

GEOG 2430A – Public Health and Environment Course Outline: Section - Fall 2018

1. Course Information

1.1. Classroom Location:

Lecture:

Mondays 10:30am-12:30pm, SSC 2028

Tutorials:

Wednesdays, Section 002, 11:30am-12:30pm, SSC 3018

Wednesdays, Section 003, 12:30pm-1:30pm, SSC 3024

1.2. Contact Information:

Instructor: Isaac Luginah

Office: SSC 1409

Office Hours: 1-3pm or by appointment

Phone: 661-2111 x86944

Email: iluginah@uwo.ca

Teaching Assistants: Email and/or office hours are the best ways to contact your instructor and TAs

2. Calendar Description

2.1. Course Description

This course introduces students to current issues in health geography. Through case studies, students will learn the important role of geography in disease ecology and its role in explaining patterns of infectious, communicable, chronic diseases and mental health. The linkages between population, environment and health will also be introduced.

Prerequisite(s): 1.0 course from Geography 1100, 1300A/B, 1400F/G, 1500F/G, 2131A/B, 2153A/B; Health Sciences 1001A/B and Health Sciences 1002A/B; Sociology 1020, 1021E, 1025A/B, 1026F/G, 1027A/B or enrollment in the Major in Ecosystem Health or in any of the Global Development Studies modules, or permission of the instructor.

Prerequisite checking is the student's responsibility

2.2. Senate Regulations

Senate Regulations state, "unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will 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."

3. Textbook

Required text: Geographies of Health – An Introduction, 3rd Ed., by Anthony Gatrell and Susan Elliott (available at the Western bookstore)

In addition to the course text you will be asked to read various articles distributed in class/via Owl.

Check the lecture schedule for readings to be read prior to each class (i.e., the readings are the basis for lecture and tutorial discussion).

4. Course Objectives

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- (1) Identify and define the main geographical concepts related to the study of environment and health;
- (2) Select the appropriate concepts and methodologies for the study of the geography of health;
- (3) Communicate your ideas clearly and concisely in both verbal and written form

5. Course Structure

- History/concepts of (health) geography
- Health Transition
- Epidemiology: understanding the literature
- Health research methods
- Indigenous health
- Urban health
- People on the Move –Migration and Health
- Health Impacts Environmental Global Climate Change
- Emerging, Re-emerging, and Neglected Infectious Diseases
- Knowledge translation and health care

6. Evaluation

Evaluation Components	Percentage of Course Grade	Assignment Schedule
Assignment 1	15%	Due Oct 31
Assignment 2	15%	Due Dec 5
Mid-term Exam	20%	Oct 22
Tutorials/Participation	10%	tba
Final Exam	40%	tba

*For late assignments 10% will be deducted per day

Students are responsible for material covered in the lectures as well as the assigned chapters/sections in the text.

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

Grades will not be adjusted on the basis of need. It is important to monitor your performance in the course. Remember: *You* are responsible for your grades in this course.

7. Make-up Examinations

Makeups will be granted with approved documentation only. All documentation for missed exams must be provided the Academic Counselling Office and Instructor within 48 hours of the scheduled exam. For missed exams, you must take your documentation to Academic Counselling within 48 hours of the exam. Otherwise, the instructor will assign a grade of zero. The format and content of make-ups may differ substantially from the scheduled test or examination.

8. Use of Electronic Devices

No electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations. Mobile phones and any similar devices should be switched off during class. If you bring one to class, be sure to turn it off or you will be asked to leave. No electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations.

9. Academic 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 web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

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>).

10. Western's Commitment to Accessibility

The Department of Geography strives at all times to provide accessibility to all faculty, staff, students and visitors in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519-661-2147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website: www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html

More information about “Accessibility at Western” is available at: <http://accessibility.uwo.ca>

11. Medical Issues

The University recognizes that a student’s ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to:

https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf to read about the University’s policy on medical accommodation. This site provides links the necessary forms. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation should be requested. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once the instructor has made a decision about whether to grant an accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for tests, assignments, and exams.

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation:

http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html

12. Mental Health

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit the site below for more information on mental health resources: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/>.

13. Support Services

Student Support Services can be reached at: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Student Development Services can be reached at: <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

14. Lecture and Tutorial Schedule

14.1. Lecture Schedule

Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Readings
1	Sept 10	Course introduction History/concepts of (health) geography	Chapter 1
2	Sept 17	Geographical Perspectives	Chapter 2
3	Sept 24	Epidemiologic Designs/Health research methods	Oleckno, 2002 Chapter ¾; Assignment #1 issued
4	Oct 1	Health Transition	Martens, 2002
5	Oct 8	Thanksgiving Holiday – no class	
6	Oct 15	Indigenous health	tba
7	Oct 22	Mid-term test; in class	
8	Oct 29	Urban health	Galea and Vlahov, 2005
9	Nov 5	People on the Move –Migration and Health	Chapter 10; Assignment #2 issued

Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Readings
10	Nov 12	Health Impacts Environmental Global Climate Change	Chapters 12
11	Nov 19	Emerging, Re-emerging, and Neglected Infectious Diseases	Chapter 13
12	Nov 26	Knowledge translation and health care	
13	Dec 3	Course review	

14.2. Tutorial Schedule

Week	Date	Lecture Topic
1	Sep 12	No tutorial
2	Sep 19	Is there a role of “place” in health research
3	Sep 26	Methods debate
4	Oct 3	Assignment time
5	Oct 17	Why are some cities sick and other not?
6	Oct 24	Remedial help/test review time
8	Oct 31	Assignment 1 Due
9	Nov 7	Can policy address global environmental change issues? If so how? What is happening in Canada?
10	Nov 14	Assignment time
11	Nov 21	How can we minimize the emergence and re-emergence infectious diseases?
12	Nov 28	Remedial help
13	Dec 5	Remedial help; Assignment #2 Due

15. Important Dates

September 6: Classes resume

September 14: Last day to add a full course or a second term half course

October 8: Thanksgiving Holiday – Department Office Closed

October 9-13: Fall Reading Week (No classes; Department Office open)

November 12: Last day to drop a first term half course without penalty

November 30: Last day to drop a full course without academic penalty

December 7: Classes end

December 8 and 9: Study days

December 10-21: Examination Period

December 21: Fall term ends.