

*THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO*  
*SCHOOL OF HEALTH STUDIES*  
**HS 3811G INTRODUCTION TO QUALITATIVE HEALTH RESEARCH**  
WINTER 2021

Instructor: Dr. Carla Silva

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Date/Time: **Tuesday 2.30- 4.30 (synchronous session online)**

TA: Rhys Desmond

Email: [rdesmond@uwo.ca](mailto:rdesmond@uwo.ca)

Office Hours: TBA

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

In this course, you will learn the core principles and practices of qualitative research in health, sport and exercise through actively engaging in the different phases of the research process, whilst reflecting on your learning. While engaging with important academic sources, you will

a Western education, which includes the acquisition of new *knowledge* and *literacy skills* regarding the *professional conduct* of scholarly research, *communication* between peers and other class stakeholders and understanding health, physical activity and exercise through an interdisciplinary lens. Developing *critical* and *creative thinking*, as well as writing skills are additional objectives that shape the design of the evaluation approaches adopted within this class.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify, describe and apply the core characteristics and principles of qualitative research;
2. Explain key concepts related to ontology, epistemology and research traditions in qualitative research;
3. Describe, plan and apply diverse methods of collecting qualitative data;
4. Describe and apply methods of qualitative data analysis;
5. Identify ethical concerns in all phases of qualitative research and apply ethical requirements;
6. Evaluate your learning journey, identifying strengths and weaknesses and defining actions for improvement.

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

The following table offers a tentative thematic/ activity map for our weekly teaching and learning units. Note that this plan will be updated weekly with more detailed information and may change. Be aware that effective engagement with the course activities requires between 6 - 10 hours weekly (including your own study time). This number really depends on being able to set up a study environment free of distractions and interruptions. **Make sure you schedule these hours in your personal calendars.** All synchronous sessions, office hours and other meetings will be held in MS Teams.

**Week #**

**EVALUATION:**

	<b>Submission date (OWL)</b>	<b>%</b>
1. Research tasks (groups of 4)	Jan 22, 29; Feb 5, 12, 26 (3% each)	15

2. Quizzes (8)	Jan 12, 19, 26; Feb 2, 9; March 2, 9, 16	20 (8x2.5)
4. Reflective research report (individual)	Feb 22	15
5. Final Research Presentation (individual)	Mar 30	35
6. Self and Peer- evaluation	Feb 12 Mar 26	7.5 7.5

Below you find a general description of each method of assessment. Detailed guides for each assignment will be delivered in a timely fashion throughout the course.

Note that your evaluation does NOT include tests or exams, so weekly engagement is extremely important and assessed through quizzes and team tasks.

**All assignments must be submitted by the end of the submission date**

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**Use of Recording Devices and Course Content Course:** Instructors own and retain the intellectual property rights of their teaching materials. These rights extend to materials used in online settings and digital learning management systems like OWL and MS Teams. Students do not have the right to make audio or video recordings of lectures, take pictures of lecture material, or distribute any course content for any reason in.404 31(.404 31tp5 (b)-0(b)-0(b)5.7 (n)(e)-5.7 8(c)1.2fd)-5 ( )-0.6 (e)-5.7 (e04 Td)-1.5 (ea)-2.9 (d)-0.6 (i)-1.5

**Academics:** “I would benefit from some advice regarding my **academic experience, engagement and success...**”, you can explore the resources available on [Academic Support and Engagement](#) or contact the [HS counselling staff](#).

**General course notes:**

**Student Code of Conduct:** You are expected to comply with the [Code of Student Conduct](#) at all times and when dealing with members of the instructional team. The purpose of this Code is to define the general standard of conduct expected of students registered at Western University, provide examples of behaviour that constitutes a breach of this standard of conduct, provide examples of 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/pdf/board/code.pdf>.

**Course Website:** The OWL website and the Microsoft Teams’ hub will function as the privileged space for communication between all participants in this course. Important resources, dates and announcements will be posted regularly, so please check these spaces regularly.

**Grades:** The mark attained is the mark you achieved, and the mark assigned; there is no rounding to the



- Are advised that all necessary documentation, forms, etc. are to be submitted to academic counselling within two business

As part of a successful undergraduate experience at Western, we encourage you to make your health and wellness a priority. Western provides several online and on-campus health-related services to help you achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing your degree. For example, to support physical activity, all students receive membership in Western's Campus Recreation Centre as part of their registration fees. Numerous cultural events are offered throughout the year. Please check out the Faculty of Music web page (<http://www.music.uwo.ca/>), or the McIntosh Gallery (<http://www.mcintoshgallery.ca/>). Further information regarding health and wellness-related services available to students may be found at <http://www.health.uwo.ca/>.

If you are in emotional or mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. To help you learn more about mental health, Western has developed an interactive mental health learning module, found here: [https://uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/education/module.html](https://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/education/module.html).

### Grading Policy

The university-wide descriptor of the meaning of letter grades, as approved by Senate:

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work that is clearly 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