

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
LONDON CANADA

School of Health Studies

Health Sciences 4131B
Movement Disorders

1.0 CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

In this half-year online course, you will be introduced to the most common sequelae of movement disorders, and will explore disease-specific sequelae of some of the more prevalent movement disorders, including Parkinson's disease, restless legs syndrome, Huntington's disease, and Tourette's syndrome.

Prerequisites: Health Sciences 3300A/B

Antirequisites: None

2.0 COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Andrew Johnson
Elborn College, Room 2531
ajohnson@uwo.ca

Office Hours: Thursdays, 10:00am to 12:00pm (Elborn College, Room 2531)

Course Website: <https://owl.uwo.ca>

3.0 TEXTBOOKS

There are no required textbooks for this course. All of the readings will be provided through online links, and journal articles.

4.0 COURSE OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of this course is to introduce you the terminology that is often used in the description of movement disorders, and to discuss some of the more prevalent movement disorders. Although this course makes extensive use of medical terminology, it is not intended to be a medical sciences course. For each disorder, we will endeavor to explore not only the epidemiology of the disease, and the etiology of the illness, but also the health sciences context (including, where appropriate, domains such as psychosocial factors and outcomes, and economic impact of the disease). In addition to this content knowledge, students will be required to undertake a critical review, and so students are expected to apply the methodological information that they have learned over their previous years of study within the undergraduate program, and apply this to an evaluation of the quality of research evidence within each of the papers used within the critical review. All students will be expected to engage in a significant team project, the primary outcome for which will be a poster presentation of the evidence uncovered within their critical review.

5.0 EVALUATION

Online Quizzes	(all quizzes go offline on 2012.03.21)	20%
Group Project:	<i>research proposal</i> (due 2012.01.27)	10%
	<i>10-reference annotated bibliography</i> (due 2012.02.17)	10%
	<i>conference proceedings</i> (due 2012.03.23)	10%
	<i>poster presentation</i> (due 2012.03.30)	20%
Final Exam	(TBA)	30%

Online Quizzes: Throughout the course, you will be given an opportunity to complete several online quizzes, each of which will be weighted evenly in deriving the grade for this portion of your final mark. You may complete the quizzes at your own pace, but all quizzes will go offline at 11:59pm, on 2012.03.21. These quizzes are listed within this course outline, in the unit timetable. *If you receive a medical or compassionate accommodation for the online quizzes, the value of any incomplete quizzes will be added to the weighting of your final exam – you will not be given an opportunity to write any missed quizzes after 11:59pm on 2012.03.21. Medical or compassionate accommodations for online quizzes require the same level of documentation as any other examination within the course.*

Group Project: During the introductory class (week of 2012.01.09), you will be asked to form groups of four or five. Throughout the remainder of the course, you will (as a group) undertake to conduct a critical review on some topic that is of relevance to the broader topic of movement disorders. This project will be graded in four stages: a *research proposal*, a *10-reference annotated bibliography*, the *conference proceedings* that will be made available prior to the research day (2012.03.30) at which your group will present a *poster presentation*, outlining the results of your critical review.

Research Proposal: The research proposal should include a thesis statement (i.e., a statement of the purpose of your literature review), along with a summary of the expected impact of the review topic, and a description of databases that you will query for your review. Your group's research proposal will be due on Friday, January 27th, by 11:59pm. There are no restrictions to the length of this document, but it is expected that the proposal will be one to two double-spaced pages in length. The research proposal must be submitted for grading through WebCT. This document will be subjected to electronic plagiarism scanning, through Turnitin.com.

10-reference Annotated Bibliography: By this stage of your project, you will have identified at least ten (10) references that you will use in the course of your critical review. Your group will be required to discuss (in point form) the purpose, methods, and conclusions of ten of these references. *Please note that you are expected to present the findings in the studies in your own words...do not simply "cut and paste" from the articles.* You should also attempt to evaluate the evidence presented in these articles, and come to some conclusion as to the impact of this article on the thesis of your review. Your group's annotated bibliography will be due on Friday, February 17th, at 11:59pm. There are no restrictions as to the length of this document, but it is expected that the annotated bibliography will be eight to ten double-spaced pages in length. The annotated bibliography must be submitted for grading through WebCT. This document will be subjected to electronic plagiarism scanning, through Turnitin.com.

