

**Western University
School of Health Studies**

Health Sciences 3704B – Population Aging and Health

Instructor: Ivan Culum
Email: iculum@uwo.ca
Office: Elborn College, Room 1424
Office Hours: By Appointment

TA: Julie Statler
Email: jstatler@uwo.ca

Lecture Times: Wednesdays 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM
Location: Health Sciences Building – Room 35

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

Prerequisite(s): Health Sciences 2711 A/B.

Please ensure that you have either the requisites for this course or special, written permission for the School of Health studies, or you risk being removed from the course. As this decision may not be appealed, and there are no course fee adjustments in case of such an event, please exercise due diligence.

Course Description

Responding to the health needs of an aging population, this course will examine global aging and investigate issues unique to aging populations. Topics include demographic and population trends, global burden of disease, evolving models of care, contextual factors such as the environment, health system design and capacity, community aging, and health policy considerations driven by an aging population.

Course Format

In this course, a variety of activities are used, including:

- Traditional didactic teaching (a.k.a. lecturing);
- Individual and small group activities;
- Collaborative assignment.

Students are encouraged to arrive to class having completed the required readings and other relevant material, as these serve as a foundation for in-class activities.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify causes of population health, both at the national and international level
- Identify the relationship between population health and health policy;
- Identify the unique health care needs of an aging population and critically examine how prepared health care systems are to address those needs;
- Understand the consequences of social policies and programs on older adults and their families;
- Compare perspectives on health care delivery through different critical lenses.

Course Materials

Rowland, D. T. Population Aging: The Transformation of Societies (2012). Dordrecht: Springer Netherlands, 300 pages.

This textbook is available in electronic format (PDF, EPUB) through [Western Libraries](#). You do not need to purchase a copy.

Additional readings will be posted in OWL.

OWL – The Online Classroom

The OWL website is used for posting assigned readings and any other relevant course materials. Additionally, it will be used for posting course-related questions and facilitating group discussion.

Please note that course's OWL page is a private, secure forum for class discussion. Please do not record nor distribute any of the content publicly (i.e. social networking sites) as this may represent a breach of copyright and privacy regulations.

In case of technical difficulties with OWL, please contact Instructional Technology Services (ITS) at (519) 661-3800. Please obtain a Problem Report Number to provide to the course instructor.

Learning Environment

This course experience will function according to the assumption that successful learning happens in environments where learning is a shared experience between the instructor and the student, as well as among students themselves.

As the instructor, I strive to provide students with classes that are engaging, motivating, and interesting. In return, I expect students to attend classes and to contribute positively

to the collaborative nature of the learning experience through their active participation in discussions, by completing the assigned readings, and by offering constructive feedback.

Course Evaluation

- Mid-term Examination – **30%**
- Short Paper – **20%**
- Online Discussion – **10%**
- Final Examination – **40%**

Mid-term Examination (30%)

The mid-term examination may be comprised of multiple choice questions and short answer questions. No notes or other study aids are permitted during examination. This exam covers material from weeks 1-6.

Use of Electronic Devices during Examinations:

Unless you have medical reasons (supported by required documentation) that require you to do so, you may not use any electronic devices during the examinations.

Short Paper (20%, due by 03/29)

You are required to write a short paper (5 pages, excluding references) in which you will present a problem/issue faced by an aging population. You are responsible for identifying a problem. You will submit a brief topic summary (3-4 sentences) by week 4 (02/01). This summary is not graded – the purpose of this summary is to make sure that you are on the right track for your paper. This is a required component. Failure to submit a summary will not result in a direct penalty, but you will not receive feedback on the appropriateness of your selected topic which may indirectly affect your overall paper grade. You are permitted to change your topic, and I encourage you to talk to me prior to making a change.

Once you have selected your topic, you will be responsible for presenting the selected problem/issue, explaining how it is (or is not) currently being addressed (status quo), as well as your proposed solution. This assignment will be explained in greater detail in class.

The paper should be formatted using the APA Style Manual, 6th Edition.

Online Discussion (10%)

You are required to discuss topics from readings and/or lecture on the forums within our course OWL page.

Your original posts should feature something that is of interest to you from the readings or the lecture. You will then offer your own insights and relate your topic to your own life. Your posts should not be longer than 250 words (1 double-spaced page). Your posts are due by 8:30 AM each Wednesday (whenever applicable) and are to cover materials from the PREVIOUS WEEK (i.e. week 1 is to be discussed during week 2).

You are encouraged to post questions and responses to other forum posts. While you will not receive a grade for doing so, increased forum participation will positively contribute to your learning experience and you may perform better on your exams.

Each discussion week is worth 1% of your final grade.

