

The University of Western Ontario  
School of Health Studies

Introduction to Rural Communities  
HS3010F

September-December 2023

Instructor: Dr. Mantler

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Office Hours: By appointment only

Date/Time: Tuesday 12:30-1:30 and Thursday 11:30-12:30

Teaching Assistant: [REDACTED]

We acknowledge that Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, and Attawandaron peoples, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum.

With this, I respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers. We acknowledge historical and ongoing injustices that Indigenous Peoples (e.g. First Nations, Métis and Inuit) endure in Canada, and accept responsibility as a public institution to contribute toward revealing and correcting miseducation as well as renewing respectful relationships with Indigenous communities through our teaching, research and community service.

### Prerequisite Checking

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. 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.

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### Course Information

This community engaged learning course offers an introduction to rural communities within the Canadian context. This course will examine how rural and urban communities differ using sociological, infrastructure, political, and health services perspectives. By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Identify and critique rural communities utilizing various definitions
- Examine the role of geography in the development of rural communities
- Understand how geographic location intersects with various social determinants of health







	Nov 16	Critical Scholarship Option 7	Not assigned
10	Nov 21	Mental Health and Rurality	Caxaj C. S. (2016). A review of mental health approaches for rural communities: complexities and opportunities in the Canadian context. Canadian Journal of Community Mental Health 34, 2945.
	Nov 23	Critical Scholarship Option 8	Not assigned
11	Nov 28 and 30	Presentation: Issue In Focus	Not assigned
	Dec 5	Work on Cumulative Assignment	Not assigned
12			

Engaging in critical scholarship of ideas presented in class demonstrates true mastery of knowledge. Students are required to participate in 4 of the 8 critical scholarships (X5% each=20%). If you complete 5, your lowest score will be dropped. If you complete more than 5, only the first 5 critical scholarships will be graded. You are welcome to attend (or not) critical scholarship sessions, whether or not you are participating the choice is yours. Critical scholarships will be conducted via zoom, synchronously during class. Your evaluation of your participation must be submitted by Friday at noon you will evaluate yourself which will include a grade (out of 20) based on the following rubric as well as short (no more than 200 word reflection based on the criteria below). Late submissions will be deducted 10% per day.

	Preparedness	Participation	Critical Thinking	Written Submission
0-1	I prepared by reviewing my assigned readings	I spoke once or twice during the discussion	My comments did not build on the thoughts of others but were stand alone	My written submission did not follow required format/guidelines
2-3	I prepared by reviewing assigned readings and using a search engine	I spoke two or three times during the discussion  I referenced a scholarly article for one of my contributions	My comments built on the thoughts of others	My written submission followed most of the guidelines and was a thoughtful reflection of my participation
4-5	I prepared by reviewing assigned readings and reading several scholarly articles and prepared ways in which articles could be integrated into the conversation	I spoke four or more during the discussion  I referenced scholarly articles for all my contributions	My comments built on the thoughts of others and encouraged others to think of the topic differently	My written submission followed all the guidelines and provided an outline of strengths, weaknesses, and strategies to improve moving forward

Comments: Students are to provide a short (100-word max) rationale supporting their grade. This should include the following:

- Ø Key points the student contributed to the discussion
- Ø Support for the grade they assigned themselves
- Ø Areas of improvement for future discussions

Outline of Issue in Focus Paper (Optional)

Purpose: To critically examine a contemporary issue impacting rural health. ~~Final~~ ~~outline~~ (single spaced) with a max of an additional 2 pages of citations is ~~due~~ ~~at~~ ~~noon~~ ~~via~~ ~~the~~ ~~course~~ ~~website~~. The intent of the outline is to provide you with early feedback on the thesis and supporting evidence of the paper. This assignment is optional.

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Grading Key (Total: / 30)

Thesis is clear and concise				
1 (poor)	2 (fair)	3 (good)	4 (great)	5 (excellent)
Thesis is specific enough to be arguable				
1 (poor)	2 (fair)	3 (good)	4 (great)	5 (excellent)
Thesis is original				
1 (poor)	2 (fair)	3 (good)	4 (great)	5 (excellent)
Evidence presented for each argument supporting thesis.				
1 (poor)	2 (fair)	3 (good)	4 (great)	5 (excellent)
Explain why the evidence is valuable and credible.				
1 (poor)	2 (fair)	3 (good)	4 (great)	5 (excellent)
Evidence of logical argument construction to support thesis				
1 (poor)	2 (fair)	3 (good)	4 (great)	5 (excellent)

Grading Key (Total:100)

EXPERT (105)

PROFICIENT (7-10)

APPRENTICE (4-7)

NOVICE (0-4)

INTEGRATION OF KNOWLEDGE The paper demonstrates that the author fully understands and has applied concepts learned in the course. Concepts are integrated into the insights. The writer provides concluding remarks that show analysis and synthesis of ideas.



section to the next without the need for headings. Author's writing demonstrates an understanding of the relationship among material obtained from all sources.	flows with only some disjointedness. Author's writing demonstrates an understanding of the relationship among material obtained from all sources.	disjointedness is apparent. Author's writing does not demonstrate an understanding of the relationship among material obtained from all sources.	flow and
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Organization: Presentation flowed and was concise				
1	2	3	4	5
(poor)	(fair)	(good)	(great)	(excellent)
Creative: Presentation was creative				
1	2	3	4	5
(poor)	(fair)	(good)	(great)	(excellent)
Energy/Confidence: Natural and enthusiastic				
1	2	3	4	5
(poor)	(fair)	(good)	(great)	(excellent)

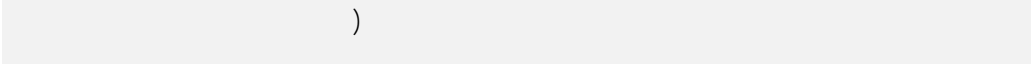
Cumulative Assignment

Purpose: Please select 1 of the following to write a 1000-word (max excluding references) APA position paper. This cumulative assignment is submitted via the course website. ~~Its~~ ~~it~~.com will be used for this assignment.

- What the most important issue impacting the health of rural Canadian communities
- What is the biggest lesson Canada should learn from rural communities when it comes to improving health for all



thesis.





assignments may be docked a certain percentage per day, which is determined by the instructor.

In the School of Health Studies, each course instructor sets specific expectations for attendance and participation that are specific to the course, teaching objectives, and learning outcomes. Regular attendance is expected and essential for all courses, but particularly those that include participation grades in their evaluation schemes. Participation means not only attendance, but active engagement in the class, including (for example) contribution to small and large group discussions, a demonstrated effort to

breach of this conduct, provides examples of sanctions that may be imposed, and sets out the disciplinary procedures that the University follows. Scholastic offences are taken



1. Student Development Centre <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>
2. Student Health- <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>
3. Registrar's Office <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>
4. Ombudsperson Office <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>

The undergraduate experience is ~~an~~ exciting and challenging socially, emotionally, and

<p><i>Grade disputes and requests for appeals</i></p>	<p><i>A student requesting an appeal to a specific course with respect to a grade for an assignment or examination must first contact their instructor to discuss such matters.</i></p> <p><i>Visit the following website for guide on submitting an appeal:</i> <a href="https://uwo.ca/fhs/policies/appeals.html">https://uwo.ca/fhs/policies/appeals.html</a></p>
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