

School of Kinesiology  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
Western University

**KIN 2913Q 005 - Softball  
Fall 2017**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Jason Kaszycki	<b>Office Hours:</b>	By Appointment
<b>Location:</b>	Westminster Diamond	<b>Phone:</b>	N/A
<b>Lectures:</b>	STVH-1155	<b>Email:</b>	jkaszyc@uwo.ca

**NOTE:** All course information including grades, assignment outlines, deadlines, etc. are available via OWL. Check the website regularly for course announcements.

**Calendar Course Description:**

The development of skilled performance in selected softball activities as well as a study of some key principles in teaching these activities in physical education. The application of principles of biomechanics, learning progressions, error detection/correction methods, and safety considerations in teaching these activities.

**My Course Description:**

An introductory softball skills course that focuses on the fundamental skills and tactics used in game situations. The course will also involve principals of biomechanics, motor learning, rules, teaching progressions, detection and correction of errors and safety considerations in teaching and/or playing softball.

**Anti-requisite(s)!Pre-requisite(s)!Co-requisite(s)**

*You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course pre-requisites, and that you have not taken an anti-requisite course.*

*Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from the course department 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.*

**Course Format:**

On Field: Monday and Wednesday from 10:30am to 12:30 at Westminster Diamond  
In Class: Friday from 10:30 to 11:30 in STVH-1155

**Recommended Text:** All course information provided through OWL

**Learning Objectives:**

1. To study and experience primarily through “learning by doing” the fundamental methods of developing skilled technique in basic softball skills and tactics. In addition the student should be able to describe key teaching points related to these skills and tactics.
2. Through group work and cooperative learning, develop competence in demonstrating all the skills covered in the course and in the detection and correction of skill performance errors.
3. To examine some fundamental principles of skill development as it relates to the sport of softball.
4. To acquire basic tactical knowledge and incorporate it into game situations.
5. To introduce students to the fundamental rules and terminology of the game of softball.
6. **To acquire a positive image of the activity.**

**Required Course Material:**

All required readings will be posted on OWL.

**Course Evaluation:**

Attendance and Attitude:	10%
Game Attendance:	5%
In Class Evaluation:	10%
Practical Skill Evaluation:	45%
Written Examination:	30%

**Course Evaluation Details:**

1. Attendance and Attitude: The School of Kinesiology requires active participation in all activity courses. Therefore, a student will receive a 1% deduction from his or her final grade for each unexcused absence. Attitude and active participation in daily drills and scrimmage will be taken into consideration. Students are expected to engage in group/class discussion when discussing rules, strategy, general rules.
2. Game Attendance: As a class, students will be responsible for attending a Western Women’s Softball game. This will provide students an opportunity to see the sport played at a high, competitive level and see strategy and skill applied in game situations (5%). **The game will be held on Sunday September 24th at 11am vs Queens. (Stronach Ball Diamond).**
3. In Class Evaluation: Each student is observed daily on their ability to acquire, execute and integrate new softball skills and strategy into their overall game play. Evaluation will include daily exercises to improve on skills, as well as game play at the end of each class to help build overall competency and performance.

4. **Practical Skill Evaluation:** During the final week of the course, students will be tested on the following skill areas; fielding ground balls at shortstop and 2<sup>nd</sup> base (with a throw to first base), fielding fly balls in the outfield, hitting and bunting.

Students will be expected to follow the mechanics for each skill as introduced in class and execute each skill accurately and effectively. Fielding ground balls cleanly, accurate throws to first base, catching fly balls without dropping them, and making strong contact at the plate (with a focus on “driving” the softball) will be the primary focus of testing. When fielding, emphasis will be placed on correct footwork to ensure each student is in the best position possible to field the ball.

5. **Written Examination:** The written examination will be a mixed format, consisting of multiple choice questions, diagrams and short answers. Short answers may be completed in point form but may also include fill in the blank and listing multiple components to a skill or strategy. Students will have 60 minutes to complete the written examination.

