

Western University  
School of Health Studies

Health Sciences 4410A

Future of Health Care

Instructor: Sherri Preszcator  
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Office Hours: By appointment

Fall 2013

*Lectures:* Mondays 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. HSB 240

### **Prerequisite**

Enrolment in third or fourth year of a Bachelor of Health Sciences Program

### **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.

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### **Course Information**

#### **Course Description:**

Canada's health care system is facing significant challenges and structural reforms. Students will learn how Canada's system is performing, factors that influence and impact the system and different models of health care delivery based on international comparables. Student will use this information and will investigate what needs to change in order to create a sustainable system for the future.

#### **Course Objectives:**

The learning objectives of this course are for students to:

- Identify and explain the key strengths and vulnerabilities of the Canadian health care system
- Identify significant trends occurring in health care in Canada
- Identify significant factors that impact the health care system
- Understand health care trends and developments in other countries
- Explore the requirements for future sustainability in Canada's health care system

## **Course Website**

*<https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>*

This course is supported by OWL. All course information will be made available there. Please monitor the announcements menu on the course website for any changes or cancellations in lectures, tutorials or readings.

## **Learning Perspective**

Student learning is the shared responsibility of both students and the faculty. Every attempt will be made to make classes stimulating and motivating using active learning principles. Active student involvement is expected. Students are expected to come to class prepared and ready to participate, work collaboratively with, and contribute to the learning of their classmates, and to notify the instructor if the pace of the lectures is too fast or too slow. Comments, suggestions and constructive feedback are always welcome and appreciated.

## **Student Responsibilities**

Students are expected to attend all classes as material covered during lectures may not be in your readings and the majority of material for the final exam will come from classroom content, including group presentations. It is the students' responsibility to complete the required readings and come to class prepared to discuss the content outlined. Responsibility for note-taking is that of students. If you are having any problems or difficulties with any aspect of the course, please contact the course instructor.

## **Learning Environment**

Courtesy and respect for the learning environment is expected. Students are expected to arrive at lectures on time. It is expected that students will be considerate of their colleagues and the instructor. Students are reminded to keep any noise and disruption to an absolute minimum in class, and to use email judiciously and not frivolously.

## **Course Materials**

There is no required textbook to purchase. Links to all the course materials are provided on OWL. You are responsible for accessing the materials.

## Evaluation

Students' academic performance will be assessed in the following ways:

|                                       | <b>Percentage of grade</b> | <b>Due date</b>          |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| A. Health Care Commission Report      | 20%                        | September 30, 2013       |
| B. Group Assignment                   | 50%                        |                          |
| Part 1: Outline and literature review | 15%                        | October 18, 2013         |
| Part 2: Policy briefing note          | 25%                        | December 2, 2013         |
| Part 3: Class presentation            | 10%                        | November 18 and 25, 2013 |
| D. Final examination                  | 30%                        | During final exam period |

### A. Health Care Commission Report (20%)

Each student will be asked to review the final report from the Royal Commission on the Future of Health Care in Canada titled Building on Values - The Future of Health Care in Canada. Students will review several submissions that were made to the last Royal Commission in 2002, (for example, the submission of the Canadian Medical Association can be found at [http://www.cma.ca/index.cfm/ci\\_id/3083/la\\_id/1.htm](http://www.cma.ca/index.cfm/ci_id/3083/la_id/1.htm) and the submission for the Canadian Women's Health Network can be found at <http://www.cwhn.ca/resources/romanow/index.html>), select issues that concern you, research their historical background, look at the current status of the issues, select facts, statistics and images to support your point of view. Students will then be required to prepare their own submission to the Royal Commission based on their findings. The report is due **September 30, 2013** at the beginning of class. The report must be submitted in hard copy and electronically to turnitin.com via OWL. (see section on *Academic Integrity*). Further guidelines regarding the report will be distributed and will be posted on OWL.

### B. Group Assignment (50%)

Canada is facing an important next step in our medicare history. In 2014, the current health care accord – the deal that sets funding and health care service delivery agreements between the federal and

provincial and territorial governments – expires and must be renegotiated. Students will be asked to work in groups of 4 – 5 members to review the accord and write and present a briefing note that will outline their recommendations for the 2014 Accord.

There are three parts to this assignment:

**Part 1: Outline and literature review (15%)**

Each group will prepare an outline for the paper that features a detailed description of the following: statement of objectives; methodology to be used to gather your information (i.e., search engines to be used, key words, basic disciplines from which the data will be sought); a brief overview of the literature that relate to the subject of the paper; the main themes or issues to be explored (with sub-headings if required); concluding discussion regarding the significance of the proposed subject matter. The outline should be 3-4 double-spaced pages.

Each group will then prepare a review of the literature they will be using of 7 key academic sources. Each review should be between 7 – 10 lines per document.

**Report is due October 11, 2013.**

***Part 2: Policy briefing note (25%)***

Based on your previously submitted outline and literature review groups will prepare a policy briefing note for the federal government outlining their recommendations. The briefing note will be no more than eight pages in length not including cover page and references. Both the outline and the final paper must be submitted in hard copy and electronically to turnitin.com via OWL. (see section on *Academic Integrity*).

**Report is due December 2, 2013**

***Part 3: Class presentation (10%)***

Each group will be asked to present their briefing note to the class. Presentations will be no more than 10 minutes in length and students can use any method of delivery they choose (ie. Prezi, powerpoint, handouts).

**Presentations will be during class on November 18<sup>th</sup> or the 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013.**

Full details of the group assignment will be posted on OWL.

***C. Final examination (30%)***

There will be a final examination during the exam period covering all the material discussed in the course. The exam will consist of true and false, multiple choice questions and short answer questions.

### **General rules and guidelines for assignments and grades:**

#### **Academic integrity:**

Misrepresenting the work of others as your own, constitutes academic dishonesty and is a major academic offence in the University (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the UWO Academic Calendar).

Ensure that you know what plagiarism is and what your obligations are. Review the UWO guide *Cheating, Plagiarism and Unauthorized Collaboration:*

*What Students Need to Know* found at: <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/pdf/academicintegrity>

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>).

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.

#### **Lateness and lateness penalties:**

You are expected to complete and turn your assignments in on time.

- The assigned date for a group presentation is firm. All members of the group must be in class for the presentation. A group member's absence on the day of the group's presentation will result in a **grade of 0%** for the assignment. The only exception is if the instructor is notified by a student by email before the class *and* there are valid extenuating circumstances as documented in the Policy on Medical Accommodation (see below).
- A late assignment will be penalized **5% each day** past the due date (including weekends) except for valid extenuating circumstances.

#### **Privacy:**

BHSc. Program policy does not permit email or telephone communication of grades. Confidential access of grades is available through OWL. Students may also arrange a meeting with the instructor to discuss grades.

#### **Student Inquiries:**

Students may direct inquiries to the instructor after class or via email at [spreszc@uwo.ca](mailto:spreszc@uwo.ca). It is expected that email communication will be used respectfully and judiciously.

#### **Statement on Use of Electronic Devices:**

Electronic devices such as cell phones, must be turned off during class. Laptops may be used for note taking during lectures. Using laptops to access MSN, email or the internet during class time is not acceptable. No electronic devices are permitted during tests/examinations.

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## **ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS**

### **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>.

### **English Proficiency for the Assignment of Grades**

Visit the website <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/exam/english.pdf>.

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

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf)

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](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 Western University 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/>