



The University of Western Ontario
School of Health Studies

Winter 2015

Health Sciences 1002B
Social Determinants of Health

Time: Tuesdays, 6:00 – 9:00pm
Location: HSB-40

Instructor	Teaching Assistant
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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.

For the most current list of antirequisite(s) and prerequisite(s), please refer to the Western Academic Calendar at www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca.

Course Information

This course introduces key social determinants of health, and orients students to viewing health in relation to social factors, equity, and social justice. Students will be introduced to basic terms, concepts, and measurements related to health, public health, population health, and health inequalities. Examples of topics to be covered include: income, education, employment, early childhood development, food security, housing, social safety net, aboriginal status, gender, race and disability. The course consists of three lecture hours per week, where students will be introduced to these topics and will have the opportunity to engage in small and large group discussion.

The objectives of this course are to:

- Differentiate between personal and social determinants of health.
- Introduce key social determinants of health and their relevance in the Canadian and global contexts.
- Understand how health varies systematically in relation to social, economic and political factors.
- Engage students in thinking about and viewing health in relation to social, political and economic forces, and in terms of the principles of equity and social justice.
- Introduce basic terms, concepts and measurements related to health, population health and health inequalities.

Expectations

It is the responsibility of the students to prepare for class by completing required readings before class, to attend all class, listen to the lectures, take notes in class, participate in class discussions and ask questions about the course materials.

Textbooks

a) Required Text

Davidson, A. (2015). *Social Determinants of Health: A Comparative Approach*. Don Mills: Oxford University Press.

b) Supplementary Text

Raphael, D. (Ed.). (2009). *Social Determinants of Health: Canadian Perspectives* (2nd ed.). Toronto: Canadian Scholars Press Inc.

Evaluation

Evaluation Item	Percentage of Final Grade	Date	Course Material Covered
Midterm Exam #1	30%	January 27 th (In-Class)	Weeks 1-3
Midterm Exam #2	30%	March 3 rd (In-Class)	Weeks 5-8
Final Exam	40%	Winter Exam Period	Weeks 10-14

- **Midterm Exam #1 – 30% of Final Mark – January 27th, 2015**
 - The format of midterm #1 will be multiple choice, true/false, and matching questions.
 - The midterm will cover all lecture content and required readings from weeks 1-3.
 - **NOTE:** It is anticipated that the midterm will be held in our normal classroom, but this may change depending on class enrollment. *No electronic devices are allowing during the writing of exams.*

- **Midterm Exam #2 – 30% of Final Mark – March 3rd, 2015**
 - The format of midterm #2 will be multiple choice, true/false, and matching questions.
 - The midterm will cover all lecture content and required readings from weeks 5-8.
 - NOTE: It is anticipated that the midterm will be held in our normal classroom, but this may change depending on class enrollment. *No electronic devices are allowing during the writing of exams.*

- **Final Exam – 40% of Final Mark – Date TBA**
 - The format of the final exam will be multiple choice, true/false, and matching questions.
 - The final exam will cover all lecture content and required readings from weeks 10-14.
 - NOTE: The final exam will be scheduled by the Registrar's Office. Students should not plan their holidays/vacations until the Registrar's Office publishes the exam schedule. Final grades are not released on the course OWL Site until they have been reviewed and approved by the Director of the School of Health Studies. *No electronic devices are allowing during the writing of exams.*

Policy on Missed Exams

In the event that a student misses an exam for medical reasons, religious reasons, or other extenuating circumstances, appropriate supporting documentation **MUST BE PROVIDED** in writing. Medical documentation must be presented to the Faculty of Health Sciences School of Health Studies, **NOT** the instructor. For additional information, please refer to the section below outlining "Accommodation for Medical Illness or Non-Medical Absences."

Students must write the final exam in order to pass the course.

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

Students are encouraged to bring their electronic devices to class to participate in virtual polls and to take notes during class.

No electronic devices are allowed during the writing of exams.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

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 .

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 The University of Western Ontario 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/>

Lecture Schedule & Required Readings

Week	Date	Topic(s)	** Required Reading(s) **
1	January 6 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Course Orientation ● Individual and Population Health 	Davidson (2015) - Introduction Davidson (2015) - Chapter 1
2	January 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Income, Inequality and Health 	Davidson (2015) - Chapter 3
3	January 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Childhood and the Transition to Adulthood 	Davidson (2015) - Chapter 4
4	January 27th	MIDTERM TEST #1	
5	February 3 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Support, Social Capital and Social Exclusion 	Davidson (2015) - Chapter 5
6	February 10 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Health of Aboriginal Peoples 	Davidson (2015) - Chapter 6
7	February 17th	READING WEEK	
8	February 24 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gender and Health 	Davidson (2015) - Chapter 7
9	March 3rd	MIDTERM TEST #2	
10	March 10 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Employment, Working Conditions and Health 	Davidson (2015) - Chapter 8
11	March 17 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Housing and Neighbourhood 	Davidson (2015) - Chapter 9
12	March 24 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Food, Food Insecurity, Obesity and Nutrition 	Davidson (2015) - Chapter 10
13	March 31 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Patterning of Behaviour 	Davidson (2015) - Chapter 11
14	April 7 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Politics of Population Health ● Final Exam Review 	Davidson (2015) - Chapter 12