

GEOG 3431B – GEOGRAPHY OF HEALTH & HEALTH CARE

Course Outline: Winter 2022

1. Course Information



	Delivery Mode	Day/Time	Location
Lecture	In-person	Wednesdays 10:30am-12:30pm	
Lab	In-person	Thursdays, 12:30 – 1.30 pm	

*Details about design and delivery of the course are listed below in Section 5

Classes Start	Spring Reading Week	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
January 10	February 21-25	April 8	April 9	April 10-30

January 18, 2022: Last day to add a second-term half course

March 14, 2022: Last day to drop a second term half course without penalty



Course Instructor	Contact Information	Office	Office Hours
Isaac Luginaah	iluginaa@uwo.ca ; Phone: 519-661-2111 Ext - 86944	SSC 1409	Thursdays - 10.00-11.00 am or by appointment

Teaching Assistant(s)	Contact Information	Office	Office Hours
Evans Batung	ebatung@uwo.ca		

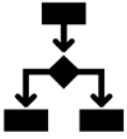
2. Calendar Description

2.1. Course Description

The aim of this course is to outline current theoretical and practice-based issues in the area of health and to understand the developing role geographers play in these areas. The course will focus on major themes in the geography of health and health care. It will introduce students to reading health research critically, and the changing concepts of health in the Canadian context. It will also explain and illustrate through case studies and examples, the geographical aspects chronic and mental health, health inequalities, health care provision and planning. Emphasis will be placed on the health of Canadians.

Prerequisite(s): Geography 2430A/B or a related 2000-level course in Health Sciences, Sociology or Psychology, or permission of the instructor.

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/Reading Material

- Text - None
- Readings –Will be placed on the course OWL website: <https://owl.uwo.ca/>
- All online readings can be accessed through Western’s Electronic journal sites.
- Please check the lecture schedule to find out what is to be read prior to each class (i.e., the readings are the basis for in-class discussion).

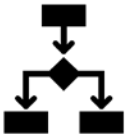
4. Course Objectives and Format

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

- (1) Critically appraise health research;
- (2) Describe the geographical aspect of the diffusion of disease;
- (3) Explain the sociocultural determinants of health in context;
- (4) Explain the challenges health care provision and health care planning in Canada.

Attendance is required

Missed work should be completed within 48 hours



All course material will be posted to OWL: <http://owl.uwo.ca>. Any changes will be indicated on the OWL site and discussed with the class.

Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox are the preferred browsers to optimally use OWL; update your browsers frequently. Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click [here](#). [Using the right browser is important, especially when using different features integrated with OWL]

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the OWL Help page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

5. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand how to read health research critically
- Describe the geographical aspects of disease diffusion.
- Know and understand the differences between the social science of health and the biomedical model of health
- Know and understand how the social context and other determinants affect health
- Understand the changing global context of public health.
- Know and understand the reasons for differences in health access and outcomes across social groups and classes.
- Understand the process of health care delivery and health care planning in Canada.
- Understand the changing and future directions of the geography of health.



6. Course Content and Schedule

Lecture Schedule

Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Readings
1	Jan 12	Introduction/ Reading Health Research Critically	Gatrell & Elliott, 2014 Chapter 1
	Jan 13	Reading Health Research Critically	DCEBMU 1981; Frank et al., 1987
2	Jan 19	Approaches and Theories – Biomedical Disease Model	None
	Jan 20	Approaches and Theories	Gatrell & Elliott, 2014 Chapter 2
3	Jan 26	Spatial Diffusion of Disease	Hagget, 1998 - Chapter 1 Movie: Infectious Diseases: More Mobility, Greater Danger
	Jan 27	Spatial Diffusion of Disease	Wallace and Wallace 1997
4	Feb 2	Spatial Diffusion of Disease	Movie: And the Band Played
	Feb 3		
5	Feb 9	Spatial Diffusion of Disease	None
	Feb 10		
6	Feb 16	Different/Changing Concepts of Health	Rootman & Raeburn 1994; White, 1981; Ottawa Charter 1986
	Feb 17	On Assignment 1 Due	
7	Feb 23	-	Evans et al .1994 - Introduction; Movie: How Economic Inequality Harms Societies
	Feb 24	-	
8	Mar 2	Determinants of the Health of Populations	
	Mar 3	Mid Term Exams	
9	Mar 9	Gender and Health	Denton & Walters 1999; Movie: The secret to living longer may be your social life https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ptlecdCZ3dg
	Mar 10		
10	Mar 16	Geography of Chronic Diseases	Soo et al., 2001
	Mar 17		
11	Mar 23	Geography of Mental Health	Giggs 1988; Holley 1998
	Mar 24		

Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Readings
12	Mar 30	Health Care System and Planning	Pamplalon et al. 1996; Movie: Canadian healthcare: Fact vs. fiction
	Mar 31		
13	Apr 6	Globalization and Health	Collins 2003
	Apr 7	Review, Assignment 2 Due	

