

## **Sociology of Travel & Tourism**

Prof. Jennie Germann Molz

SOC 299

### **COURSE OVERVIEW**

\*Enrolled students should consult Moodle for a current and complete syllabus.\*

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Tourism is the largest industry in the world, accounting for the greatest non-military mobilization of people every year. And yet, because tourism is often associated with fun, leisure and 'time off' as opposed to the more 'serious' functions of society, politics or the economy, its centrality within contemporary society is frequently overlooked. In this course, we will focus on the relationship between tourism and social life, considering how tourist practices are socially shaped and made meaningful within social contexts. Tourism is emblematic of many features of contemporary social life that we will explore in this course: consumption, cultural commodification, embodiment, identity, authenticity, heritage, hospitality, modernity, the aestheticization of everyday life, mobility, and globalization.