

Western University
Geography of Health and Healthcare: GEO 3431B
Course Outline, Winter 2017

Instructor: Sarah Mason-Renton
Email: smason27@uwo.ca

Office: SSC 1424
Lectures: Wed 10:30 – 12:30 SSC 2020

Office Hours: Wednesday 12:00 – 1:00, or by appointment

TA: TBA
Email:

Office:
Tutorials: Thurs 12:30 – 1:30 SSC 2020

Office Hours: TBA

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.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this course students will...

- 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
- 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.

READINGS:

Required readings will be posted on the course website. Please check the lecture schedule to find out what is to be read prior to each class (the readings are the basis for in-class discussion). Full reference details are included in the reading list section below.

ASSESSMENTS

Evaluation of your performance in the course will be based on the following:

Assignment 1 – Critical Appraisal of Scientific Evidence	(15%)	Feb 16, 2017
Midterm – Exams will be about ¼ multiple choice and ¾ short answer and essay questions	(25%)	March 2, 2017
Assignment 2 – Annotated Bibliography	(15%)	April 6, 2017
Class Participation	(5%)	
Final Examination – Exams will be about ¼ multiple choice and ¾ short answer and essay questions	(40%)	TBA

Assignments will be explained in greater detail in class. There will be a 5% per day late penalty for assignments submitted after the due date. The midterm exam will cover material from Jan 11 to February 15th. The final exam will be primarily weighted toward material covered in the second half of the semester. Each student must complete all course requirements to pass the course.

Students with special accommodation will write make-up tests and examinations administered by the department on Fridays during respective periods of fall and winter terms. To prevent prior disclosure, the format and contents of make-ups may differ substantially from the scheduled test or examination.

LECTURE SCHEDULE

The following is a tentative schedule for and outline of the topics that will be addressed in this course. The schedule may be altered due to unforeseen circumstances, permitted time, or students' interests. Please refer to the course website for posted announcements regarding schedule alterations. The instructor will continue lecturing during the scheduled 'tutorial' time for the first three weeks (beginning Jan 12, see lecture schedule for details). Tutorials will begin February 2nd (see tutorial schedule).

Week	Date	Topic/Lecture Information	Readings
1	Jan 11	Introduction/ Reading Health Research Critically	Gatrell & Elliott, 2014 Chapter 1
	Jan 12	Reading Health Research Critically	DCEBMU 1981; Frank et al., 1987
2	Jan 18	Approaches and Theories – Biomedical Disease Model	None
	Jan 19	Approaches and Theories	Gatrell & Elliott, 2014 Chapter 2
3	Jan 25	Spatial Diffusion of Disease	Hagget, 1998 - Chapter 1
	Jan 26	Spatial Diffusion of Disease	Wallace and Wallace 1997
4	Feb 1	Spatial Diffusion of Disease	Movie: And the Band Played On
	Feb 2		
5	Feb 8	Different/Changing Concepts of Health I	Rootman & Raeburn 1994
	Feb 9		

6	Feb 15	Different/Changing Concepts of Health II	White, 1981; Ottawa Charter 1986
	Feb 16	Assignment 1 Due	
7	Feb 22	Undergraduate Reading Week	
	Feb 23		
8	Mar 1	Determinants of the Health of Populations	Evans et al .1994 - Introduction; Movie: How Economic Inequality Harms Societies
	Mar 2	Mid Term Exams	None
9	Mar 8	Gender and Health	Denton & Walters 1999
	Mar 9		
10	Mar 15	Geography of Chronic Diseases	Soo et al., 2001
	Mar 16		
11	Mar 22	Geography of Mental Health	Giggs 1988; Holley 1998
	Mar 23		
12	Mar 29	Health Care System and Planning I	Pamplalon et al. 1996; Movie: Canadian healthcare: Fact vs. fiction
	Mar 30		
13	April 5	Health Care System and Planning II	Romanow 2004
	April 6	Globalization and Health Assignment 2 Due	Collins 2003

