

Victoria Management School

## **TOUR 410 DISSERTATION**

Trimester Two 2010

### **COURSE OUTLINE**

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#### **COURSE COORDINATOR**

Professor Doug Pearce

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#### **ADMINISTRATOR**

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#### **Withdrawal from Courses:**

Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before **23 July 2010**

The last date for withdrawal from this course (*assuming it has 12 weeks of lectures, otherwise modify accordingly*) is the three-quarter point of the teaching period, i.e. **Friday 24 September**. After that date, permission to withdraw requires the permission of the Associate Dean (Students) as set out in section 8 of the Personal Courses of Study Statute

<http://policy.vuw.ac.nz/Amphora!~~policy.vuw.ac.nz~POLICY~000000001743.pdf>

To apply for permission, fill in the Late Withdrawal form available from either of our Student Customer Service Desks.

Preparation of the dissertation is primarily an educational exercise in research. The objective of TOUR 410 is to develop experience and demonstrate competence in all phases of tourism research by undertaking and presenting a dissertation based on primary research. Preparing the dissertation also provides an opportunity to follow up a topic of personal interest in the field of tourism.

## **Skills**

Preparing the dissertation will develop your ability to undertake independent tourism research by providing experience in:

- formulating a research question and developing an appropriate research design;
- collecting, analyzing and interpreting primary data;
- communicating the results of your research both orally and in writing.

## **Requirements**

Dissertations should be based essentially on primary data sources and should demonstrate:

- 1) the ability to formulate a clear problem statement and an appreciation of the academic context of the work and/or its practical implications;
- 2) an appropriate research design and appropriate research methods;
- 3) a critical appraisal of the data used;
- 4) accurate and effective analysis and presentation of the data collected;
- 5) clear and logical interpretation of the results obtained;
- 6) the ability to produce a well-written and structured report.

The dissertation should be 8-10,000 words long and follow the conventions outlined in the tourism style guide. It should not incorporate work that has been or will be submitted for credit in any other course

## **Proposal**

A formal proposal (an oral presentation of 5-10 minutes and a written proposal not exceeding 2 pages) will be presented by each student to members of the Tourism Group on **Monday July 12 from 14:40 to 16:30** in **RHG02** (Ground Floor, Rutherford House, 23 Lambton Quay) . The proposal should emphasize points 1 and 2 above and outline clearly the nature of the problem being addressed and the methods to be used. **To meet this deadline you will need to develop your proposal over the mid-year break.** Contact appropriate staff to discuss your initial ideas.

Following presentation of the proposals, students will be allocated a supervisor with whom they will be expected to maintain regular contact during the preparation of the dissertation. Provision should be made for obtaining HEC approval where necessary.

## **Progress reports**

A ten minute report outlining progress to date, problems encountered and work yet to be completed, will be given by each student at a progress updating session to be held on **Monday 16 August from 14:40 to 16:30** in **RHMZ04** (Mezzanine Floor, Rutherford House, 23 Lambton Quay).

A second progress report session will be held in the week on **Monday 27 September from 14:40 to 16:30** in **RHMZ04** (Mezzanine Floor, Rutherford House, 23 Lambton Quay).

Further details on what is required at these progress report sessions will be given later. Keeping a research log will provide you with a good record of what you have been doing and be helpful when it comes to writing up your final report.

## **Assessment**

Formal oral presentations of the research findings (20 minutes plus 10 minutes of questions) will be given on **Monday 18 October** (time and venue to be advised). Details regarding the presentations will be given at the meeting in September. The dissertation is due by **9:30 am Friday 22 October**. **20%** of the final grade will be based on the oral presentation and **80%** on the written report.