

Western University
School of Health Studies

Health Sciences 3240B
Special Topics in Health Promotion: Environmental Health

Winter 2021 - Instructor: Dr. Denise Grafton

Lectures: Monday, 2:30pm-4:30pm & one additional ASYNCHRONOUS hour (3 hours total)

Location: Remote/On-Line

Email: dgrafton@uwo.ca Phone: x64443

Office Hours: TBA in OWL

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 anti-requisites please visit www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca.

Prerequisites: Health Sciences 2250A/B

Antirequisites: The former Health Sciences 3290A/B if taken in 2015, 2016 or 2019

Course Description:

Health promotion has an important role to play in addressing the complex array of environmental threats that are affecting human health and the wellbeing of our planet. Starting from this insight, this course looks at the interface between the fields of environmental health and health promotion to explore the theory and practice of environmental health promotion in its current context. Howze et al. define environmental health promotion as “any planned process employing comprehensive health promotion approaches to assess, correct, control, and prevent those factors in the environment that can potentially harm the health and quality of life of present and future generations” (2004: p. 429).

The course introduces students to key concepts and theories used in the practice of environmental health promotion. It explores contemporary strategies to address issues such as air pollution, water quality and scarcity, weak food systems, vector-borne illness, disaster preparedness, environmental injustice and climate change using the tools of health promotion. Given the globalized scope of the topic, cases are drawn from a variety of local, national and international settings. The intervention strategies studied utilize diverse forms of health promotion practice, including health communication and education, community capacity building, advocacy and policy making. The course employs a range of learning tools, including lectures, facilitated discussion and multimedia resources. Students will also have the opportunity to engage directly with expert practitioners in the field through a community-engaged learning project done in collaboration with environmental organizations in London. 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.

Course Objectives:

1. To understand key concepts and theories relevant to environmental health promotion.
2. To build students' knowledge around the use of diverse health promotion strategies (e.g. health education, community capacity building) to address environmental threats.
3. To learn about how environmental health interventions are designed, implemented and evaluated through participation in a community engaged learning project

Course Materials

Materials for this course consist of weekly readings posted on OWL.

Class Schedule and Format:

Classes will be a mixture of lecture, on-line discussion and guest speakers where appropriate. Students are responsible for assigned readings and should be prepared to discuss them in class. Attendance and participation in class is expected. Students are encouraged to be actively engaged in class discussions 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 discussion. Students are encouraged to bring a computer/tablet to class because there will be information retrieval exercises during the class time.

Please note This is a Community-Engaged Learning (CEL) class, thus, students enrolled in this course **MUST** participate in a CEL project.

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.

PLEASE REFER TO "IMPORTANT DATES" on the next page for due dates!

Evaluation:

Mid-term Exam (in class) – 20%

Community Engaged Learning Project – 60%: The 60% portion of the grade assessment assigned for this part of the course will be further broken down into smaller sub-components as follows:

20%	CEL project report	10%	CEL presentation
20%	CEL deliverables	5%	Supervisor Evaluation
5%	Mid-term Reflection		

Final Summative Timed project – 20%. Date & time will be determined by the Registrar's office.

***Further details & information about CEL project requirements can be found in OWL**

Important Dates:

No lectures/classes will be held:

- On scheduled CEL project class days/tutorial days (non CEL) – please see the OWL calendar
- Winter Reading week: February 15-21, 2021

At least 15% of the final grade will be returned to students by March 9, 2021

First day of class: January 11, 2021

Mid-term exam: February 22, 2021

Mid-term Reflection due (CEL): February 28, 2021

CEL final project due date for all students and all components (CEL or non-CEL) is April 12, 2021 - **presentations, where applicable, will take place virtually, and will take place during the last two-three weeks of the course, depending on the number of projects (March 29th, April 5th, and April 12th, 2021).**

a) Mid-term exam (20%) – Monday, February 22, 2021

There will be a mid-term examination in class on Monday, February 22, lasting 100 minutes & covering all material discussed in the course (including online material provided) up to and including the week of February 8th. The format of the examination will be a combination of multiple choice questions, short written answers and application questions. The exam will be held online and during the regularly scheduled class time.

b) Community Engaged Learning (CEL) Project (60% - Groups of approximately 5 students based on interest)

The purpose of this assignment is to provide students with the opportunity to partner directly with London-based organizations in order to apply their learning related to environmental health promotion. Students will work in teams and will be linked directly to partners to produce one agreed upon deliverable (e.g. a Public Service Announcement, a grant application, etc.). Teams will be expected to share their experience and learning with the rest of the class through a group presentation near the end of the term. Some time for groups to meet and work on their projects will be provided in class throughout the semester. The 60% portion of the grade assessment assigned for this part of the course will be further broken down into smaller sub-components. A more detailed description will be explained in class and will also be available in the Assignments folder on OWL in early January.

