School of Kinesiology  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
Western University

KIN 9049A – Ethics: Theory & Practice  
Fall Term 2021

Professor: Dr. A. J. Schneider  
Location: Rm. 2235 Somerville  
Lectures: W- 10:00-1:00pm

Office: Rm. 2233 – Somerville House  
Office Hours: TBA  
Phone: 519-661-2111 ext. 88527  
Email: aschneid@uwo.ca

NOTE: Course information will be available via OWL.

Description:  
This course will introduce students to a critical analysis of concepts related to ethical theory and practical application in Kinesiology. Some of the main themes will be on topics and issues understanding applying ethical theory through: sport and physical activity, coaching, research, sport medicine, organizations and sport management issues. We will explore issues in basic moral theory and practical and applied ethics. Students will be encouraged to explore issues that have arisen in their own life experiences and will be expected to engage in critical analysis of contemporary problems and issues regarding the way we see, use and experience moral issues in Kinesiology.

Anti-requisite(s)/Pre-requisite(s)/Co-requisite(s) if applicable: None

Course Format:  
The course will be interactive, participatory and in seminar format. Students should come to class prepared by having read the relevant texts and ready to engage in group discussions and presentations.

Classes will be discussion based. Approximately each week students will be assigned an oral “commentary” and these commentaries will form the basis of class discussion. (See below.) Students will be expected to present and articulate their ideas on the topics as assigned.

Text:  
Selected Readings on Ethical Theory and Practical Ethical Issues in Sport and Kinesiology
Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. **Identify and delineate** theoretical terms, concepts, and philosophies related to ethical theories and practical applications in Kinesiology. (Knowledge)

2. **Compare and contrast** various moral theories and other practical approaches to ethics in Kinesiology. (Analysis)

3. **Synthesize** research and theoretical knowledge as it relates to Ethical Theory and practical application in Kinesiology through seminar presentations and written work. (Comprehension)

4. **Develop** skills in writing research papers and presentations pertaining to each student’s particular area of interest on the ethical issues in Kinesiology through commentaries, seminar presentations, and essays. (Application)

5. **Further develop** abilities to critically reflect upon one’s own learning and relate to the topics on ethics in Kinesiology discussed in class. (Reflection)

Required Course Material:
All required readings will be announced in class and posted on OWL.

Course Evaluation Summary: (this is an example)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oral Commentaries &amp; Class Participation</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seminar Presentation/Discussion</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>Final Research Paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
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1. **Commentaries and Class Participation** (30%) DUE: Date(s)- weekly

Topics will be given in class or posted on OWL. All commentaries are due at the beginning of class. Students will present their own critical commentaries. A commentary is a shorter, coherent, reflection, on an issue or topic. The topics or issues will be drawn from our current readings, news items or media reports. Commentaries will be graded on their quality. Commentaries will be read orally in class and will form the basis of class discussion. Commentaries and class participation are worth 30% of the final grade.

2. **Seminar Presentation** (30%) DUE: Dates to be selected in class
Each student will prepare a **45 minute oral presentation (plus time for questions)** on a topic of your choosing from a list given out in class by the professor. The seminar presentation will be graded out of 100 marks and will be based on the student’s expressed knowledge and comprehension of the topic they have chosen through the identification and delineation of important concepts.

3. **Final Research Paper (40%)**  
   
   DUE: date Last class

Students will write a final research paper on a topic to be agreed upon between the student and the professor. The paper should be approximately 12-15 pages. An essay outline is required for approval in advance. The students will be given an outline structure to follow. The paper will be graded out of 100 marks and the assessment will be based on the student’s ability to demonstrate critical reflection through the application of knowledge and skills learned in the course.

*Note: These points serve as the basis for the evaluations in this course.*

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Course/University Policies

1. **Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)**  
   If Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”) are used in the course, a reference to the Guidelines for their use (Guidelines are shown below). Instructors are to communicate clearly to students information on how clickers are used including: how the student’s privacy will be protected, how clickers may be used by the instructor for data gathering and for evaluating the students, and why they cannot be used by anyone but the student (since the students involved in misuse of a clicker may be charged with a scholastic offence).

2. **Academic 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:  
   [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/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](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.

3. **Electronic Device Usage:**

**During Exams** - Unless you have medical accommodations that require you to do so, or explicit permission from the instructor of the course, you may not use any of the following electronic devices during ANY of the tests, quizzes, midterms, examinations, or other in-class evaluations: cellphones, smart phones, smart watches, smart glasses, audio players or recorders of any sort, video cameras, video games, DVD players, televisions, laptop/notebook/netbook computers, flashlights or laser pointers.

