Basic data of the subject	
Academic Unit:	Life and Environmental Sciences Faculty
Course title:	Forest recreation and tourism
Program:	Forestry and Environmental Sciences
Level:	Bachelor
Course status:	Elective
Study year:	Third year
Number of hours per week:	2+1
Credit value – ECTS:	3
Time / location:	To be announced
Lecturer:	Prof. Asoc .Dr. Ylli Kortoçi
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Course description:	<p>Forest recreation and tourism are inextricably linked – forests, parks, and protected areas, with their myriad recreational opportunities, serve as the foundation for much larger social, political, and economic systems. Forest visitors are recreationists, but they are also consumers – of accommodations, food services, transportation, and entertainment. The entrepreneurial spirit of the tourism industry is reflected in bus tours, hiking, canoeing, ecotourism, hunting, fishing, observing flora and fauna, etc. The activities of forest visitors have far reaching economic impacts. In turn, through marketing, tourism draws new recreationists to the forest. The success of such a complex system of actors, including the protection of natural resources, visitor experiences, and communities, depends upon policy, planning, research, and partnerships. The forest tourism administration will very quickly give the desired fruits, the promoter of which will be the forest engineer himself, already equipped with the necessary theoretical and practical bases on forest tourism and recreation. The transformation of forests into mountain tourist resorts is the right action, at the right time and in accordance with the fact that forest tourism is increasingly becoming a world trend in our time. It is most pronounced in Europe, where a brilliant future awaits it. Forest recreation is now at the service of tourism, recreation and education of people with a love for forests.</p>
Course objectives:	<p>Through the development of the "Forest Recreation and Tourism" module program, students will be equipped with the basic theoretical, conceptual and applied knowledge necessary for success in its diverse field and learn to take into account a number of contemporary issues of forest recreation and tourism. The program focuses on students being able to describe the challenges and opportunities associated with creating and maintaining a nature-based tourism business.</p>

	<p>Develop an understanding of the importance of parks, recreation and tourism to community and individual well-being, an appreciation for the cultural, natural, economic and recreational resources that can be a source of life quality. To take care of residents and visitors alike, to give a meaning and develop the links that exist between local communities, their populations and the various public, private and non-profit organizations and special interest groups that can assist in planning, development and management of these resources. This module prepares students for careers in public and community recreation leadership, park planning and management, visitor management, interpretation and resource management in park and protected area environments, and other destination management organizations such as government agencies. , private sector enterprises, event management, and tourism marketing agencies.</p>		
<p>Learning outcomes:</p>	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To describe forest tourism and the sustainable management of forest tourism. 2. To responsibly manage the environment in relatively undisturbed forest areas and to consider the positive and negative impacts of tourism on the economy, communities and natural resources. 3. To analyze resources, products and best management practices and opportunities in the forest tourism sub-sector. 4. To foresee the guiding principles of ecotourism in sustainable forest tourism practices. 5. Manage the challenges and opportunities associated with creating and maintaining a nature-based tourism business. 		
Contribution on student load (must correspond with learning outcomes)			
Activity	Hours	Days/week	Total
Lectures	2	9	18
Exercise theoretical/laboratory	1	8	8
Practice work	2	5	10
Contact with lecturer/consultations	1	10	10
Field exercises	2	2	4
Mid-terms, seminars	1	2	2
Homework	-	-	-
Individual time spent studying (at the library or home)	1	10	10
Final preparation for the exam	1	7	7
Time spent in evaluation (tests, quiz, final exam)	2	2	4



Projects, presentations, etc.	2	1	2
Total			75 hours (3 ECTS)
Teaching methods :	Lectures, discussions, laboratory exercises, expeditions consultations, seminars, independent projects, homework assignments, colloquium, course assignments, exams.		
Evaluation methods:	First assessment (colloquium): 20%, Seminars or other engagements: 10%, Regular active attendance: 10% Final exam: 60%, Total: 100%.		
Literature			
Basic Literature:	Karameris, A., 2013. Recreation in Nature. Thessaloniki: Giachoudi Publications. Ylli Kortoci, Mirvjena Kortoci (Kellezi). (2017) "The assessment of the rural tourism development in the Valbona Valley National Park", Tourism Economics, Dhjetor 2017 Volume 23, Issue 8, pp. 1662–1672, 0.826 Impact Factor		
Additional Literature:	Buckley, R. (2003). Case studies in ecotourism. Cambridge: CABI. Buckley, R. (Ed.) (2004). Environmental impacts of ecotourism. Oxfordshire: CABI. Bulbeck, C. (2005). Facing the wild: ecotourism, conservation, and animal encounters. London: Earthscan. Butler, R.W. & Boyd, S.W. (2000). Tourism and National Parks: Issues and Implications. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. Ceballos-Lascurain, H. (1996). Tourism, ecotourism, and protected areas. Gland: IUCN. Diamantis, D. (2004). Ecotourism: management and assessment. London: Thomsom. Fennell, D.A. (1999). Ecotourism: an introduction. London: Routledge.		

Designed study plan:		
Week	Lectures	Exercises
<i>First week:</i>	Forest tourism: definitions and concepts.	Types of forest recreation in Europe.
<i>Second week:</i>	Forest tourism: resources and products.	Negative impacts of tourism on forests and forest resources (field trip).
<i>Third week:</i>	Protected areas: objectives and categories.	Protected areas of Kosovo (course project).
<i>Fourth week:</i>	Tourism and national parks.	Forest recreation. Kosovo National parks (field trip).
<i>Fifth week:</i>	Tourism and forest conservation.	Practice on forest tourism and local communities.



<i>Sixth week:</i>	Ecotourism: definition, concept and principles.	The relationship that exists between tourists and the environment.
<i>Seventh week:</i>	Creation and management of forest tourism.	Forest recreation and mountain tourism source of income in rural areas.
<i>Eighth week:</i>	Carrying capacity.	Intermediate exam. Limits of acceptable variation.
<i>Ninth week:</i>	Limits of acceptable variation.	Marketing, education and benefit interpretation of forest recreation and tourism.
<i>Tenth week:</i>	Preparation of protected areas to offer vacationers and tourist visitors.	Training needs and economic facilities to offer vacationers in the forest.
<i>Eleventh week:</i>	Adventure, nature and ecotourism.	Practice on the advantages of the forest for adventure tourism.
<i>Twelfth week:</i>	Assessing suitability of recreational forests.	Concepts of recreation, leisure, play and work.
<i>Thirteenth week:</i>	Relationships of recreation with other uses of natural resources.	Mountain lakes, thermos-mineral waters and interesting natural water sources etc.
<i>Fourteenth week:</i>	Benefits and barriers to recreation.	The environmental impact from the presence of vacationers, and the benefit of the rural community from the income brought by tourism (course project).
<i>Fifteenth week:</i>	Tourism organizations, forest recreation, planning and policy.	Great demand for forest recreation and tourism.
Academic policies and rules of conduct:		
Regular and active participation of students in lectures, exercises (practical part) and in seminar work. Keeping quiet in lecture, disabling mobile phones, timely access to the classroom, etc.		