

Western University
Health Sciences
HS1002B Social Determinants of Health
Course Outline: Winter, 2020

Instructor:

Jacqf- Tues 11:30-12:20 (NS145) & Thurs 8:30-10:30 (NCB101)

Tutorials: Tues 12:30-1:30 (NS145)

Course Description

This course introduces students to key social determinants of health and orients students to viewing health in relation to social factors and social justice. Students will be introduced to basic terms, concepts, and measurements related to health, public health, population health and health inequalities.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course students should be able to:

Differentiate between personal and social determinants of health;

Recognize and describe the impact of key social determinants of health in Canadian and global contexts

Define and apply key concepts used in the study of population health and social determinants of health

Understand the importance of the 'social determinants of health' lens in analyzing and seeking to reduce suffering, disease, inequalities in health and care

Understand the role of social, political and ideological contexts in distributing and addressing the impacts of social determinants of health

Better grasp what is involved in developing sustainable and culturally sensitive interventions for improved health and health care

Course Material and Required Readings:

Course Textbook: Germov and Hornosty (2018) *Second Opinion: An Introduction to Health Sociology*. Oxford University Press.

This course includes weekly readings, which students are expected to come to class having read. Readings will come from the course textbook, or will be posted to the course webpage on OWL. The course textbook is available for purchase at the campus bookstore.

Announcements and updates to course material will be posted to OWL. Please check the course website regularly to ensure you stay on up to date and on track.

If you require this information in an alternative/accessible format, please contact the School of Health Studies Administrator

Course Schedule:

(Please Note: This schedule is tentative, and is subject to change prior to the beginning of the course)

Week 1:

Tuesday, January 7: Introduction to the Course

Thursday, January 9: What are Social Determinants of Health?

Week 2

Tuesday, January 14: Methods and Frameworks for Studying Social Determinants of Health

Thursday, January 16: Social Determinants of Health

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

It is expected that the grades for this course will fall between 70-88. In the event that the course average falls outside this range, a constant may be added (or subtracted) from each student's grade, by the instructor, to bring the class average in line with school policy.

Statement on Academic Consideration

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by extenuating circumstances, including short-term illness or injury. Reasonable academic consideration is a cooperative process between the University, the student, and academic staff. All participants in the process must act in good faith, and fulfil their respective obligations if it is to succeed.

Students who experience an extenuating circumstance (illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstance) sufficiently significant as to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements, may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

- i. Submitting a Self-Reported Absence form, provided that the conditions for submission are met;
- ii. For medical absences, submitting a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner, in order to be eligible for Academic Consideration; or
- iii. For nonmedical absences, submitting appropriate documentation (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration, in order to be eligible for academic consideration.

Students seeking academic consideration:

- Are advised to consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying handing in work;
- Are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances, recognizing that minor ailments (e.g., upset stomach) or upsets (e.g., argument with a friend) are not normally an appropriate basis for a self-reported absence;
- Must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by either the self-reported absence or SMC, or immediately upon their return following a documented absence;
- Are advised that all necessary documentation, forms, etc. are to be submitted to academic counselling within two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance (48 hours or less) that is sufficiently severe as to temporarily render them unable to meet academic

requirements (e.g., attending lectures or labs, writing tests or midterm exams, completing and submitting assignments, participating in presentations) should be reported using the online Self Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in

Statement on Health and Wellness

As part of a successful undergraduate experience at Western, we encourage you to make your health and wellness a priority. Western provides several campus health-related services to help you achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing your degree. For