

**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**  
**College of Education and Human Development**  
**Hospitality, Tourism and Event Management**

TOUR 230 - Introduction to Hospitality Management  
3 credits, Spring 2021- On-line

**FACULTY**

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**Preferred method of communication is the private message box in BB.** (Go to *Contact the Professor* on the left-hand side.)

**PREREQUISITES:** None.

**UNIVERSITY CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is an introduction to hospitality management, including an overview of management in the hospitality industry and professional opportunities. The concepts and practices of hospitality management are examined and discussed. The scope and forms of hospitality organizations are reviewed, as well as trends within these organizations.

**COURSE OVERVIEW:**

**Course Delivery Method:**

Under no circumstances, may candidates/students participate in online class sessions (either by phone or Internet) while operating motor vehicles. Further, as expected in a face-to-face class meeting, such online participation requires undivided attention to course content and communication.

**Welcome to TOUR 230 - Introduction to Hospitality Management!** This is a 15-week online course, which **will be conducted exclusively on-line on Blackboard (BB)**. You will have 100% on-line delivery of the class material and examinations through Blackboard (BB). Students are required to spend time studying individually, but are also encouraged to work collaboratively with other students on assignments, projects and other learning activities. Working online requires dedication and organization. Students must check their GMU email and BB announcement messages on a **daily basis** and communicate any questions or problems that might arise promptly. In our online learning community, we must be respectful of one another. Please be aware that innocent remarks can be easily misconstrued. Sarcasm and humor can be easily taken out of context. When communicating, please be positive and diplomatic. I encourage you to learn more about Netiquette.

The course is taught in weekly increments (Week 1 through Week 15), **starting on Tuesdays and ending at 11:59pm on Mondays.**

To get started, please review the *Getting Started Link* on the Course Welcome Page in BB. In that section, you will find a copy of the Syllabus, Student Resources, and a Course Orientation Quiz, which you must take as a tutorial. **You are required to visit all these areas and read them in detail.**

Please scan the the Syllabus to help you understand the assignments and grading guidelines. Finally, please review the Course Schedule and input assignment due dates into your personal organizer to help you plan your work for the semester.

**Technical Requirements:**

To participate in this course, students will need to satisfy the following technical requirements:

- ✓ High-speed Internet access with a standard up-to-date browser, either Internet Explorer or Mozilla Firefox is required (note: Opera and Safari are not compatible with Blackboard).
- ✓ Students must maintain consistent and reliable access to their GMU email and Blackboard, as these are the official methods of communication for this course.
- ✓ Students may be asked to create logins and passwords on supplemental websites and/or to download trial software to their computer or tablet as part of course requirements.

The following software plug-ins for PCs and Macs, respectively, are available for free download: [Add or delete options, as desire.]

- Adobe Acrobat Reader: <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
- Windows Media Player: <https://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/downloads/windows-media-player/>
- Apple Quick Time Player: [www.apple.com/quicktime/download/](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)

Note: If you are using an employer-provided computer or corporate office for class attendance, please verify with your systems administrators that you will be able to install the necessary applications and that system or corporate firewalls do not block access to any sites or media types.

**Expectations:**

**Course Week:** Asynchronous (online) courses do not have a “fixed” meeting day, our week will start on **Tuesdays**, and finish on the following **Mondays**.

**Log-in Frequency:** Students must actively check the course Blackboard site and their GMU email for communications from the instructor, class discussions, and/or access to course materials at least daily. Daily is highly recommended so as to not miss any important instructor announcements/updates.

**Participation:** Students are expected to actively engage in all course activities throughout the semester, which includes viewing all course materials, completing course activities and assignments, and participating in course discussions and group interactions. The professor will track this participation.

**Technical Competence:** Students are expected to demonstrate competence in the use of all course technology. Students who are struggling with technical components of the course are expected to seek assistance from the instructor and/or College or University technical services.

**Technical Issues:** Students should anticipate some technical difficulties during the semester and should, therefore, budget their time accordingly. Late work will not be accepted based on individual technical issues.

**Workload:** Please be aware that this course is not self-paced. Students are expected to meet specific deadlines and due dates listed in the Class Schedule section of this syllabus. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the weekly course schedule of topics, readings, activities and assignments due. **Student postings are a hard deadline because the postings of the weekly discussion has a second deadline for the student(s) presenting, who must respond to your post.**

**Instructor Support:** Students may schedule a one-on-one meeting to discuss course requirements, content or other course-related issues. Those unable to come to a Mason campus can meet with the instructor via telephone or web conference. Students should email the instructor to schedule a one-on-one session, including their preferred meeting method and suggested dates/times.

**Netiquette:** The course environment is a collaborative space. Experience shows that even an innocent remark typed in the online environment can be misconstrued. Students must always review their postings and responses carefully, so as others do not consider them as personal offenses. Be positive in your approach with others and diplomatic in selecting your words. Remember that you are not competing with classmates, but sharing information and learning from others. All faculty are similarly expected to be respectful in all communications.