**During Lectures and Tutorials:** Although you are welcome to use a computer during lecture and tutorial periods, you are expected to use the computer for scholastic purposes only, and refrain from engaging in any activities that may distract other students from learning. Please be respectful to your fellow students and turn the sound off. If the professor receives complaints from other students regarding noise or other disruptive behavior (e.g. watching videos on YouTube.com, updating your Facebook status, playing Solitaire), your classroom privileges will be revoked. From time to time, your professor may ask the class to turn off all computers, to facilitate learning or discussion of the material presented in a particular class. **Unless explicitly noted otherwise, you may not make audio or video recordings of lectures – nor may you edit, re-use, distribute, or re-broadcast any of the material posted to the course website.**

4. **Health and Wellness:**
Information regarding health and wellness-related services available to students may be found at [http://www.health.uwo.ca/](http://www.health.uwo.ca/).

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western ([http://www.health.uwo.ca/](http://www.health.uwo.ca/)) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

5. **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/](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/)
2. **Student Health & Wellness** -- [http://www.health.uwo.ca/](http://www.health.uwo.ca/)
4. **Ombudsperson Office** -- [http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/](http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/)

6. **Accommodation, Illness Reporting and Academic Considerations:**
[http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12)
Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities.

Academic Consideration for Student Absence
https://www.uwo.ca/fhs/kin/undergrad/academic/consideration/index.html

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student’s final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student’s final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are not met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

Religious Accommodation
Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar.

7. **Examination Conflicts**: A student with examinations having flexible submission times (e.g., where one or more examination is a take-home examination) cannot request alternative arrangements unless a conflict cannot be avoided by rescheduling writing the exam to a different time within the window specified by the instructor. This applies to direct conflicts as well as “heavy load” conflicts (e.g., three exams within a 23-hour period). The student should discuss any concerns about a potential conflict and/or request accommodation with their academic counselling unit prior to the deadline to drop a course without academic penalty.

In the case of online examinations, an “Examination Conflict Room,” which may be assigned when a student is scheduled to write two proctored exams concurrently, will be interpreted as arrangements for continuous proctoring.

8. **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.

Generally, students can expect some form of feedback on their performance in a course before the drop date.

- November 12th, 2020 (for first term half-courses)
- November 30th, 2020 (for full-year courses)
- March 7th, 2021 (for second term half-or full year courses)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>Superior work that is clearly above average.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>Good work, meeting all requirements and eminently well.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>Competent work, meeting requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>Fair work, minimally acceptable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 50</td>
<td>Fail</td>
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□ November 12th, 2020 (for first term half-courses)
□ November 30th, 2020 (for full-year courses)
□ March 7th, 2021 (for second term half-or full year courses)
Rounding of Grades (for example, bumping a 79 to 80%):
This is a practice some students request. **This practice will not occur here.** The edges of this course are clear and sharp. The mark attained is the mark you achieved and the mark assigned; there is no rounding to the next grade level, or ‘giving away’ of marks. Please don’t ask me to do this for you; the response will be “please review the course outline where this is presented”.

9. **Contingency Plan for an In-Person Class Pivoting to 100% Online Learning:** In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

10. **Online Etiquette:** Some components of this course will involve online interactions. To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please honour the following rules of etiquette:
- please “arrive” to class on time
- please use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet)
- ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions in the event that a class discussion deals with sensitive or personal material
- to minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone for the entire class until you are invited to speak, unless directed otherwise
- [suggested for classes larger than 30 students] In order to give us optimum bandwidth and web quality, please turn off your video camera for the entire class unless you are invited to speak
- [suggested for cases where video is used] please be prepared to turn your video camera off at the instructor’s request if the internet connection becomes unstable
- unless invited by your instructor, do **not** share your screen in the meeting

The course instructor will act as moderator for the class and will deal with any questions from participants. To participate please consider the following:
- if you wish to speak, use the “raise hand” function and wait for the instructor to acknowledge you before beginning your comment or question
- remember to unmute your microphone and turn on your video camera before speaking
- self-identify when speaking.
- remember to mute your mic and turn off your video camera after speaking (unless directed otherwise)

General considerations of “netiquette”: 
• Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.
• Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.
• Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment. “Flaming” is never appropriate.
• Be professional and scholarly in all online postings. Cite the ideas of others appropriately.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of Zoom-bombing a class or of other serious online offenses may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

11. Online Learning Support
If you require support with online learning tools and resources, please refer to the Faculty of Health Sciences Online Teaching and Learning Support Jira request links for students.

12. 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 https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/board/code.pdf