

The University of Western Ontario
School of Health Studies

Health Sciences 2000B
Healthology – The Study of Health Sciences
Thursdays 9:30-11:30am
Location: SSC 2050

Instructor: Dr. Courtney Newnham
Office: Elborn College, Room 2585
Office Hours: By appointment, via email
Email: cnewnha@uwo.ca (**please include HSC 2000B in your subject line**)

Course TA: Patricia Versteegh
Email: pverstee@uwo.ca
Office Hour: Thursdays 12-1pm, Elborn College, Room 2312

COURSE OVERVIEW:

This introduction to the multidisciplinary field of health sciences will engage students in learning about health from multiple perspectives. Each week, an expert will lecture on contemporary issues in health such as: aging and health; occupational health; ethical issues in health care; health and popular culture; global health issues; sexuality and health.

PRE-REQUISITES:

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record (see the Western Academic Calendar at www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca to verify your status). This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

READINGS:

Course readings will be uploaded to the course website. You are responsible for retrieving those readings prior to class.

All readings, lecture-based material (including but not limited to: slides, videos, and discussions), as well as guest speaker presentation content are examinable. Specific expectations pertaining to tests and assignments are detailed below.

Accommodation for Medical Illness or Non-Medical Absences:

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required where a student is seeking academic accommodation. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician or walk-in clinic. An SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website:

<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>

representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities.

Grading scheme:

I use the format provided below for grading, which is the university-wide scale that has been approved by the Senate.

A+ 90-100 Exceptional

A 80-89 Superior work, above average.

B 70-79 Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory.

C 60-69 Competent work, meeting requirements.

D 50-59 Fair work, minimally acceptable.

F below 50 Fail

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

Student Code of Conduct

The purpose of the Code of Student Conduct is to define the general standard of conduct expected of students registered at The University of Western Ontario, provide examples of behaviours that constitute a breach of this standard of conduct, provide examples of the sanctions that may be imposed, and set out the disciplinary procedures that the University will follow.

For more information, visit <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/board/code.pdf>

Scholastic Offenses & Policies

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that s/he is not involved with any form of plagiarism, including cheating on tests, allowing others to cheat on tests, cheating on assignments, and copying work of any kind without proper referencing.

Plagiarism and Plagiarism Checking

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar). All required papers and assignments may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University.

Scantron Exams

Computer-marked multiple-choice exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Rounding of Grades

This is a practice that some students request. This practice will not occur here. The edges of this course are clear and sharp. The mark attained is the mark you achieved and the mark assigned; there is no rounding to the next grade level. Please don't ask me to do this for you.

Support Services

There are various support services for students around campus including, but not limited to:

1. Student Development Centre -- <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/>
2. Student Health -- <http://www.shs.uwo.ca/student/studenthealthservices.html>
3. Registrar's Office -- <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>
4. Ombuds Office -- <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>

LECTURE SCHEDULE

| DATE | WEEK | TOPIC |
|-----------|------|---|
| JAN 10 | 1 | Orientation Introduction to the issues |
| JAN 17 | 2 | What is health? |
| JAN 24 | 3 | Medicalization of everyday life |
| JAN 31 | 4 | Conceptualizing lifestyle psychology |
| FEB 7 | 5 | Mid-Term #1 (30%) |
| FEB 14 | 6 | Obesity and Behaviour Change |
| FEB 21 | 7 | Reading Week |
| FEB 28 | 8 | Health and Aging (Patricia Versteegh) |
| MAR 7 | 9 | When health is unhealthy |
| MAR 14 | 10 | Alternative and Complementary Medicine (Dr. Don Morrow) |
| MAR 21 | 11 | Mid-Term #2 (30%) |
| MAR 28 | 12 | TDB (Dr. Jennifer Irwin) |
| APR 4 | 13 | Smoking Cessation |
| APR 11 | 14 | Course wrapup |
| APR 14/30 | | Final Exam (40%) |

*Modifications to the lecture schedule are subject to change at the Instructor's discretion and will be announced in-class and/or on OWL.