Due to the plethora of available projects this semester (many CEL courses are not running, so we have many exciting projects lined up!), **participation in a CEL project is a mandatory component of the course.**

c) Final Exam (20%) – 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 April 2021.

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	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work that is clearly 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

It is expected that the grades for this course will fall between **74% and 78%**. In the event that the course average falls outside this range, a constant may be added (or subtracted) from each student's grade, by the instructor, to bring the class average in line with school policy.

Lecture presentations for this course will be recorded. The data captured during these recordings may include your image, voice recordings, chat logs and personal identifiers (name displayed on the screen). The recordings will be used for educational purposes related to this course, including evaluations. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals under special circumstances. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings.

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation, or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor.

Policies:*Pre-requisite 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

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. Late assignments without documentation will be accepted, however a late penalty will be applied: 5% for the first day and 10% for every subsequent day; assignments will not be accepted one week after the due date.

Electronic devices

During Lectures and Tutorials: Although you are welcome to use a computer during lecture and tutorial periods, you are expected to use the computer for scholastic purposes only, and refrain from engaging in any activities that may distract other students from learning. From time to time, your professor may ask the class to turn off all computers, to facilitate learning or discussion of the material presented in a particular class. Unless explicitly noted otherwise, you may not make audio or video recordings of lectures – nor may you edit, re-use, distribute, or re-broadcast any of the material posted to the course website.

During Exams: Unless you have medical accommodations that require you to do so, or explicit permission from the instructor of the course, you may not use any of the following electronic devices during ANY of the tests, quizzes, midterms, examinations, or other in-class evaluations: cellphones, smart phones, smart watches, smart glasses, audio players or recorders of any sort, video cameras, video games, DVD players, televisions, laptop/notebook/netbook computers, flashlights or laser pointers.

Use of Plagiarism Detection software: 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>)

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

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

Accommodation for Medical Illness or Non-Medical Absences

<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg117.html>

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by extenuating circumstances, including short-term illness or injury. Reasonable academic consideration is a cooperative process between the University, the student, and academic staff. All participants in the process must act in good faith, and fulfill their respective obligations, if it is to succeed.

Students who experience an extenuating circumstance (illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstance) sufficiently significant as to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements, may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

- (i) Submitting a Self-Reported Absence form, provided that the conditions for submission are met;
- (ii) For medical absences, submitting a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner, in order to be eligible for Academic Consideration; or
- (iii) For non-medical absences, submitting appropriate documentation (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration, in order to be eligible for academic consideration.

Students seeking academic consideration:

- Are advised to consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying handing in work;
- Are encouraged to make appropriate decisions, based on their specific circumstances, recognizing that minor ailments (e.g., upset stomach) or upsets (e.g., argument with a friend) are not normally an appropriate basis for a self-reported absence;
- Must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by either the self-reported absence or SMC, or immediately upon their return following a documented absence;
- Are advised that all necessary documentation, forms, etc. are to be submitted to academic counselling within two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance (48 hours or less) that is sufficiently severe as to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements (e.g., attending lectures or labs, writing tests or midterm exams, completing and submitting assignments, participating in presentations) should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours or less. The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

- a) Students will be allowed a maximum of two self-reported absences between September and April, and one self-reported absence between May and August;
- b) The duration of the excused absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30pm;
- c) The duration of the excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period, should the student undertake significant academic responsibilities (e.g., write a test, submit a paper) during that time;
- d) The duration of an excused absence will terminate at 8:30am on the day following the last day of classes each semester, regardless of how many days of absence have elapsed;
- e) Self-reported absences will not be allowed for scheduled final examinations; for midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations (i.e., “bellringers”);

- f) Self-reporting may not be used for assessments (e.g., midterm exams, tests, reports, presentations, or essays) worth more than 30% of any given course;
- g) Students must be in touch with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic expectations they may have missed

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.

