For my final project, I chose to research tourism in the Caribbean and its relationship with colonialism, and I argue that tourism in the region is a form of neocolonialism.

Why did you choose this topic?
• I’ve previously studied Caribbean tourism in other classes, but never in the context of social work, and I wanted to pursue that avenue.

One point that you want you classmates to know about this topic:
• Colonialism still exists in a very literal way in the Caribbean; some countries in the region remain colonies (Brereton & Clarke, 2020). However, it is important to understand how globalization has created new forms of colonialism.

Context
• Colonialism has a long and still-occurring presence in the Caribbean, and many countries rely on loans from foreign powers (Brereton & Clarke, 2020).
• Colonial racial hierarchy still exists today, and racism often determines job positions within the tourism industry (Sealy, 2018).
• As little as 10% of profits made from Caribbean tourism actually enter the regional economy (Sealy, 2018).
• The Caribbean is one of the regions most impacted by climate change, and tourism as it currently exists is extremely harmful to the environment (Weiss et al., 2018).
• The tourism industry has a long history with human rights violations, especially regarding poverty and land rights (Eriksson et al., 2009).

References

Chloe Young
University of Pittsburgh