**Accommodations:** Online learners who require effective accommodations to insure accessibility must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services.

#### **LEARNER OBJECTIVES:**

This course is designed to enable students to do the following:

- 1) understand a basic knowledge of the hospitality industry;
- 2) identify segments of the hospitality industry and their similarities and differences;
- 3) understand management's role within the hospitality industry;
- 4) learn professions within the hospitality industry; and
- 5) develop interest in the hospitality industry.

#### **REQUIRED TEXTS:**

1. Walker, J. R. (2017). *Introduction to hospitality (7th Ed.)*. Boston, MA: Pearson Education Inc.

In addition to the text, I may be using some supplemental readings throughout the semester. The supplemental readings will help you become aware of the latest information in this constantly evolving field.

**POPULAR HOSPITALITY ACADEMIC JOURNALS:**

Cornell Hospitality Quarterly  
European Journal of Tourism, Hospitality and Recreation  
Foodservice & Hospitality  
Hospitality Research Journal  
International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management  
International Journal of Hospitality Management  
International Journal of Hospitality & Tourism Administration  
International Journal of Culture, Tourism and Hospitality Research  
Journal of Hospitality & Tourism Education  
Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management  
Journal of Hospitality & Tourism Research  
Journal of Human Resources in Hospitality & Tourism  
Leisure & Hospitality Business  
Lodging Hospitality  
Restaurant Hospitality  
Tourism and Hospitality Research  
Tourism and Hospitality Management  
Worldwide Hospitality and Tourism Themes

**HOSPITALITY RELATED WEBSITES:**

World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), [www.wttc.org](http://www.wttc.org)  
World Tourism Organization (WTO), [www.world-tourism.org](http://www.world-tourism.org)  
American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA), [www.ahla.org](http://www.ahla.org)  
Hotels Magazine, [www.hotelsmag.com](http://www.hotelsmag.com)  
Hotel Jobs, [www.hoteljobs.com](http://www.hoteljobs.com)  
Foodservice, [www.foodservice.com](http://www.foodservice.com)  
National Restaurant Association, [www.restaurant.org](http://www.restaurant.org)  
M&C Online, [www.meetings-conventions.com](http://www.meetings-conventions.com)  
International Special Events Society (ISES), [www.ises.com](http://www.ises.com)  
American Management Association, [www.amanet.org](http://www.amanet.org)  
Council of Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Educators, [www.chrie.org](http://www.chrie.org)  
Hospitality Net, [www.hospitalitynet.org](http://www.hospitalitynet.org)  
E-Hotelier, [www.ehotelier.com](http://www.ehotelier.com)  
Hotel News Resource, [www.hotelnewsresource.com](http://www.hotelnewsresource.com)  
Hospitality Business News, [www.hospitalitybusinessnews.com](http://www.hospitalitybusinessnews.com)  
Hospitality Industry, [www.hospitality-industry.com](http://www.hospitality-industry.com)  
Lodging Hospitality, [www.lhonline.com](http://www.lhonline.com)  
BIG Hospitality, [www.bighospitality.co.uk](http://www.bighospitality.co.uk)  
Hospitality Financial & Technology Professionals (HFTP), [www.hftp.org](http://www.hftp.org)

## COURSE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION:

This course will be graded on a percentage system, with a total of 100 possible percentage points.

Item	Brief Description and Due Date	%
Attendance and Participation	Attendance is the same as Discussion Board Forum participation. Please see Discussion Forum (DBF) Participation Grading Rubric for detailed rules (two parts of the grade, worth 10% each, consisting of 7 weekly discussions).	20
Group Project	Please see DBF-Group Project details below. <b>Seven Teams will present weeks 3 through 13</b>	10
Midterm Exam	Please see details below.	20
Mini-Practicum Project	Please see details below.	20
Final Exam (Cumulative)	Please see details below.	30
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100</b>

*Note: Faculty reserves the right to change the requirements for these assignments.*

*Assignment types, due dates, and workload are non-negotiable.*

## ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION AND GRADING RUBRICS:

### Participation:

Participation in this class constitutes 20% of the grade and is required as this will contribute to the content quality of the class as well as to your intellectual benefit from it. Further, participation in the DB Forums is the only way to register attendance in the course. **Student postings are a hard deadline because the postings of the weekly discussion has a second deadline for the student(s) presenting, who must respond to your post. No credit is given if posts are missed.**

### Midterm and Final Exams:

These two exams make up 50% of the grade. They are constructed by the author of the text-book and will cover only text-book material. The number of questions for the midterm exam will be between 50-75 questions (depending on chapter length and content). The final exam will be at least 100 questions and cumulative. *These test will be timed and must be completed in one sitting.* Missing a test leads to an F for the exam and will NOT be compensated with another chance to receive a grade unless due to personal or family illness or emergency that must be communicated in advance and supported by a physician's note.

