

New Zealand: Recreation & Tourism in Middle-earth

On this 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

Dr. Raymond Poff
raymond.poff@wku.edu

Mr. Clinton Lewis
clinton.lewis@wku.edu

COURSES

REC 480*/482G (3 hours) – New Zealand: Recreation & Tourism in Middle-earth

*This course is an elective for the Recreation Administration major, a key option in the Tourism minor (REC 480 or REC 493), and an elective in the Facilities and Event minor. There are no prerequisites for the course.

SCHOLARSHIPS

For more information on study abroad scholarships visit www.wku.edu/studyabroad/funding.php or make an appointment with one of the WKU study abroad advisors.

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, 'black-water 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 2020 – January 2020

ANTICIPATED ITINERARY (subject to change) full itinerary to be provided later to participating students.

January 4 & 5 Fly Nashville, TN to Auckland, NZ	January 13 Lord of the Rings Film Industry
January 6 Raglan Surf School/Tourism business	January 14 Wellington Meetings
January 7 Eco tour activity/local tourism board	January 15 Queenstown recreation & tourism
January 8 Caving with guest lectures/Blackwater Rafting	January 16 Queenstown innovations in recreation
January 9 Cultural Tourism	January 17 Choose your own adventure
January 10 Adventure Recreation/Risk management	January 18 Milford Sound - Fiordland National Park
January 11 Auckland activities	January 19 Explore day
January 12 Te Papa (NZ National Museum)	January 20 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

Student Eligibility - Program leaders may determine stricter eligibility requirements, but at a minimum, all applicants earning credit in a program would meet these requirements:

- Current WKU student eligible to enroll in WKU courses OR students from outside WKU may participate as non-degree seeking student.
- Good academic standing as defined in the Undergraduate Catalog or Graduate Catalog.
- For those younger than 18 at time of departure: Must be registered in a WKU course for credit, Must be a part of an established WKU program, and no guarantee of acceptance due to different program design and location.
- No current disciplinary sanctions as verified by the WKU Office of Student Conduct:
 - Students who become ineligible to attend the program after applying due to disciplinary sanctions will be subject to standard program cost penalty rates. Students are responsible for notifying the SAGL when they become aware of this ineligibility. For eligibility questions pertaining to disciplinary sanctions, students should contact the WKU Office of Student Conduct.

- Students must complete [Study Abroad & Global Learning application process](#) prior to being registered in this course.
- Student must possess passport book valid for a least six (6) months after return date.
- Students must complete pre-departure orientations.
- Full payment prior to departure.
- Permission of instructor(s) is required.

If a student completes a program without full payment prior to the departure, the student should receive an incomplete until the obligation is paid. SAGL will inform faculty leaders if a student is in this situation prior to the Study Away term grade deadline.

PACKAGE

Cost: \$6,499

Included in Package

- Undergraduate tuition for 3 credit hours.
- Round-trip air transportation between Nashville, TN and Auckland, New Zealand.
- Course-related air transportation in New Zealand.
- Group transportation between destinations in New Zealand during program.
- All lodging accommodations during program in New Zealand.
- Entrance fees for all group program related excursions.
- International medical insurance.

Excluded from Package

- Items not explicitly listed in package.
- Meals & services and beverages (unless included by an agency – plan not to have these included).
- 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.*
- Airline baggage fees for overweight or extra bags (Note: our program does not allow students to bring extra luggage)

Study Abroad courses are not eligible for employee tuition waivers or discounts.

Final program fee subject to change due to travel arrangements.

Contract of Acceptance 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>August 1 - Program fee will be charged to a student's TopNet account beginning August 1 (minus \$250 non-refundable deposit unless program is cancelled). Program fee must be paid in full prior to program departure. Note: Students intending to use financial aid funds should contact Tiffany Denton 745-5490 in the WKU Department of Student Financial Assistance. Students applying after August 1 will be billed at the time of application.</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>Non-refundable Deposit After May 1: 25% of program cost After June 1: 50% of program cost After July 1: 75% of program cost After August 1: 100% of 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 Contract of Acceptance 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.
- **Physical Requirements** - 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.
- **FAFSA** - In order to qualify for financial aid, student should apply for FAFSA at time of application.

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.