Western University
School of Health Studies

Health Sciences 440B
Advanced Health Policy
Winter 2016

Instructor: Dr. Denise Grafton
Lectures: Mondays, 11:30-1:30; Tutorial ONLINE: Wednesday or Friday, 11:30-12:30
Location: UCC37
Email: dgrafton@uwo.ca
Office Hours: By appointment

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. For further information regarding prerequisites or anti-requisites please visit www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca.

Prerequisites: Health Sciences 3400A/B.

Course Description:
Critical health policy issues across and health care sectors, including financing of health care, models of health care delivery and the evolution of health care institutions, health human resources and consumer participation in health care. Examines Canadian Health policy in comparative (international) perspective.

Class Schedule and Format:
In this course, health policy will be analyzed through the lens of policy formation and implementation by way of case study analyses. Case studies enable students to develop analytical skills using real-world situations, including the context and processes within which policies are formed, as well as to consider potential alternatives. The cases that will be analyzed will be selected by the class members from the textbook or from a list of websites that contain different policy settings (e.g. public health) – a set of websites with cases will be provided in OWL.

This class will have limited lecture format sessions (i.e. only the first 2 weeks) and instead will focus largely on student-led and facilitated discussions of the selected cases. All students are expected to have read the cases and thought about the policy considerations to be discussed in that session before class. Each student will be responsible, either in small groups or alone if desired, and will prepare for the class and lead the class of discussion for one case. Which cases will be presented, when, and by whom will depend upon course enrolment and the preferences of the class as to which cases they wish to discuss. For more information, see separate hand out in OWL that is called “Case Studies”.

Each week (except the first week and other weeks as noted in the weekly calendar), there is a 50 minute tutorial which will be held on-line in OWL (i.e. no in-person session). Approximately half of the tutorial time will focus on the policy situations found in one or two newspaper articles which will be selected by a student (or pair, depending on enrolment) and shared in advance with their tutorial session in OWL. Students are asked to find one newspaper article and a journal article that would support the policy discussed in the article (e.g. if you have a newspaper article about active transportation in school neighbourhoods, you would need to also find one current (last 5 years) article on the same topic. Please post your links to your articles 48 hours PRIOR to the session so that other students will have time to review them.

The remaining time will be available to work out any logistical or planning issues related to case preparation. Attendance is mandatory in tutorial sessions as a component of the final course grade is achieved in the tutorial session.

January 4: Introductory class: Review syllabus, case introduction and preliminary case selection and determination of who will facilitate each case. Students will also SIGN UP for one week for which they will provide a newspaper article related to health policy. There will NOT be a tutorial the first week of classes (January 6/8 – first tutorial starts January 13/15).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly Calendar</th>
<th>NO TUTORIAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 4</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 11</td>
<td>Cases and Briefing Notes - Intro</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 18</td>
<td>Cases begin: Case week #1</td>
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<td>January 25</td>
<td>Case week #2</td>
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<td>February 1</td>
<td>Case week #3</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 8</td>
<td>Case week #4</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>February 15</strong></td>
<td>READING WEEK NO CLASSES</td>
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<td>February 22</td>
<td>Case week #5</td>
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<td>February 29</td>
<td>Case week #6</td>
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<td>March 7</td>
<td>Case week #7</td>
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<td>March 14</td>
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<td>March 21</td>
<td>Case week #9</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 28</td>
<td>Case week #10</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 4 (last class)</td>
<td>Classes End April 6</td>
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**Course Materials**

There is one required textbook for this course which is reasonably priced and the UWO library has an e-book available. Other materials, as necessary, will be posted in OWL. At the time of syllabus creation, it is not known if the Western Bookstore is able to obtain copies in time for the 2nd week of class, however, here are multiple sources which offer quick shipping or electronic copies.

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1 Number of articles discussed will depend on the number of students enrolled
Edited by Raisa B. Deber with Catherine L. Mah
University of Toronto Press, Scholarly Publishing Division © 2014

Available:
In paperback ($42.46) or e-Pub ($41.95) format from University of Toronto Press:
http://www.utppublishing.com/Case-Studies-in-Canadian-Health-Policy-and-Management-
Second-Edition.html

Or
In paperback ($37.45) or Kindle ($35.58) at Amazon.ca:

or paperback ($37.45) at Indigo.ca:
https://www.chapters.indigo.ca/en-ca/books/case-studies-in-canadian-health/9781442609969-
item.html

electronic resource Western Libraries. One user at a time, no
downloads: http://alpha.lib.uwo.ca/search~S20/tCase+Studies+in+Canadian+Health+Policy+and+Mana-
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Evaluation

a) Tutorial Participation (10 weeks @ 1%, including selection of one newspaper article/one journal
5% - 15% total)

b) Briefing Note on a Health Policy topic (3 @ 10% - 30% total) - (3 @ 10%) – You are to provide a
briefing note on any three health policy cases (individual student choice based on interest, and it
may be the case you prepare) as discussed in class. Students will also select the audience/situation
that the briefing note is presented in (e.g. hospital board, Health Minister, Mayor, etc.) Due dates:
by the end of your tutorial session during the week of February 5, March 5 and April 1, 2016 –
electronic to the Assignments module in OWL. Please see OWL for the more detailed assignment
information including sources of help in writing a briefing note.

c) Presentation of case study in class. (individual or team) 20%; 5% will be peer-marking/evaluation,
15% instructor. A summary of required elements will be provided in advance of the first case
presentation.

d) Final Exam (35%) – TBA Scheduled by Registrar

There will be a final examination lasting a maximum of two hours covering all material discussed in
the course. The format of the examination will be short written answers and essay-type questions.
The final exam date will be set by the university in the final exam period in April 2016.
Grading scheme:
Below you will find the university-wide scale that has been approved by the Western University Senate. Marks will not be rounded.

A+ 90-100 Exceptional
A 80-89 Superior work, 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

Policies:
Late assignments
This class is evaluated primarily through examinations, which must not be missed unless in the case of a medical condition, family emergency, or other unforeseen circumstances. A note from your Physician indicating the nature of your condition must be submitted to the School of Health Studies Main Office, and only upon receipt of such a letter will a new examination be scheduled. Visit Western’s Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness at: https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm for further details. With respect to the written assignments, late assignments will not be accepted past the due dates without a Doctor’s note. If the student presents a Doctor’s note the extended deadline will be 1 week after original due date.

Electronic devices
Cellular phones must be on silent and put away during lectures and tutorials. Laptop computers will only be allowed to be open during lectures if you are making notes regarding lecture materials. If personal devices are clearly being used for non-class purposes, students will be asked to stop this disrespectful behaviour or leave the class. Electronic devices of any type WILL NOT be allowed during examinations.

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 The University of Western Ontario, 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

Accommodation for Medical Illness or Non-Medical Absences
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf
The University recognizes that a student’s ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are
deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student’s overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required where a student is seeking academic accommodation. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician or walk-in clinic. An SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm. Documentation is required for non-medical absences where the course work missed is more than 10% of the overall grade. Students may contact their Faculty Academic Counselling Office for what documentation is needed.

Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. 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, as soon as possible, to the appropriate Academic Counselling Office of the student’s Faculty of registration. For BHSc students, you may go to the School of Health Studies Office in HSB room 222.

**Scholastic Offences**
Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the 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/