### **Course/University Policies**

1. **Lateness/Absences\*\*:** Assignments will not be accepted late, except under medical or other compassionate circumstances. Electronic submission of assignments will not be accepted (unless otherwise specified) under any circumstances. Submitting a late assignment without appropriate documentation will result in a zero (0) grade. Appropriate documentation for assignments worth less than 10% should be submitted to the instructor. A missed mid-term examination\* without appropriate documentation will result in a zero (0) grade. The course policy is not to allow make-ups for scheduled midterms, presentations or final exams, nor to assign a grade of Incomplete without acceptable and verifiable medical (or equivalent compassionate) reasons. Acceptable reasons might include hospital stays, serious illness, family emergencies (like serious accidents or illness, death) or similar circumstances.

2. **Written documentation:** Students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. stating specific reasons and dates. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner. Documentation for any request for accommodation shall be submitted directly, as soon as possible, to the appropriate Academic Counselling office of the student’s Faculty/School of registration (ex. KIN students ~ KIN Undergraduate Office), not to the instructor, with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. In the event of a medical request, the documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician or walk-in clinic. An “Accommodation Consideration Request Form” found online or in the Kinesiology Undergraduate Office” for ALL such accommodation requests must be submitted into the appropriate Academic Counselling office of the student’s Faculty/School of registration. These documents will be retained in the student’s file, and will be held in confidence in accordance with the University’s Official Student Record Information Privacy Policy.

See <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> for specific policy and forms relating to accommodation.

3. **Grades:** Where possible assignment objectives and rubrics will be posted on OWL. Should you have a concern regarding the grade you received for an assignment or feel that it is unfair in any way, you must wait 24 hours from the receipt of the assignment to approach the instructor or TA. In doing so, please make an appointment and prepare in writing, with evidence, why you feel your grade is inappropriate. Please be aware that in requesting a grade reassessment, your grade could go up/down/or stay the same. Note that calculations errors (which do occur!) should

be brought to my attention immediately.

15% of course grades will be posted by the last day to drop a course.

4. **Scholastic offences:** They 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/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf).

A) Students must write their essays and 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 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 Western University and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>)

B) 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.

5. **Formatting** (as recommended by the course instructor): example- APA style is the approved style of writing for all assignments produced for this course. Please refer to Western University Library webpage for information on citation style and format or consult the APA publication manual: Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.). (2009). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

6. According to the **Examination Conflict policy**, “A student who is scheduled to write more than two examinations in any 24-hour period may request alternative arrangements through the office of their Academic Counsellor.” \*This policy does NOT apply to mid-term examinations. There will be no make-up for the mid-term exam. Students who miss this exam with a valid reason will have the final re-weighted accordingly.

7. **Classroom Behaviour:** Class will begin promptly at the time specified at the top of page one of this syllabus. In the event that you must arrive late, please enter the classroom with a minimal disturbance to the class. I reserve the right to lock the classroom door and deny entrance if lateness becomes a common occurrence. Excessive talking during class time is disruptive, disrespectful, and will not be tolerated. Students engaging in such behaviour may be asked to leave the room. Cellular phones, pagers, and text-messaging devices are disruptive when they ring in class. If you must bring these with you, please place them on silent mode or turn them off during class. Failure to do so may result in your being asked to leave.

8. **Laptops** for the purpose of typing lecture **notes are permitted in class**, but please be respectful to your fellow students and turn the sound off. If I receive complaints from other students regarding noise or other disruptive behaviour (e.g., watching videos on YouTube.com, updating your Facebook status, playing Solitaire), your classroom laptop privileges will be revoked.

9. Audio and/or videotaping of lectures is not permitted unless approval has been sought from the instructor in advance.

## 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 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/board/code.pdf>

## ENGLISH PROFICIENCY FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF GRADES

Visit the website <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/exam/english.pdf>

## 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/>

## Tentative Schedule

Week of	Topic	Readings
Week 1	Introduction, Initial Evaluation, Proper Grip & Throwing Patterns, Catching the Ball	Important for students to spend time on the first 2 lectures focusing on the rules of softball. This allows the class to begin scrimmage quickly and provides students an understanding of the rules that shape the game.
Week 2	Defensive Play, Fielding Ground Balls, Playing the Outfield	Women's Softball Game on Sunday September 24 <sup>th</sup> at 11am. Held at Stronach Park
Week 3	Mechanics of Hitting, Variations of Bunting	
Week 4	Running the Bases, Footwork at 2 <sup>nd</sup> Base, Cut-Offs, Run-downs.	
Week 5	Reading Week	
Week 6	Scrimmage, Skill Review	
Week 7	Practical Evaluation and Skill Testing	