

New Zealand: Recreation & Tourism in Middle-earth

On this 16-day educational adventure, students will explore the world's largest industry (leisure/travel) in one of the world's most amazing places: New Zealand. Prior to departure, students will participate in learning activities and assignments to become familiar with the leisure/travel industry and prepare for the out-of-country program.

PROGRAM LEADERS

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COURSES

REC 482/482G* (3 hours) – New Zealand: Recreation & Tourism in Middle-earth

*This course can substitute for REC 420 in the Tourism minor and the Community Recreation minor; it is also an elective for the Recreation Administration major and the Facilities and Event minor. There are no prerequisites for the course.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotels and Hostels

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Through in-country experiential learning (and other modes), students will be immersed in the “Recreation, Event, and Tourism industry model.” Course destinations, learning activities, and local experts will help teach content while providing a unique chance to experience, firsthand, the innovative aspects of the New Zealand leisure/travel industry and connect academic knowledge to professional practice.

Planned recreational and tourism activities for this program may include: surfing, sea kayaking, stand-up paddleboarding, ‘blackwater rafting’ and cave exploration, visiting a geothermal site, experiencing Maori cultural tourism, visiting filming locations such as Hobbiton film, behind the scenes tour at WETA Cave, New Zealand national museum, jet boat ride, Milford Sound tour, and hiking.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the commercial recreation and tourism industries through course assignments and quizzes.
- Apply an understanding of the interrelationships of commercial recreation and tourism (as proposed in the “Recreation, event, and tourism industry model”) through course assignments.
- Develop an understanding of the diversity in New Zealand in terms of culture, natural resources, geography, and leisure/tourism opportunities.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the broad array of employment opportunities available in commercial recreation and tourism.
- Discuss challenges related to providing leisure/travel opportunities while minimizing natural resource and cultural disturbances.
- Explain the differences and similarities in the leisure/travel opportunities between the USA and New Zealand.

PROGRAM DETAILS

LOCATION: *New Zealand: Auckland, Hamilton, Raglan, Waitomo, Rotorua, Matamata, Wellington, Queenstown*

ACADEMIC TERM: *Winter 2015: January 3 - 18, 2015*

ITINERARY (*subject to change*) for full itinerary see syllabus

January 3 - 5	Fly Nashville, TN to Auckland, New Zealand	January 11	Te Papa
January 5	Raglan Surf School	January 12	Lord of the Rings Filming Industry
January 6	Stand-up Paddleboard/Sea Kayaking	January 13	Wellington Meetings
January 7	Blackwater Rafting	January 14	Queenstown Resort College
January 8	Cultural Tourism	January 15	Milford Sound
January 9	Hobbiton	January 16	Jet Boat and Interpretive Tour
January 10	Auckland Activities	January 17	Queenstown Activity Project
		January 18	Fly Auckland, NZ to Nashville, TN

The schedule is subject to change due to educational opportunities that may arise unexpectedly, the vagaries of weather, and other factors beyond the control of the course instructors and staff.

ELIGIBILITY

- Permission of instructor(s) is required.
- Current WKU student eligible to register for WKU courses may apply. Students from outside WKU may participate as [visiting students](#).
- Students must be 18 years of age or older at time of departure (parent/guardian permission for anyone under 18 at time of departure).
- Students must possess passport valid for at least six (6) months after return date.
- Students must be free of active disciplinary sanctions as verified by Judicial Affairs.
- Students must complete all pre-departure orientations.
- Full payment prior to departure is required.
- Students must complete the [Study Abroad & Global Learning application process](#) prior to being registered in this course. We suggest you start this application process immediately and respond to all emails promptly

BASE PACKAGE

Cost: \$5,999

Included in Base Package

- Undergraduate tuition for 3 credit hours (\$1,090 value)
- All lodging accommodations during program in New Zealand
- Entrance fees for all group program related excursions
- Course-related ground and air transportation in New Zealand
- Round-trip flight between Nashville, TN and Auckland, New Zealand
- International medical insurance

Excluded from Base Package

- Independent travel (non-program travel) or optional excursions
- Personal expenses such as laundry, phone service, and Internet access
- Transportation to and from hometown and Nashville Airport (BNA)
- Travel cancellation/interruption insurance. *Highly recommended.*

- Meals & Services and beverages
- Airline baggage fees for extra bags or excess weight
- SAGL Study Abroad Application fee of \$150.00

Study Abroad courses are not eligible for employee tuition waivers or discounts. Final program fee subject to change due to travel arrangements.

Green Sheet subject to change due to adjustment in program or pricing.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

<p>Your TopNet Account will be billed according to the following Payment Schedule:</p> <p>October 1, 2014 - Priority deadline for application with non-refundable \$250 deposit*</p> <p>October 1, 2014 – Program Fee will be charged to student's TopNet account. Balance must be paid prior to program departure. Students applying after this date will be billed on a rolling basis.</p> <p>* Deposit paid by student directly with a credit card – NOT billed to student account.</p>	<p>Penalty for Withdrawal or Non-payment:</p> <p>Before October 01: 25% of total program cost After October 01: 50% of total program cost After November 01: 75% of total program cost After December 01: 100% of total program cost (No refund)</p> <p>If a balance remains after the payment due date, the participant may be dropped from the program. A student may remain in the program by providing an award notification from WKU's Student Financial Assistance that verifies ability to pay the program fee immediately after aid is received.</p>
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The total amount due in your semester invoice may reflect the combined charges for multiple terms (i.e. Fall and Winter or Spring and Summer) and includes program fees for your Faculty-Led Study Abroad program. Please see your TopNet account for a breakdown of amounts due per term. Refer to your Faculty-Led Study Abroad program's Green Sheet for final payment due dates and billing information. If you have any questions, please email facultyled.abroad@wku.edu.

LOGISTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- **Passport Requirements** - Each participant must have a passport that includes an expiration date, which is 6 months beyond the last date of the program.
- As noted in the program description, this program includes a wide range of activities. These activities involve varying physical requirements and levels of challenge and risk. The activities planned require no prior experience, but some skills are needed such as swimming. Participants are ultimately responsible for making personal decisions about participating in activities. See syllabus for some sample activities, requirements, and things to consider.

LIABILITY DISCLAIMER

Western Kentucky University and its associates are not responsible for any loss due to theft, personal injury, flight or weather delays, negligence, or default of suppliers, or suppliers changing of itineraries. They and their associates are not responsible for any loss due to travel/flight delays or changes in travel plans due to Acts of Nature or other unforeseen circumstances, nor are we responsible for accidents and medical care. Tour services are furnished by independent contractors who are not agents or servants of Western Kentucky University. Refunds are not available for unused portions of the package.