Conference Proceedings: This document will be circulated to your classmates in advance of the poster day at which the final component of your group project (the poster presentation) will be evaluated. This document should include a description of the hypothesis that is driving the critical review, along with a well-supported discussion of the expected impact of the review. Evidence should be presented from the articles reviewed (ideally, the same articles reviewed within the annotated bibliography), and this evidence should be critically evaluated within the proceedings. Finally, you are expected to present the conclusions of your review, in a way that directly relates to the evidence presented within your proceedings document. Your group's conference proceedings will be due on Friday, March 23rd, at 11:59pm. The conference proceedings may be no more than 5 single-spaced pages in length (using 12-point Times New Roman Font). You will be given a formatting template (using Microsoft Word) to guide your creation/formatting of these proceedings. The conference proceedings must be submitted for grading through WebCT. This document will be subjected to electronic plagiarism scanning, through Turnitin.com.

Poster Presentation: On Friday, March 30th (time and location to be announced later in the term), you will present your critical review to your classmates as an interactive poster presentation. You will be graded not only on the quality of the poster itself, but the quality of your responses to the questions asked of you by examiners.

Final Exam: The final exam for this course will cover all course material presented (either in class, or through WebCT) throughout the term. This closed-book exam will be three hours long, and will consist solely of multiple-choice questions. You will be notified via WebCT as to when and where you will be writing the exam.

Important Note Regarding the Use of Electronic Devices During Examinations: Unless you have medical accommodations that require you to do so, you may not use any of the following electronic devices during the examinations: cellphones, smart phones, audio players or recorders of any sort, video cameras, video games, DVD players, televisions, laptop/notebook/netbook computers, desktop computers, flashlights, laser pointers, or power tools of any sort.

7.0 GENERAL COURSE NOTES

Course Website

This course is a totally “paperless” course, and as such the course website will be your sole source for lecture overheads, readings, and course information (including this course outline). Due to privacy regulations, grades will only be provided to you through the course website (using the “My Grades” tool) – I cannot, under any circumstance, convey grades via email, or over the phone.

Bulletin Board

A bulletin board has been set-up on the course website, and you are encouraged to use this resource to locate and set-up study groups, and to ask questions regarding course content and procedures.

Email

I am happy to answer your questions via email. You must, however, use your UWO email address for all correspondence regarding this course. Because the University ‘anti-spam’ programs often reject email from Gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo, and other public email addresses, there is no guarantee that I will receive your emails if you send them from a public email program – or from any off-campus server, when sending email using any method other than the university’s webmail system. That said, I will do my best to answer your emails promptly.

Grade Adjustments

Final grades in this course will be taken to the closest integer (i.e., I will “round off” decimals). Exam grades will be calculated out of 100% to one decimal place. I will not, under any circumstances, “bump up” your grade (i.e., to facilitate professional school applications etc.). This includes grades that end in a “9”. Along similar lines, I will not alter exam weights for evaluations that you have already written.

7.1 POLICY REGARDING ILLNESS

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 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. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the appropriate academic counselors (the Office of the Dean of the student’s Faculty of registration/home Faculty) together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. For this course, you are to contact the academic counselors in the main office of the School of Health Studies. Documents submitted in this fashion will be retained in your file, and will be held in confidence in accordance with the University’s Official Student Record Information Privacy Policy [<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/general/privacy.pdf>].

Once the petition and supporting documents have been received and assessed, appropriate academic accommodation shall be determined by the Dean’s Office (Academic Counsellor) in consultation your instructor. Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements for classes/labs/tutorials, arranging Special Exams or Incompletes, re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawals without academic penalty. Academic accommodation shall be granted only where the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that you could not reasonably be expected to complete your academic responsibilities. **Note** – it will not be sufficient to provide documentation indicating simply that you were “seen for a medical reason” or “were ill.” Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. You must follow up with your professors and the Academic Counseling office in a timely manner.

Documentation from Family Physicians and Walk-In Clinics

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required whenever you seek 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>. Hard copies are available from Academic Counseling.

Documentation from Hospital Urgent Care Centres or Emergency Departments

Students should request that an SMC be filled out. You may take this form with them, or request alternative Emergency Department documentation. Documentation should be secured at the time of the initial visit to the Emergency Department. Where it is not possible for you to have an SMC completed by the attending physician, you must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that your ability to meet your academic responsibilities was seriously affected.

7.2 POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

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.

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 Web site:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>.

8.0 PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

In the first instance, all appeals of a grade must be made to the course instructor (informal consultation). If you are not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal must be sent to the Program Director. If you consider this response to be unsatisfactory, you may then appeal to the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences. If this response is unsatisfactory, you may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office.