

Western University  
School of Health Studies

Health Sciences 2045A  
Emerging Trends in Health Care

Fall 2014

Instructor: Dr. Laura Brunton

Lectures: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 12:30-1:20 pm

Location: HSB-35

Email: lbrunto3@uwo.ca

Office Hours: Wednesday's 9am – 12pm Location TBA (or by appointment)

### **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 further information regarding prerequisites or antirequisites please visit [www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca).

Prerequisites: Health Sciences 1001A/B and 1002A/B.

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### **Course Description:**

Health care systems have undergone profound change in the last decade due to changing demographics, funding constraints, new and emerging technologies and a significant rise in chronic diseases. This course examines new and emerging trends in health care at provincial, national and international levels to prepare students for future careers in a changing health care environment.

### **Class Schedule and Format:**

Classes will be a mixture of lecture, discussion, guest speakers and group work. Students are responsible for assigned readings, and to be prepared to discuss them in class. Attendance and participation in class is expected. Students are encouraged to be actively engaged in class presentations and group participation as undergraduates because the “real world” makes these demands on them routinely. Most weeks will have some classes devoted to a lecture and another to individual and/or group work. Students will be randomly assigned to groups throughout the class. Students are encouraged to bring a computer/tablet to class because there will be information retrieval exercises during the class time.

### **Course Materials**

There is no required textbook for this course. However, there will be some **mandatory readings/articles** posted on OWL. A draft reading list will be available at the start of the course, and will be updated regularly on OWL. In general you can expect 2-3 readings, and/or additional website/links to explore each week.

## **Evaluation**

### *Mid-term examination (20%) – Monday October 20<sup>th</sup> 2014*

There will be a mid-term examination in class on Monday October 20<sup>th</sup> lasting 50 minutes covering all material discussed in the course (including online material provided) up to and including October 15<sup>th</sup>. The format of the examination will be a combination of multiple choice questions and short written answers.

In the event that the mid-term exam is missed for medical reasons or extenuating circumstances, appropriate supporting documentation **MUST BE** provided. If appropriate documentation is provided, a makeup examination will be scheduled within one week of the scheduled exam.

### *Individual Assignment (15%) – Monday October 13<sup>th</sup> 2014*

Each student will search for a media report of a health care reform or policy issue from the last two years (2013-2014). Students will submit a written report (3-page maximum) regarding this issue and THEIR OWN perspectives and opinions on the topic. The opinions stated in the assignment must be the students own thoughts but should be supported by references to published research in the health care reform or policy literature. Each write-up will include a short introduction/background on the issue chosen for of the assignment, a concise statement that articulates the importance of your topic in relation to the health care climate and a discussion of **YOUR** perspective on 2-3 main points that constitute the focus of the assignment. Well-organized paragraphs should be used to analyze each point. In academic writing, one paragraph consists of 5-7 sentences, and this rule must be adhered to. Each assignment must also contain a concluding paragraph, which summarizes the main topics examined and reiterates the importance of your topic. This paragraph must contain original writing and cannot be cut and pasted from the introductory paragraph.

This assignment is not meant to be an in-depth review of any specific topic; however, to contextualize your topic and demonstrate your ability to think beyond the basic media reports you must do a minimal amount of outside reading. Each write-up must cite 4-7 academic references, which does NOT include Internet sites or class references. Search engines such as Pub Med and Google Scholar are ideal places to begin your search for academic studies that relate to your topics. Use in-text citation and the APA reference style throughout, which you will find descriptions of on-line. Assignments will be due IN CLASS on Monday October 13<sup>th</sup> 2014. Students will also be required to submit a copy of their assignment to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) by the time class begins on Monday October 13<sup>th</sup> 2014.

The report must meet the following requirements:

- Title page with title of assignment, student name and number, instructor's name, course number, date of submission, number of pages.
- Printed on 8.5" by 11" paper
- Use a 12 point font
- Lines must be double-spaced
- 1" margins
- Spell checked
- Include a list of references using APA style

### *Group Project (25%) – Week of November 24<sup>th</sup> 2014*

Students will organize themselves into groups of four. Each group will be asked to identify and select a new health care technology that they will research to identify how the technology can be used, the type of healthcare organization that may use the technology, the type of clinical conditions/programs it may be used for, the staffing and costs that may be involved in the purchase, implementation and use of the technology, and the benefits and issues associated with using the technology.

Part A - In class during the week of November 24<sup>th</sup>, the groups will be expected to provide an informal five minute description of their project to their colleagues so everyone has an overview of the technologies available and their intended uses. This portion of the assignment will constitute 5% of the overall mark.

Part B - The group will submit a report (3000 word limit) in Word, which addresses all of the identified requirements in the group project definition above. This paper must be submitted both in hard copy in class on Friday November 28<sup>th</sup> and electronically to the provided dropbox in OWL. One student in each group will upload the assignment to OWL. This portion of the assignment will constitute 20% of the overall mark.

The report must meet the following requirements:

- ☑ Title page with title of assignment, student names and numbers, instructor's name, course number, date of submission, number of pages.
- ☑ Printed on 8.5" by 11" paper
- ☑ Use a 12 point font
- ☑ Lines must be double-spaced
- ☑ 1" margins
- ☑ Spell checked
- ☑ Include a list of references using APA style

### *Participation (10%) – December 1<sup>st</sup> 2014*

Given the focus on group work, external presentations, and the marks allotted to attendance, you must take part in every class. Regular, punctual class attendance is critical and any absence, along with repeatedly late arrivals to class, will affect your mark. A portion of this mark (5%) will be determined by your group members who will assess your participation in the group project. In class on December 1<sup>st</sup>, each student will submit an evaluation of all members of their project group assessing their contribution to the outline, presentation, final report and project overall. This will be combined with an evaluation of the student's attendance and participation in class by the instructor.

### *Final Exam (30%) – TBA Scheduled by Registrar*

There will be a final examination lasting a maximum of two hours covering all material discussed in the course. The format of the examination will be a combination of multiple choice questions and short written answers. The final exam date will be set by the university in the final exam period in December 2014.

### **Grading scheme:**

Below you will find the university-wide scale that has been approved by the Western University Senate. Marks will not be rounded.

- A+** 90-100 Exceptional  
**A** 80-89 Superior work, above average.  
**B** 70-79 Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory.  
**C** 60-69 Competent work, meeting requirements.  
**D** 50-59 Fair work, minimally acceptable.  
**F** below 50 Fail

### **Policies:**

#### *Late assignments*

This class is evaluated primarily through examinations, which must not be missed unless in the case of a medical condition, family emergency, or other unforeseen circumstances. A note from your Physician indicating the nature of your condition must be submitted to the School of Health Studies Main Office, and only upon receipt of such a letter will a new examination be scheduled. Visit Western's Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness at:

<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> for further details. With respect to the written assignments, **late assignments will not be accepted** past the due dates without a Doctor's note. If the student presents a Doctor's note the extended deadline will be 1 week after original due date.

#### *Electronic devices*

Cellular phones must be on silent and put away during lectures and tutorials. Laptop computers will only be allowed to be open during lectures if you are making notes regarding lecture materials. If personal devices are clearly being used for non-class purposes, students will be asked to stop this disrespectful behaviour or leave the class. Electronic devices of any type **WILL NOT** be allowed during examinations.

### **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 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/>