

THE TOURIST EXPERIENCE FINAL EXAM NOTES

FINAL EXAM

- 2 hours 10 minutes
- 12 questions

FOR EACH TOPIC

- Relevance of social constructionism in relation to each topic you reviewed
- What is the relevance of all of this to the tourism industry – what does it mean / what are the implications to the tourism industry

EXAM MENTIONS IN CLASS

- The people of tourist brochures
- Main reasons for non-participation or low participation of people with impairment in tourism activities
- Tourist diversity – do readings
- Approaches to disability → medical vs. social
- Tourists needs, whether they were met → attribution theory – satisfied or dissatisfied?
- Circle of representation
- Tourism Diversity II → defs in exam

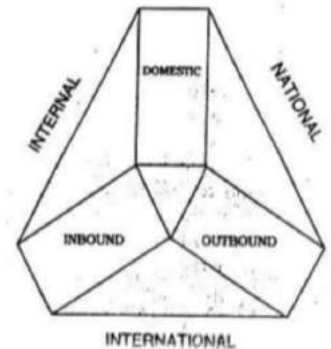
WEEK 1 – OVERVIEW

WHO IS A TOURIST?

- Five characteristics
 - o Out of the ordinary → outside their place of residence
 - o Length of stay → more than one night, less than one year
 - o Purpose → traditionally for leisure – not anymore: business, VFR etc.
 - o Remuneration → not supposed to travel to gain income at any point in time
 - o A discretionary act → voluntary – choose to travel

DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF TOURISTS

- International → cross the boarder
 - o Inbound → other tourists to Australia
 - o Outbound → Australians leaving the country to other countries
- Domestic → travel within the country but still outside the normal residency
- Internal → within Australia – domestic or international
- National → either Australian domestic tourists or Australian tourists who travel outside Australia



WEEK 2 – SOCIAL CONSTRUCTIONISM

- Positivism → one reality that is objective from the observer
- Social constructionism → many realities – how people come together, interact and make a reality / truth – not the ultimate truth out there, therefore creates reality

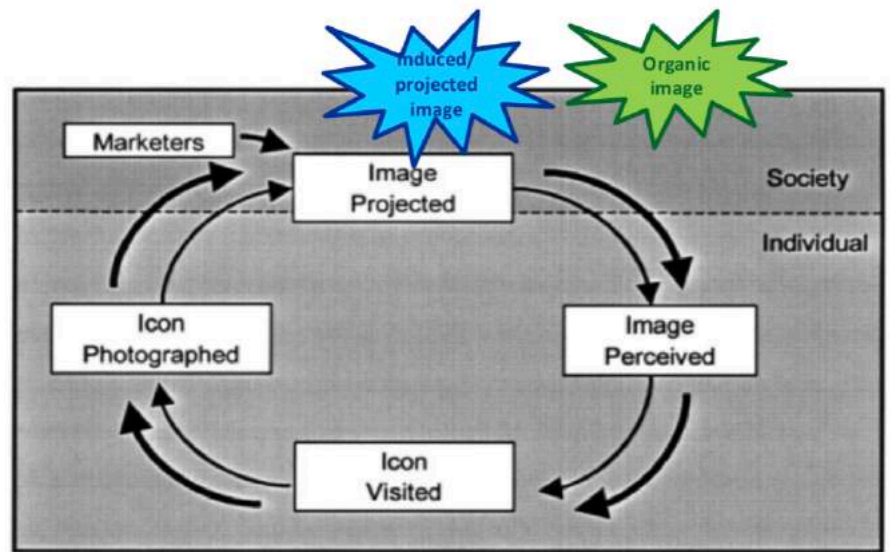
FOUR UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS

- Knowledge is sustained by social processes and interaction → reality is negotiated, therefore changeable
 - o Reality is created through people coming together, negotiating the reality, making sense of reality and creating that reality
 - o Because it is created socially, it is changeable
- Historical and cultural specificity
 - o Socially developed → can be changed throughout time
 - o Eg. **cow** → some cultures view it as holy, others eat the meat
 - o Blank canvas → society paints that blank canvas – how we make sense of those different things is because we are born in a society and then employ that meaning onto us
- Knowledge and social action go together
 - o If society has a certain meaning to a concept
 - o Eg. **Drunkenness** → previously seen as a crime and imprisoned – now seen as an illness rather than a disease
 - o Meaning has changed over time and changed the way something is seen
- A critical stance towards taken-or-granted understanding of the world and ourselves → be suspicious of our assumptions about reality
 - o Because reality is constructed and meaning is given to different concepts through negotiations through different members of society → should always question our assumptions – may not be the ultimate truth
 - o Power relations → always try to question power relations – if one society gains supremacy / power over the others, then one group is more privileged as opposed to other groups who are marginalised / minority

CIRCLE OF REPRESENTATION / CIRCUIT OF CULTURES

- Relevant to the tourist gaze (week 2)
- Not only created by marketing promotions that you see, but also through movies you have seen, songs you have heard, images you have seen, poems
- Organic images → created by media, news, literature
- Induced / projected images → intentionally committed by marketers and through promotion

- Marketers project an image at the society eg. want to promote **Sydney Botanic Gardens** and create an portrayal that is shown through mass media
- Move to individual → image is perceived on TV / magazine etc. → inclined to go and visit Sydney → go take photos, go back and show friends and family
- Not only projected by the marketer – it is cyclical → they take it back and how friends and family – who are then shown organic images
- Your desire towards visiting a place is not only through marketing images, organic images and also through friends and family → creates that image for you



WEEK 6 – TOURIST DIVERSITY I

SOCIAL CONSTRUCTIONIST APPROACH TO DIVERSITY

- In-depth approach → unpacking / deconstructing the meaning of experience
 - o Want to understand how people with diverse identities create meanings – how they see tourism, where they travel etc.
 - o How they create meaning and construct meaning so they can deconstruct that meaning and reconstruct it again
- Understand the constraints faced by diverse groups
 - o What are the barriers that they face when travelling – interested in the barriers eg. people with disabilities and their struggles
- How they resist the dominant discourse that pushes them to the margin – issues of power and social justice
 - o Want to see how those who are marginalised try to resist what the dominant society tells them
 - o How do the minorities respond, react and resist the pressure that the others tell them?
- Constraints are social – not individual or medical, thus advocating change
 - o Constraints are not inherent within the individual
 - o Eg. **disabled** → society creates the limitation for them to travel

AGE / LIFE STAGE

- Youth tourism / backpackers
 - o Length of time / mode of travel → LCC, ride sharing / orientation towards the task of travel → very flexible, leave plans open because they know it might change
 - o Mainstreamed → working conditions → more leave, falling price of airlines, improved communications
- Family holidays
 - o Socially constructed → traditional notion of family / generativity and parent responsibility / the importance of family vacations
 - o Gendered aspects of family vacation → notion of escape / division of labour
 - Fathers → escape work – being with their children was enough for them
 - Mothers → escape household chores – consciously creating an atmosphere where kids can enjoy themselves
- Seniors
 - o The people they go with are as important as the places they visit