

Health Sciences 4620F (001)
Philosophical and Historical Aspects of Mental Health
Mon 14:30-17:30, HSB 11
Fall Term 2013-2014

Course Outline

Instructor: Dr. Louis C. Charland
Affiliation: Departments of Philosophy and Psychiatry & School of Health Studies
Email: charland@uwo.ca
Phone: 661-2111 ext. 86445 (Please use email for all communication)
Office Hours Tuesdays 9:30-11:00
Class Times: 2:30-5:30
Class site: HSB 11

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to philosophical and historical aspects of mental health. Topics will usually include: history of diagnostic categories and modern nosological systems; in-depth look at specific diagnostic categories and their treatments (e.g. depression, anorexia, addiction) ; analysis of key concepts such as ‘mental disorder’, ‘syndrome’, ‘disease’, ‘illness’, ‘symptom.’

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Introduce students to historical and philosophical aspects of mental health
- Encourage students to formulate and defend their own views on those topics;
- Practice and improve critical thinking, reading, writing, and speaking skills;
- Foster professional skills and attitude in all aspects of the course.

TO CONSIDER

Some students may find the topics in this course emotionally distressing and challenging. If you have any personal concerns of this nature, please see your academic counselor.

This is an ‘essay’ designated course with considerable reading and writing requirements.

Class participation is required in this seminar course and regular attendance is mandatory. (See relevant provisions in the *Academic Calendar*.) Attendance will be taken.

COURSE TEXTS

Porter, Roy (2002). *Madness: A Brief History*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Arthur Caplan, James J. McCartney & Dominic Sisti (Eds.). 2004. *Health, Disease and Illness: Concepts in Medicine*. Washington D.C.: Georgetown University Press. (Available in UWO Bookstore.)

Moynihan, Ray, Cassells, (2005). *Selling Sickness*. New York: Nation Books.

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of the American Psychiatric Association (DSM
IV-

Last name, First name
Student Number #11111111

Commentaries that do not satisfy these formatting requirements will be penalized 1 full mark per error or omission to a maximum of 3 marks or may simply be returned.

Spelling errors, major grammatical errors, and multiple typos, will be penalized 1 mark each to a maximum of 3 marks. Lesser penalties may be applied as warning.

Please proof-read your commentary carefully. (Treat it like a job or scholarship application letter.)

COMMENTARY TOPICS AND DUE DATES

Commentary 1 due to Turn it in and in class	Mon Sep 23
Commentary 2 due to Turn it in and in class	Mon Oct 07
Commentary 3 due to Turn it in and in class	Mon Oct 28
Commentary 4 due to Turn it in and in class	Mon Nov 11
Commentary 5 due to Turn it in and in class	Mon Nov 25

COMMENTARY GRADES

Commentaries will be graded out of 10 marks according to the following scale:

10 Outstanding	- Could not expect more at this level
09 Excellent	- Extremely well-developed interpretation and critical thinking
08 Very Good	- Commendable interpretation with some good discussion
07 Good	- Interesting interpretation with some discussion
06 Average	- Average interpretation and discussion
05 Barely Acceptable	- Weak interpretation and discussion
04 Not Acceptable	- Significant errors or shortcomings
03 Not Acceptable	- Major errors and shortcomings
02 Not Acceptable	- Unacceptable academic work at this level
01 Not Acceptable	- Unacceptable command of writing and grammar at this level
00 Not Acceptable	- Commentary not submitted

As you are writing your commentaries, always ask yourself what a reader who had not read the texts you are writing about would be able to recover about those texts, as well as what they would learn about your opinions and reasons for those opinions.

You are expected to do your best to read all weekly materials and, when appropriate, incorporate and reflect an awareness of all those materials in your commentary. In some cases, it will simply not do to read simply one article or chapter from assigned readings.

Always endeavor to anticipate answers and objections to your own personal contributions in your commentaries.

Marks on commentaries may vary, since course readings vary widely in style and content, which in turn may pose very different challenges for interpretation and analysis.

COMMENTARY SUBMISSION

All commentaries must be handed in:

(1) In hard copy in class, before class begins, on their respective due date

And

(2) Electronically to Turn-it-in, before class begins, on their respective due date.

LATE COMMENTARIES

Late commentaries must be written on the weekly topics for which accommodation is provided, when accommodation is granted, and proof of accommodation for that exact day must be provided by your academic counselor. Otherwise, late commentaries will not be accepted and will receive a mark of '0'.

MID-TERM

The mid-term will be two hours long and consist of 3 essay-style questions worth 10 marks each and several short-answer questions worth a total of 5 marks. There will usually be a choice of 3 out of 5 possible essay questions. Short answer questions may include explanations or definitions of key concepts.

To prepare for the final exam you must attend all classes and review all assigned readings and class discussion notes up to the final exam date, using the main lecture raised in class as your guide. No other instructions will be provided.

FINAL ESSAY

Single marks will be deducted for all spelling errors and bad grammar. (Essays are marked out of '100'.)

ACCESSING DSM IV-TR ONLINE

The Diagnosti

following website:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf .

Additionally,

1. All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).
2. Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Support Services

There are various support services around campus and these include, but are 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/>

**THIS OUTLINE AND SCHEDULE MAY BE REVISED WITH PRIOR NOTICE
DUE TO CLASS ENROLMENT AND OTHER FACTORS**

