

The University of Western Ontario
School of Health Studies

Health Sciences HS4610
Professional Ethics

Winter 2018

Instructor: Dr. Ken Kirkwood
Email: kkirkwo2@uwo.ca (*check out my email policy in the policies below)
Office: Labatt HSB #211
Office Hours: TBA

Classes: Fridays: Fridays, 10:30-12:20, HSB-9

Tutorials: Thursdays, 9:30-10:30, HSB-11

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.

Antirequisite(s): none

Prerequisite(s): Health Sciences 2610F/G with a minimum mark of 75%.

Course Information

This course seeks to address a wide range of issues specifically related to professional ethics in the health sciences. The goals of this course are to raise student awareness of ethical issues, to increase the potential for ethical behaviour in the health sciences, and to develop skills that will guide ethical decision-making.

January 12: Introductions, expectations and syllabus review & questions

January 19: *#metoo* What is the boundary between personal and professional relationships?

January 26: Should we have absolute confidentiality in healthcare?

February 2: Playing the organ: Should we be forced to donate organs?

February 9: Should we ban trans fats?

February 16: Are students a vulnerable research population?

February 23: Reading Week

March 2: In-class presentations

March 9: In-class presentations

March 16: In-class presentations

March 23: In-class presentations

March 30: In-class presentations

April 6: In-class presentations

Course Materials

Links to relevant materials are provided on OWL.

Evaluations

- 1.) Outline (10%) – Due February 2nd
- 2.) Conference-style Presentation (35%) – Date TBD
- 3.) Final Essay (55%) – Due April 13th

Please note that the late penalty for the essay is a loss of 5% per day (without academic accommodation)

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

You may use electronic devices to capture video or still photography of your presentation in this class, but only with the explicit and informed consent of any person being photographed.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

Email Policy

I dedicate 1 hour each day (Monday to Friday) to answering only your emails (I will announce that time in class and on OWL). If you email me a question, you can expect a response during the next day's next email hour, but not before.

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/2017/pg117.html>

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required where a student is seeking academic accommodation. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician or walk-in clinic. An SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Documentation is required for non-medical absences where the course work missed is more than 10% of the overall grade. Students may contact their Faculty Academic Counselling Office for what documentation is needed.

Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner. Documentation for any request for accommodation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the appropriate Academic Counselling Office of the student's Faculty of registration. For BHSc students, you may go to the School of Health Studies Office in HSB room 222.

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/>