

Teaching Health Issues in Tourism: Bringing the Two Disciplines Together

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Background

The extraordinary growth in the tourism industry over the last decades and the increasing travel by people with health conditions prompted the creation of the discipline of travel medicine which, however, remained a strictly medical domain. The interdependence between tourism and health is much more far-reaching and requires a broader approach. It has long been known that the cooperation between representatives from health and from the tourism industry is very limited.

A strategy was required that would enable the two disciplines to work together in reaching a common goal. As part of such a strategy, a subject has been written for students in the fields of health or tourism. The multi-disciplinary approach advocated for in this subject is applied to practice by having students from both disciplines studying the same content.



The subject is aimed at

- Undergraduate and postgraduate students in health disciplines, such as Public Health, Nursing, Medicine, and in Tourism
- Health professionals
- Tourism professionals



Structure of the Subject

Learning Objectives

- To demonstrate an understanding of the concepts of tourism and health and their interdependence;
- To give an overview of the health hazards connected with modern travel;
- To demonstrate an understanding of the impacts of tourism and travel on the health of host communities;
- To develop strategies to apply their knowledge of pertinent issues to practice under particular consideration of the need for collaboration between the health and tourism industries.

Tourism and Health	
<p>MODULE 1 Tourism and Health</p>	<p>UNIT 1.1 - Tourism and travel UNIT 1.2 - Health UNIT 1.3 - The interdependence of tourism and health</p>
<p>MODULE 2 The Health of the Traveller</p>	<p>UNIT 2.1 - Travel medicine as a unique discipline UNIT 2.2 - Travel health issues</p>
<p>MODULE 3 The Health of the Hosts</p>	<p>UNIT 3.1 - History UNIT 3.2 - Potential indirect impact of tourism on the health of the host community UNIT 3.3 - Potential direct impact of tourism on the health of the host community UNIT 3.4 - The global code of ethics for tourism UNIT 3.5 - Framework for impact assessment</p>
<p>MODULE 4 Tourism and Health - Together going where?</p>	<p>UNIT 4.1 - Health as part of sustainable tourism UNIT 4.2 - Tourism and the "New" Public Health UNIT 4.3 - Health Promotion - Health Education UNIT 4.4 - The need for cooperation between the Tourism and Health Industries</p>

About the Subject

- The subject can be studied within one semester.
- The on-course assessments give students the opportunity to prepare themselves for real-life issues by analysing practical problems and working on solutions which can be implemented to improve the health of travellers and hosts.
- The subject is available as a distance learning package and, therefore, suits national and international students who wish to complement their study programs with an elective subject pertaining to their field of study.
- This mode of delivery also suits professionals in both fields who need to study at their place of residency.