

THE RELEVANCE OF TOURISM AS A RESEARCH THEME AS WELL AS A POST-GRADUATION STRICTO SENSU IN GEOGRAPHY IN BRAZIL

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Tourism is a sócio-spatial phenomenon that articulates different interfaces (economic, social, and environmental), which enables it to be the subject of research in different sciences, including Geography, the focus of this article. Similarly, the historical tendency of Geography stands out in analyzing diverse themes, conditioned to the new rationalities put in the space. Thus, in order to broaden the cooperation between researchers (tourismologists and geographers), the general objective is to map the studies (theses and dissertations) that opt to tourism as a research topic, within the scope of the Brazilian postgraduate programs stricto sensu in Geography, and to analyze the relevance of the tourism theme to the research work. Methodologically, the exploratory-analytical character is highlighted, permeated by a qualitative approach, highlighting the bibliographic survey and content analysis as technical tools. The results show a total of 814 studies (theses and dissertations) that opt-in the thematic of tourism, within the scope of stricto sensu postgraduate in Geography in Brazil, where 641 are dissertation and 173 are theses. It is also worth noting that 491 studies chose tourism as the central theme of the research, and 323 studies treated tourism in a way complementary to the scope of research. It is concluded that tourism as thematic for studies (theses and dissertations) of the Brazilian graduate programs stricto sensu in Geography, is relevant, and Geography continues to stand out as one of the sciences that most foment studies based on the academic relation with tourism. The perspective is that the studies advance in number and in complexity of the problematized questions.

KEY WORDS: *Relevance, tourism, studies (theses and dissertations), postgraduate studies, geography.*