### Group Project – DB Facilitation:

The Group Project represents 10% of the grade. You will need to sign up to work with a team of students on CREATING AND FACILITATING the discussion forums during one of the available course sessions Part of this assignment for your Team will be the creation of a

Discussion Forum. It will feature...

- (1) Selecting an article related to the reading assigned for the week;
- (2) Presenting the exact academic reference, copy of the article and the weblink (if any) for this article;
- (3) Sharing your personal impressions from that article;
- (4) Posting a question for the class based on the article's content; and facilitating a class discussion on the question responses or general impressions from the article. The article should be from an academic journal of your choice (you may see a list of possible journals in the Syllabus or below the course calendar in the word version of the syllabus).
- (5) Another part of the assignment is to read the book Chapter assigned for the week and decide on creating at least two other discussion forums with questions based on the chapter content.

Teams, please submit to me all discussion forums by Friday night at 11:59 pm on the week preceding the week of your facilitation. I will post the forums in BB after review.

### **Individual Project:**

This assignment will comprise 20% of the grade. You will select a topic of that interests you in any area of the hospitality industry (Hotels, Restaurants, Events, Tourism).

### **REPORT DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Prepare a 5-page, double-spaced paper with at least 5 references.
2. Your topic will be based on one of the chapters in the text.
3. Approximately one-third of the paper should discuss what you personally learned/gained from the experience. Relate this to the material from class by using APA format of in-text references to the sources. A more insightful and analytical paper will receive a higher grade.

### **GRADING:**

<b>A+</b>	= 97 – 100%	<b>B+</b>	= 87 –89.99	<b>C+</b>	= 77 –79.99	<b>D</b>	= 60 – 69
<b>A</b>	= 94 – 96.99	<b>B</b>	= 84 –86.99	<b>C</b>	= 74 –76.99	<b>F</b>	= 0 – 59
<b>A-</b>	= 90 – 93.99	<b>B-</b>	= 80 –83.99	<b>C-</b>	= 70 –73.99		

**Grading Rubric:** The grading rubric will be posted on BB. Late papers will not be accepted.

### **Professional Dispositions:**

Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times. Students are expected to follow courteous Internet etiquette. See <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/>

### **Core Values Commitment**

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these

principles: <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>

## **GMU Policies and Resources for Students:**

### **Policies:**

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code/>).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students **solely** through their Mason email account.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see <http://ods.gmu.edu/>).

### **Campus Resources:**

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to [tk20help@gmu.edu](mailto:tk20help@gmu.edu) or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <http://coursesupport.gmu.edu/>.
- For information on student support resources on campus, see <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>
- For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website <https://cehd.gmu.edu/>.

## **STUDENT SERVICES:**

University Libraries provides resources for distance students. See <http://library.gmu.edu/distance>

### **Writing Center**

The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing. [See <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu>]. You can now sign up for an Online Writing Lab (OWL) session just like you sign up for a face-to-face session in the Writing Center, which means YOU set the date and time of the appointment! Learn more about the [Online Writing Lab \(OWL\)](#) (found under Online Tutoring).

### **Counseling and Psychological Services**

The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance [See <http://caps.gmu.edu>].

### **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), also known as the "Buckley

Amendment," is a federal law that gives protection to student educational records and provides students with certain rights. [See <http://registrar.gmu.edu/privacy>].



## COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK	Tuesday Start Date	TOPIC	DELIVERABLES
1	1/26/21	Team Selection Syllabus Introducing Hospitality	Chapter 1 <b>Personal Introductions Due</b>
2	2/2/21	The Hotel Business	Chapter 2 Instructor article student comments on BB Due
3	2/9/21	Room Division	Chapter 3 Team 1 Facilitation Week
4	2/16/21	Food and Beverage	Chapter 4 Team 2 Facilitation Week
5	2/23/21	Beverages	Chapter 5 Team 3 Facilitation Week Term Paper Topic due on BB
6	3/2/21	The Restaurant Business	Chapter 6 Team 4 Facilitation Week
7	3/9/21	Restaurant Management	Chapter 7 Team 5 Facilitation Week
8	3/16/21	Managed Services	Chapter 8 <b>Midterm Exam available 3/19/21 Due by 3/22/21 at midnight</b>
9	3/23/21	Tourism	Chapter 9 Team 6 Facilitation Week
10	3/30/21	Recreation, Attractions, and Clubs	Chapter 10 Team 7 Facilitation Week
11	4/6/21	Gaming Entertainment	Chapter 11 Team 8 Facilitation Week
12	4/13/21	Meetings, Conventions, and Expositions	Chapter 12 Team 9 Facilitation Week
13	4/20/21	Special Events	Chapter 13 Team 10 Facilitation Week
14	4/27/20	Leadership and Management	Chapter 14
15	5/4/21	Term Paper Due	<b>Post on the DB by midnight on 5/7/21</b>
		Final Exam	<b>Final Exam available 5/8/21 Due by 5/12/21 at midnight</b>

*Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary.*