Final Examination (40%)

The final examination may be comprised of multiple choice questions and short answer questions. No notes or other study aids are permitted during examination. The final exam is NOT cumulative, and covers material from weeks 8-13.

Lecture and Reading* Schedule

WEEK	DATES	TOPIC	READING
1	01/11	Population Aging	Part 1, Ch. 1-3
2	01/18	Determinants of Longevity	Part 1, Ch. 4-5
3	01/25	Chronic Illness	OWL
4	02/01	Dementia	OWL
5	02/08	Caregiver Burden	Part 2, Ch. 8, 9
6	02/15	Midterm Examination	OWL
7	02/22	No Lecture (Reading Week)	N/A
8	03/01	Health Policy	Part 3, Ch. 12, 13
9	03/08	Aging Prospects	Part 3, Ch. 16, 17
10	03/15	Home Care	OWL
11	03/22	Long-term Care	OWL
12	03/29	Community Aging	OWL
13	04/05	Synthesis and Review	OWL

** Please note that there may be additional assigned readings in OWL. Additionally, please check OWL regularly as the assigned readings are subject to change.*

Missed Due Dates & Makeup Examinations

You must have a valid medical or compassionate reason for missing the scheduled due dates for any of the required submissions or exams. Any documentation regarding missed deadlines or absence from examinations must be filed with the main office of the School of Health Studies. Please refer to the relevant section of this syllabus (Additional Statements) concerning acceptable documentation for further information. Retroactive

assignment and/or exam accommodations are generally not given, so please ensure that you submit your documentation PRIOR to the deadline.

The penalty for late submissions (without valid reason, as stated above) of the term paper is 10% deduction per day, up to 5 **calendar** days. Later submissions will not be accepted and will receive a grade of zero.

General Course Notes

Course Website

Other than the required textbook, the course website will be your source for any required resources (including a copy of this syllabus). The course website is to be used to submit all of the course assignments. Due to privacy regulations, grades will only be provided to you through the course website. No exceptions to this can be made under any circumstance.

Email

Please use email instead of the OWL messaging option for all content-related questions. I am not notified when an OWL message arrives unless you check the appropriate option when sending the message. If you have an emergency or wish to see me outside of class hours, please use your UWO email address for all correspondence regarding this matter. The University's "Spam Trap" often rejects email from Gmail, Outlook, Yahoo, and other public email addresses. As such, there is no guarantee that I will receive any emails sent from a public email service.

Lecture Attendance

You are encouraged to attend every lecture, as some material covered during lectures may not be featured in the readings.

Eating and Drinking in Class

Out of respect and consideration for your fellow students, please refrain from eating during class. Beverages in a lidded container are acceptable.

Grade Adjustments

Final grades in this course will be rounded down to the closest integer. I will not, under any circumstances, round up your grade (i.e., to facilitate professional school applications). This includes grades that end in a "9". Assignments and exams will not be re-weighed.

Use of Personal Communication Devices

Please be respectful of your fellow classmates' time and effort and turn off any audible notifications (including loud vibrate-only function). If you must use any of these devices, please do so discreetly. No such devices are permitted during examination.

Use of Laptops/Tablets During Class

The same guidelines apply here as with personal communication devices. Please use your laptop/tablet in a manner that is not disruptive to the class.

Recording Lectures

You are not permitted to create any audio or video recordings of the lecture proceedings.

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.

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/pdf/board/code.pdf>.

English Proficiency for the Assignment of Grades

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/english.pdf.

Accommodation for Medical Illness or Non-Medical Absences

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/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 Western University 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 here:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform_15JUN.pdf.

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/pdf/academic_policies/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.

Special Notes

Support Services

There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:

- Student Development Centre -- <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/>
- Student Health -- <http://www.shs.uwo.ca/student/studenthealthservices.html>
- Registrar's Office -- <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>
- Ombudsperson Office -- <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>

Your Mental Health and Wellbeing

I realize that there may be significant life events and/or obstacles that are ongoing or that may present suddenly during the term that may not be covered under the university policy for medical accommodations (please see below). However, Western University has excellent Mental Health and Wellbeing services available for students in need of additional guidance and support in this area. Your health is important to me, and I encourage everyone to reach out if you need any assistance.

Please see Western's Health and Wellness information webpage if you desire more information on this topic. You may visit it by following the link below:

http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/index.html

Immediate help in the event of a crisis is available by phoning (519) 661-3030 (during class hours) or (519) 433-2023 (after class hours and on weekends).
--

Student Development Centre (SDC) Learning Skills Services:

Learning Skills counselors are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall and Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counseling. They may be found in WSS Rm 4100, or at

<http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/learning>.