



## **HS 2000A – Critical Issues and Debates in the Health Sciences**

**Who?** The instructor is Dr. Ken Kirkwood, Room #211, A & S Labatt Health Sciences Building. X86583, [kkirkwo2@uwo.ca](mailto:kkirkwo2@uwo.ca)

**Where & When?** Wednesdays, 7-9pm, Room #40, Labatt Health Sciences Building

**What is it?** *Developments and greater integration between disparate fields of interest in the Health Sciences in the 21st century are examined in this survey course. Topics include: Social epidemiological approaches to health, issues of aging and senescence, environmental impacts on human health, paediatrics, social epidemiology, and philosophical perspectives on health*

### **What are we learning?**

September 15<sup>th</sup> – Class introductions and syllabus review

→ readings for this class – 1.) the syllabus

September 22<sup>nd</sup> – *What is health? It's a simple idea....right?*

→ readings for this class – 1.) WHO Constitution 2.) How Should Health be Defined?

3.) WHO needs to reconsider its' definition of health.

September 29<sup>th</sup> – *"I am so happy I'm finally HIV Positive" When health is unhealthy?*

→ readings for this class – 1.) Bareback sex, bug chasers and the gift of death

October 6<sup>th</sup> – *"Weight loss makes you feel better about yourself???" part 1 –*

*Apotemnophilia*

→ readings for this class – A New Way to be Mad (pts.1-3)

October 13<sup>th</sup> – “Weight loss makes you feel better about yourself???” part 2 – Thinspiration

→readings for this class – Ana & the Internet: A Review of Pro-Anorexia Websites

October 20<sup>th</sup> – “Postal codes, not genetic codes.” *What is social epidemiology?*

→listening for this class – CBC Ideas, “Sick People or Sick Societies” parts 1 & 2

October 27<sup>th</sup> – “You’ll go blind, eat less fat, and other lies my Mother told me”

→reading for this class – How the Ideology of Low-Fat Conquered America

November 3<sup>rd</sup> – “You are what you eat” In-class project (details in “Assignments” section)

November 10<sup>th</sup> – “You are what you eat, part 2” In-class project (details in “Assignments” section)

November 17<sup>th</sup> – Discussion Class re: “You are what you eat.”

November 24<sup>th</sup> – TBA

December 1<sup>st</sup> – “Old folks like sex too” – guest speaker Michelle Allain on sex & the elderly.

→readings TBA

December 8<sup>th</sup> – TBA

## **How are we marked?**

Participation = 25%

- Did you attend, stay awake and contribute?
- Did your fellow students *learn* something from you?
- Did you contribute either in class or on the discussion threads on WebCT?
- Quality and quantity matter...talk lots but say something at the same time.

In-Class projects = 2 x 20% = 40%

### Project #1: Eating Well is Not Cheap?

- Partner with one or two other people (groups of no less than 2, no more than 3)
- Choose an easily accessible grocery store in London and go there
- While there, you will be 'pretend-shopping' for a mother and two children (aged 7 & 9)
- You will be attempting to 'cost-out' the appropriate number of calories and nutrients necessary for that family.
- Write up your findings in a short report (informal in style, but include complete data please!) and submit by email no later than Nov.17<sup>th</sup> .

### Project #2: Eating Badly is Easier?

- Read the assigned reading first
- Partner with one or two other people (groups of no less than 2, no more than 3)
  - *Same groups or different, I don't care*
- Choose an easily accessible grocery store in London and go there
- Examine the layout of the grocery store for the features mentioned in the reading.
- Write up your findings in a short report (informal in style, but include complete data please!) and submit by email no later than Nov.24<sup>th</sup> .

Final Exam = 35%

- Final exams are scheduled by the Registrar's Office
- 2 hours (maximum), multiple choice (5 items, no multiple-multiples)

### Is there anything else we should know?

In life, always. But for this class, please check the policies and other documents as they appear on our WebCT page.

*School of Health Studies*