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/>
2. Student Health – <http://www.uwo.ca/health/services/students/index.html>
3. Registrar’s Office -- <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>
4. Ombuds Office -- <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>

As part of a successful undergraduate experience at Western, we encourage you to make your health and wellness a priority. Western provides several on-campus health-related services to help you achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing your degree. For example, to support physical activity, all students receive membership in Western’s Campus Recreation Centre as part of their registration fees. Numerous cultural events are offered throughout the year. Please check out the Faculty of Music web page (<http://www.music.uwo.ca/>), or the McIntosh Gallery (<http://www.mcintoshgallery.ca/>). Further information regarding health and wellness-related services available to students may be found at <http://www.health.uwo.ca>.

If you are in emotional or mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. To help you learn more about mental health, Western has developed an interactive mental health learning module, found here: https://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/education/module.html.

Rounding of Grades (for example, bumping a 79 to 80%)

This is a practice some students request. This practice will not occur here. Assignments have been carefully designed to be clear and fair. Please do not ask the Course Instructor or Teaching Assistants to do this for you.

Attendance and Classroom Behaviour (online and/or in-person)

In the School of Health Studies, each course instructor sets specific expectations for attendance and participation that are specific to the course, teaching objectives, and learning outcomes. Regular attendance is expected and essential for all courses, but particularly those that include participation grades in their evaluation schemes. Participation means not only attendance, but active engagement in the class, including (for example) contribution to small and large group discussions, a demonstrated effort to prepare for class by completing assigned readings before class, and following the instructor's guidelines for use of electronic devices during class time. Students who miss classes, or parts of classes, are responsible for the material they have missed. Instructors are not obliged to review the contents of missed lectures.

Use of Recording Devices and Course Content

Course instructors own and retain the intellectual property rights of their teaching materials. These rights extend to materials used in online settings and digital learning management systems like Owl, Zoom and TopHat. Students do not have our permission to make audio or video recordings of lectures, take pictures of lecture material, or distribute any course content for nefarious purposes (E.g. for sale or to cheat on exams). It is the decision of the instructor as to how and when teaching materials can be shared or used. Unless explicitly noted otherwise, you may not make audio or video recordings of pre-recorded lectures or other course materials. Nor may you edit, re-use, distribute, or re-broadcast any of the material posted to the course website.

Health and Wellness

The undergraduate experience is rewarding and challenging socially, emotionally, and intellectually. Finding ways to balance scholarly life with our personal lives can be tough, but it's important to learn how to manage stress. Western provides several health and wellness-related services to students, which may be found at <http://www.health.uwo.ca/>. You can also check out the Campus Recreation Centre or the McIntosh Gallery (<http://www.mcintoshgallery.ca/>), for alternative spaces to reconnect with your bodies and restore your spirit. You may also want to access local resources that are closer to where you are living during the school year. Recalibrating ourselves emotionally begins with slowing down, reminding ourselves that we are ok, and taking a few deep, slow breaths. This remarkably effective strategy brings the body from stress mode into a more relaxed state.

If you are in emotional or mental distress please see Mental Health@Western (<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/>) for a list of options about how to obtain help. Western has developed an interactive mental health learning module: https://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/education/module.html. It's also advisable to have a wellness safety plan if you don't want to reach out to formal services. Having the numbers of a few trusted individuals is another strategy.

Intellectual Property

The educational materials developed for this course, including, but not limited to, lecture notes and slides, handout materials, examinations and assignments, and any materials posted to OWL, are the intellectual property of the course instructor. These materials have been developed for student use only and they are not intended for wider dissemination and/or communication outside of a given course. Posting or providing unauthorized audio, video, or textual material of lecture content to third-party websites violates an instructor's intellectual property rights and the Canadian Copyright Act. Recording lectures in any way is prohibited in this course unless specific permission has been granted by the instructor. Participation in this course constitutes an agreement by all parties to abide by the relevant University Policies, and to respect the intellectual property of others during and after their association with Western University.