Tutorial Schedule

Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Readings
1	Jan 12	See Lecture Schedule	Gatrell & Elliott, 2014 Chapter 1
	Jan 13	See Lecture Schedule	DCEBMU 1981
2	Jan 19	See Lecture Schedule	Frank et al., 1987
	Jan 20	See Lecture Schedule	Gatrell & Elliott, 2014 Chapter 2
3	Jan 26	See Lecture Schedule	Hagget, 1998 - Chapter 1
	Jan 27	See Lecture Schedule	Wallace and Wallace 1997
4	Feb 2	See Lecture Schedule	Rootman & Raeburn 1994
	Feb 3	Spatial Diffusion of Disease	Help Stop the Next Pandemic https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MNhiHf84P9c
5	Feb 9		
	Feb 10	Different/Changing Concepts of Health I	Rootman & Raeburn 1994
6	Feb 16		
	Feb 17	Assignment 1 Due Different/Changing Concepts of Health	Lalonde, 1974; Epp 1986: https://www.ted.com/talks/larry_brilliant_wants_to_stop_pandemics
7	Feb 23	-	
	Feb 24	-	Ben-Shlomo & Davey-Smith, 1997; Ross et al., 2004 Movie – "Unnatural Causes: Is Inequity Making Us Sick?"
8	Mar 2		
	Mar 3	Mid Term Exams	
9	Mar 9		
	Mar 10	Determinants of the Health of Populations	
10	Mar 16		
	Mar 17	Geography of Chronic Diseases	Green et al., 2003, Oyana et al., 2004
11	Mar 23		
	Mar 24	Geography of Mental Health	Knowles, 2000
12	Mar 30		
	Mar 31	Health Care System and Planning	Rosenberg 1988: Movie: Canadian Health Care: A Monopoly on Lives
13	Apr 6		
	Apr 7	Review, Assignment 2 Due	

7. Communication



- Students should check the OWL site every 24 – 48 hours
- Course updates will be provided on the OWL announcements
- For any other communication, the centrally administered **e-mail account** provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts [here](#).
- Emails will be monitored daily; students will receive a response in 24 – 48 hours

8. Evaluation

Below is the evaluation breakdown for the course. Any deviations will be communicated.

Evaluation Components*	Percentage of Course Grade	Due Date
Assignment 1	15%	February 17 2022
Mid-term Exams	25%	March, 3 2022
Assignment 2	15%	April 7, 2022
Lectures/Tutorials Participation	5%	-
Final Exams	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. Attendance will taken at random during lectures and tutorials, and these will be used to calculating participation marks.

- Rubrics will be used to evaluate assessments and will be posted with the instructions
- After an assessment is returned, students should wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting their evaluator; to ensure a timely response, reach out within 7 days

Click [here](#) for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning examinations and grading. The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which 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



Information about late or missed evaluations:

- Late assessments without illness self-reports will be subject to a late penalty 10%/day
- Late assessments with illness self-reports should be submitted within 24 hours of submission of the last illness self-report the class
- A make-up test will be offered

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.

9. Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

[Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence](#)

[Student Medical Certificate \(SMC\)](#)

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

10. Make-up Examinations

Makeups will be granted with approved documentation only. All documentation for missed exams must be provided to the Academic Counselling Office within 48 hours of the scheduled 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.

11. Use of Electronic Devices

No electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations.

12. How to Be Successful in this Class:

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.

1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the start of each week to get organized and manage your time.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
3. Follow weekly checklists created on OWL or create your own to help you stay on track.
4. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively.
5. Connect with others. Try forming a study group and try meeting on a weekly basis for study and peer support.
6. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact your instructor(s) and or teaching assistant(s).
7. Reward yourself for successes. It seems easier to motivate ourselves knowing that there is something waiting for us at the end of the task.



13. Continuity of Education Plan (in-person class pivoting to online learning)

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the university to direct courses move 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.

14. **Information on COVID-19**

Masking Guidelines

Students will be expected to wear triple layer, non-medical, paper masks at all times in the classroom as per University policy and public health directives. Students who are unable to wear a mask must seek formal accommodation through Western Accessible Education, and present medical documentation.

Students are not permitted to eat or drink while in class to ensure masks stay in place. Students will be able to eat and drink outside of the classroom during scheduled breaks.

Students unwilling to wear a mask as stipulated by Western policy and public health directives will be referred to the Dean, and such actions will be considered a violation of the student Code of Conduct.

Course Absences due to Daily COVID Screening Questionnaire

Missed assessments (e.g., presentations, essays, quizzes, tests, midterms, etc.) require formal academic considerations (typically self-reported absences and/or academic counselling).

Students who demonstrate a pattern of routinely missing coursework due to self-reported COVID symptoms, and therefore do not demonstrate mastery of the learning outcomes of the course, will not receive credit for the course.

15. **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.

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>).

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.

16. **Western's Commitment to Accessibility**

The Department of Geography and Environment 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.

More information about "[Accessibility at Western](#)" is available.

17. Mental Health

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit Western's [Health and Wellness website](#) for more information on mental health resources.

18. Support Services

[Western's Support Services](#)
[Student Development Centre](#)

19. Important Dates

January 10: Classes resume

January 18: Last day to add a second term half course

February 21: Family Day – Department Office Closed

February 21-25: Spring Reading Week (No classes; Department Office open)

March 14: Last day to drop a first term half course without penalty

April 8: Classes end

April 9: Study day

April 10-31: Examination Period (excluding Fri Apr 15 thru Sun Apr 17)