

**WESTERN UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF KINESIOLOGY**

**KIN 2913Q – SOFTBALL SKILLS**

Quarter: Q  
M/W or T/Th located @ Westminster Diamond  
Friday lectures in selected classroom TH

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**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.

**COURSE 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.

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **WEEK ONE**

Introductory Meeting  
Initial Evaluation  
Proper Grip, Throwing Patterns  
Catching the Ball  
Rule Review  
Scrimmage

### **WEEK TWO**

Defensive Play  
Fielding Ground Balls  
Fielding Balls in Outfield  
Scrimmage

### **WEEK THREE**

Running the Bases  
Footwork around 2<sup>nd</sup> Base  
Cut-Offs  
Scrimmage

### **WEEK FOUR**

Mechanics of Hitting  
Bunt Variations  
Scrimmage

### **WEEK FIVE**

Full Game Play  
Skill Review  
Written Exam

### **WEEK SIX**

Practical Evaluation/Scrimmage  
Practical Evaluation/Scrimmage  
Practical Evaluation/Scrimmage

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

Students are required to attend every class. Students are also expected to arrive on time, with proper attire. A baseball glove is not mandatory, but there is only a limited number of gloves provided by the program. If a student cannot participate in a class due to injury, they are expected to attend and assist their classmates through cooperative learning and error detection/correction. Students will be penalized 1% for each unexcused absence. Also, participation in class discussion in both gym and classroom sessions will count towards the participation/attendance portion of your grade. This will also take into account student participation and volunteering to help demonstrate skills in class.

## **EVALUATION**

### Practical Evaluation – 60%

The grade is achieved through skill testing (50%) and game play that occurs throughout the course (10%). You will be tested on specific skills taught during the course, as well as a practical evaluation of a randomly selected skill during the final week of class.

### Theory Evaluation - 30%

Written Test - based on material covered in the course and from provided slideshows.

### Attendance & Participation – 10%

As indicated above, students will be graded on class attendance and participation. This will include volunteering for skill demonstration in gym class and answering questions in group discussions.

## **Course/University Policies**

1. **Lateness/Absences:** Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the assigned due date and 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 Undergraduate office. 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:** Whenever possible, 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 not to the instructor, with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician or walk-in clinic. 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.

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 might 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/>
4. Ombuds Office -- <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>