

HS4400B

Advanced Health Policy

University of Western Ontario
School of Health Studies

Winter 2023

Course Information

Lectures: Tuesdays, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Tutorial Time: 1 hour/week online

Location: UCC-67

Instructor: Regina Clara, MBA

Email: rclara2@uwo.ca

Office Hours: by appointment

TA: Benson Ka Long Law

TA Email: Blaw26@uwo.ca

Course Objectives

This course is an invitation to examine common methods and tools for analyzing health policy and to critically analyze current pressing Canadian health issues. Course materials and presentations will provide an opportunity to review policy development, analysis and outcome processes.

This course will consist primarily of lectures and case studies. Students are responsible for all assigned readings. At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- a. Define key terms in health policy analysis;
- b. Describe common methods and tools for health policy analysis;
- c. Understand the political, social, economic, ethical, and legal dimensions of health policy and health policy analysis;
- d. Critically reflect upon contemporary health policy issues.

Prerequisites

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

Required Course Materials

Required: Deber, R. and Mah, C. (2014). Case Studies in Canadian Health Policy and Management, 2nd edition. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

*available in hard copy format from the UWO Bookstore, or you have the option of purchasing an e-book directly from the publisher at: <https://utorontopress.com/ca/case-studies-in-canadian-health-policy-and-management-second-edition-4>

Additional required readings and resources may be posted on OWL on a weekly basis. Students are responsible for all assigned readings.

Class Schedule:

Each week there will be one two-hour lecture and one discussion online hour. Students will be responsible for assigned readings and should be prepared to use that information in discussion groups. The course will include lectures, student-facilitated presentations and online discussions. Please see time table below for reference:

Week No.	Date	Topic
1	January 10	Introduction
2	January 17	Health policy analysis: An overview
3	January 24	Health policy analysis (2)
4	January 31	Case study Demo
5	February 7	-Health policy change, careers in health policy, legal and ethical implications in health policy -Case Study Demo
6	February 14	Mid Term Exam
7	February 21 (Feb 18-26)	Reading week – No classes
8	February 28	Student presentations (Final Paper Outline Due)
9	March 7	Student presentations
10	March 14	Student presentations
11	March 21	Student presentations
12	March 28	Student presentations
13	April 4	Student presentations (Final Report Due)

Important Dates:

- No lectures/classes will be held: Winter reading week - February 18-26, 2023
- At least 15% of the final grade will be returned to students by March 2, 2023
- First day of class: January 10, 2023
- Mid-term examination: February 14, 2023
- Outline for the final paper due February 28, 2023
- Final Report Due: April 4, 2023

Evaluation

Further details will be available on the course site in OWL:

- Mid-term examination (**30%**) – February 14, 2023 from 5:30PM – 7:30 PM. There will be a mid-term examination in class on February 14, 2023 lasting 90 minutes & covering all material discussed in the course and discussions up to and including February 7, 2023. The format of the examination will be multiple choice and short answers.
- Students will prepare and submit a 2-page outline of the course’s final paper in order to get approval of the health policy to be analyzed (**5%** of overall grade). Due date on February 28, 2023.
- Class presentations will represent **35%** of your grade
- Student online discussions will be **5%** of your grade
- The final report will be **25%** of your total grade. Due date on April 4, 2023.

Participation

Students are expected to participate in both in-class and online discussions. Students presenting will post three questions about their policy topic 24 hours PRIOR to the session so that other students will have time to review them.

Persistent absenteeism may have serious repercussions and may result in you failing this course. In this course, the equivalent of 3 weeks of unexcused absences, per term, will be considered to be persistent absenteeism. Persistent absenteeism may result in you being contacted by the instructor, who may request a meeting.

Group presentation

Students will present on a topic from our textbook and facilitate subsequent discussion both in- person and in the online discussions. The length of presentations and size of groups will depend on course enrollment. Further instructions and a rubric for evaluation will be disseminated in the first few weeks of the course.

Outline of final paper

Students will prepare and submit a 2-page outline of the course’s final paper in order to get approval of the health policy to be analyzed. Further instructions and a rubric for evaluation will be disseminated in the first few weeks of the course.

Final policy analysis paper

Students will choose an instance of policy change in an area of health that is of interest to them, analyze the policy change process using theories of policy change, and explain why that policy change occurred. This assignment will be completed in groups. Further instructions and a rubric for evaluation will be disseminated in the first few weeks of the course.

There will be no final exam.

Extensions and late assignments

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.

Recording

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.

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.

Grading

The university-wide descriptor of the meaning of letter grades, as approved by Senate:

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 74-80. 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.

Common Concerns Guidelines:

Concern	How to address concern
Course administrative matters	Review Course outline and relevant pages in OWL.

Course content questions	All questions related to content should be posted to the OWL discussion board. Post your question to the bulletin board. Question of a personal nature can be sent to your instructor directly.
Grade disputes and requests for appeals	A student requesting an appeal to a specific course with respect to a grade for an assignment or examination must first contact their instructor to discuss such matters. Visit the following website for guide on submitting an appeal: https://uwo.ca/fhs/policies/appeals.html

Contingencies for In-Person Classes Pivoting to Online Learning

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will not change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

Electronic Devices

During Lectures and Discussions: Although you are welcome to use a computer during lecture and discussion 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.

Scholastic offences

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>)

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 Web site: Academic Calendar - Western University (uwo.ca)

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) 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
- (ii) 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 the 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

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. Ombudsperson Office -- <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>

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 should refer to Mental Health@Western [Mental Health Support - Health & Wellness - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help or Thames Valley Family Services (<https://www.familyservicethamesvalley.com/>), a trusted provider within the community.

To help you learn more about mental health, Western has developed an interactive mental health learning module, found here: [Health & Wellness - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#). 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.