The University of Western Ontario  
School of Health Studies  

Health Sciences 3290A  
Special Topics in Health Promotion  

Environmental Health Promotion  

(*Draft)  

Fall 2016  

Instructor: Dr. Jeannie Samuel  
Email: jsamue9@uwo.ca  
Office: HSB 331  
Office Hours: TBA  
Course time: Tuesday 1:30pm-2:30pm & Wednesday 1:30pm-3:30pm  
Classroom: TBA  

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.

Course Information:  

Health promotion has an important role to play in addressing the complex array of environmental threats that are affecting human health and the wellbeing of our planet. Starting from this insight, this course looks at the interface between the fields of environmental health and health promotion to explore the theory and practice of environmental health promotion in its current context. Howze et al. define environmental health promotion as “any planned process employing comprehensive health promotion approaches to assess, correct, control, and prevent those factors in the environment that can potentially harm the health and quality of life of present and future generations (2004).

The course introduces students to key concepts and theories used in the practice of environmental health promotion. It explores contemporary strategies to address issues such as air pollution, water scarcity, weak food systems, environmental injustice and climate change using the tools of health promotion. Given the globalized scope of the topic, cases are drawn from a
variety of local, national and international settings. The intervention strategies studied utilize
diverse forms of health promotion practice, including health communication and education,
community capacity building, advocacy and policy making. The course employs a range of
learning tools, including lectures, facilitated discussion and multimedia resources. Students will
also have the opportunity to engage directly with expert practitioners in the field through a
community-engaged learning project done in collaboration with environmental organizations in
London.

**Course Objectives:**

1. To understand key concepts and theories relevant to environmental health promotion.

2. To build students’ knowledge around the use of diverse health promotion strategies
   (e.g. health education, community capacity building) to address environmental
   threats.

3. To learn about how environmental health interventions are designed, implemented
   and evaluated through participation in a community engaged learning project

**Course Materials**

Materials for this course consist of weekly readings posted on OWL.

**Grading Method**

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>In class October 26th, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Engaged</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Dates to be announced</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning Project</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Date &amp; time determined by Registrar’s Office</td>
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1. **Midterm Exam (20%).** The midterm exam will be held IN CLASS on OCTOBER 26th, 2016. The exam will consist of multiple choice, True/False and short answer questions. Questions will be drawn from material presented in class, as well as from the assigned readings and guest lectures.

2. **Community Engaged Learning Project (40% - Groups of approximately 5 students).** The purpose of this assignment is to provide students with the opportunity to partner directly with London-based organizations in order to apply their learning related to environmental health promotion. Students will work in teams and will be linked directly to partners to produce one agreed upon deliverable (e.g. a Public Service Announcement, a grant application, etc.). Teams will be expected to share their experience and learning
with the rest of the class through a group presentation near the end of the term. Some time for groups to meet and work on their projects will be provided in class throughout the semester. The 40% portion of the grade assessment assigned for this part of the course will be further broken down into smaller sub-components. A more detailed description will be explained in class and will also be available in the Assignments folder on OWL in early September.

3. **Final Exam (40%)** The final exam will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. Questions will come from material presented in class, assigned readings and guest lectures. Further information regarding the final exam will be provided in class.

Please note that students must see their counsellors if they miss a mid-term or final examination, and students must contact the instructor and counsellor prior to the missed exam if at all possible. Failure to do so could result in a zero grade assigned to the missed exam. Please refer to the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness located on page 4 of this syllabus at the following website: [https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm).

**ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS**

**Electronic Devices**

Please keep your cell phones in your bag/pocket/other during class – TEXTING NOT PERMITTED DURING CLASS. Laptops and tablets can be used only if the work done on them pertains to the class. The use of electronic devices (e.g. cell phones, ipods, ipads, laptops) is prohibited during exams.

**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](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/board/code.pdf).

**English Proficiency for the Assignment of Grades**


**Accommodation for Medical Illness or Non-Medical Absences**


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/

**Rounding of Grades (for example, bumping a 79 to 80%)**

This is a practice some students request. **This practice will not occur here.** Assignments have been carefully designed to be clear and fair. Please do not ask the Course Instructor or Teaching Assistants to do this for you.