HS4400B – Advanced Health Policy

HS4400B Advanced Health Policy
Western University
School of Health Studies

Winter 2024

Course Information

Lecture:
Tutorial Time:
Location:

Instructor: Dr. Danielle Fearon
Email: dfearon@uwo.ca
Office Hours: by appointment only

TA:
TA Email:

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:

- Define key terms in health policy analysis;
- Describe common methods and tools for health policy analysis;
- Understand the political, social, economic, ethical, and legal dimensions of health policy and health policy analysis;
- 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**


*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 will be posted on OWL on a weekly basis. Students are responsible for all assigned readings.*

**Grade Breakdown**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities and Assignments</th>
<th>Weight (%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Week of February 10th (In class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-page Final Paper Outline</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Week of February 24th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Discussions</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Week 3: January 20th (5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Week 12: March 24th (5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class presentation</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>Scheduled between Weeks 8 to 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Report</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Week of March 31st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Opportunities to demonstrate learning:**

1. **Mid-term exam**
   a. The mid-term examination (25%) will be held during scheduled class time on the week of February 10th, lasting 90 minutes and covering all material discussed in the course up to and including February 10th, 2025. The exam will consist of multiple-choice questions and short answers.

2. **2-page Final Paper Outline**
   a. Students will prepare and submit on OWL a 2-page outline of the course’s final paper for approval of a health policy topic to be analyzed.
   b. Further instructions and a rubric for evaluation will be provided in the first few weeks of the course.

3. **Online Discussions/Participation**
   a. The purpose of these reflections are to demonstrate your critical thinking, and ability to apply knowledge of the healthcare systems. You will be asked to reflect on course content using the dedicated discussion board twice during the course (Week 3 and Week 12). Write a response to the reflection prompt that is between 200 to 500 words.
   b. 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.

4. **Group presentation**
   a. 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.

5. **Final Report**
   a. 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 is no final exam for this course

**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 timetable below for reference:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>January 6</td>
<td>Introduction &amp; Syllabus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>January 13</td>
<td>Health Policy: An overview</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>January 20</td>
<td>Health Policy: Canadian System</td>
<td>Online discussion, board responses due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>January 27</td>
<td>Health Policy Processes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>February 3</td>
<td>Policy Changes, Implications of Health Policy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>February 10</td>
<td>Mid Term Exam</td>
<td>*Including Course Content from Weeks 2-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>February 17</td>
<td>READING WEEK</td>
<td>No classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>February 24</td>
<td>2-pg, Final Paper Outline Due</td>
<td>Student presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>March 3</td>
<td>Student presentations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>Student presentations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>March 17</td>
<td>Student presentations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>March 24</td>
<td>Student presentations</td>
<td>Online discussion, board responses due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>Shaping the Future of Health Policy</td>
<td>Final Report Due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*No classes will be held during the Winter reading week (Feb 15-23)*
Policies
All policies related to assignments are in the Undergraduate Programs Manual on the Western web site at owl.uwo.ca. Please read the policies on Accommodation for Medical Illness-Undergraduate Students and Student Medical Certificate.

Scholarly Requirements
In this program, scholarly writing is a requirement. Therefore, all scholarly papers will follow the seventh edition of the Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (2020), which includes guidelines for both content and format. In addition, all other writing will follow APA (7th ed.) format when citing or referring to an author’s work or ideas. Failure to do so is unethical and is plagiarism.

Plagiarism
Student work is expected to be original. Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and could lead to a zero on the assignment in question, a zero in this course, or your expulsion from the nursing program. You are plagiarizing if you insert a phrase, sentence or paragraph taken directly from another author without acknowledging the work to belong to them. Similarly, you are plagiarizing if you paraphrase or summarize another author’s ideas without acknowledging that the ideas belong to someone else. You are self-plagiarizing when you reuse all or part of an assignment that you previously submitted. Students can not present their credited work as new scholarship. You may be asked to submit your work, at the discretion of the course instructor, to turnitin.com to verify originality (see 26 Undergraduate BScN Programs Manual 2013 - 2014 Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar or Fanshawe College Policy Manual).

Familiarize yourself with the policy as to what constitutes a Scholastic Offence: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

While use of AI-based content creating platforms (e.g., ChatGPT) can be useful to assist in information collection and problem-solving of complex scenarios, outputs generated from these platforms need to attributed in terms of direct citation/quote and referencing as per writing style (e.g., APA 7th), if used in assignments or course participation. In other words, AI-generated content, while interesting and potentially informative to assist in the refinement of ideas and insights, should not be used verbatim or suggested to be original content generated by student(s) for assignments in this course. If outputs from AI-based content creating platforms are used verbatim, they must be attributed and cited accordingly.

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.
Slip Day (Final Paper Outline and Final Paper)
For either the 2-page final outline, and the final paper ONLY, you may have ONE zero penalty 24-hour extension from the time of the original due date for use at your own discretion. For example, if the assignment is due on Monday XXXX at 11:55 pm, if you require academic consideration, your new assignment deadline would be Tuesday, XXXX at 11:55 pm. You are not required to email your course instructor in this course for a delayed submission of less than 24-hours. If you submit your work within 24-hours of the original due date, you will not have any grade deduction. The purpose of this specific course policy is to support students with unforeseen circumstances.

If unforeseen circumstances occur and last beyond 24-hours, and you have not consulted with your academic advisor for consideration, you will receive a late penalty applied to the date of the ORIGINAL deadline.

Please refer to the Undergraduate Programs Manual for additional information on penalties for late assignments, re-grading of assignments, and the protocol for missed mid-term.

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>Superior work that is clearly above average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>Good work, meeting all requirements and eminently satisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>Competent work, meeting requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>Fair work, minimally acceptable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 50</td>
<td>Fail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

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.

**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.

Land Acknowledgement
We are facilitating this course for an institution that is located in what is now known as the City of London. We acknowledge that Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak and Attawandaron peoples, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers. We acknowledge historical and ongoing injustices that Indigenous Peoples (e.g., First Nations, Métis, and Inuit) endure in Canada. We accept that as Registered Nurses and employee of a public institution, we have the responsibility to contribute toward revealing and correcting miseducation as well as renewing respectful relationships with Indigenous communities through our teaching, research, and community service.
Review of Graded Assignments

Further details about this process provided in ‘expanded description’

Return of graded assignment

Reflect for a minimum of 48 hours on feedback

Need help interpreting feedback? Submit written request to meet with original marker

Resolution reached?

YES
No further action

NO
Submit written request to meet with course professor

Resolution reached?

YES
No further action

NO
Launch Formal Appeal

Appeal granted

Grade may increase, stay the same, or decrease

Resolution reached?

YES
No further action

NO
Appeal denied

Appeal denied

No further action

OR

Proceed to next level of formal appeal