TUTORIAL SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Topic/Lecture Information	Readings
4	Feb 1		
	Feb 2	Assignment 1 Overview	
5	Feb 8		
	Feb 9	Different/Changing Concepts of Health Assignment 1 Help	Lalonde, 1974; Epp 1986
6	Feb 15		
	Feb 16	Determinants of the Health of Populations Assignment 1 Due	Ben-Shlomo & Davey-Smith,1997; Ross et al., 2004 Movie – "Unnatural Causes: Is Inequity Making Us Sick?"
7	Feb 22	Undergraduate Reading Week	
	Feb 23		
8	Mar 1		
	Mar 2	Mid Term Exams	
9	Mar 8		
	Mar 9	Geography of Chronic Diseases	Green et al., 2003, Oyana et al., 2004
10	Mar 15		
	Mar 16	Geography of Mental Health	Knowles, 2000
11	Mar 22		
	Mar 23	Assignment 2 Explained	
12	Mar 29		
	Mar 30	Health Care System and Planning II	Rosenberg 1988: Movie: Canadian Health Care: A Monopoly on Lives; Bryant 2003
13	April 5		
	April 6	Globalization and Health Assignment 2 Due	Collins 2003

READING LIST

Introduction

Gatrell, A. C. and Elliott, S. J. (2014) *Geographies of Health – An Introduction*. London: Blackwell, Chapter 1

Reading Health Research Critically

Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, McMaster University (DCEBMU) (1981). How to read clinical journals: IV to determine etiology or causation. *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, 124: 985-990.

Frank, J. W., Gibson, B. et al. (1987) *Information needs in epidemiology: detecting the health effects of environmental chemical exposure*. Toronto, Institute for Environmental Studies. University of Toronto.

Spatial Diffusion of Diseases

Hagget, P (1998) *The Geographical Structure of Epidemics*. Oxford: London. Chapter 1, 4

Wallace, R. & Wallace, D. (1997) Socioeconomic determinants of health: Community marginalization and the diffusion of disease and disorder in the United States. *British Medical Journal*, 314(7090), 1341-1345.

Different/Changing Concepts of Health

Rootman, I. & J. Raeburn (1994). The concept of health. *Health Promotion in Canada: Provincial, National and International Perspectives*. A. Pederson, Michael O' Neill and Irving Rootman. Toronto, W.B Saunders.

White, N. F. (1981). *Modern health concepts*. Toronto, T.V Ontario Publications.

Lalonde, M. (1974) *A New Perspective on the Health of Canadians* Ottawa: Health and Welfare Canada.
<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hppb/phdd/pube/perintrod.htm>

Epp, J. (1986) *Achieving Health For All: A Framework for Health Promotion*. Ottawa; Health and Welfare Canada.
http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/care/achieving_health.html

Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion. (1986) Ottawa: World Health Organization, Health and Welfare Canada, Canadian Public Health Association. <http://www.who.int/hpr/archive/docs/ottawa.html>

Determinants of the Health of Populations

Evans, R.G., Barer, M.L. and Marmor, T.R. (Eds) (1994) *Why are some people healthy and others not? The determinants of health of populations*. NY: Aldine De Gruyter. Introduction.

Ben-Shlomo, Y. & Davey-Smith, G. (1997) Inequalities in health: reasons and possible solutions. *Journal of Health Gain*, 2, 4-8.

Ross, N. A., Tremblay, S., Graham, K. (2004) Neighbourhood influences on health in Montreal, Canada. *Social Science & Medicine*, 59(7): 1485–1494. **Online** – Scholarsportal

Gender and Health

Matthews, S., Manor, O., Power, C. (1999) Social inequalities in health: are there gender differences? *Social Science & Medicine*. 48: 49-60. **Online** – Scholarsportal

Denton, M., Walters, V. (1999) Gender differences in structural and behavioral determinants of health: an analysis of the social production of health. *Social Science & Medicine*. 48: 1221-1235. **Online** – Scholarsportal

Geography of Chronic Diseases

Soo et al. (2001) Geographical distribution of cardiac arrest in Nottinghamshire. *Resuscitation*, 48: 137-147. **Online** - Scholarsportal

- Green et al. (2003) Geographic analysis of diabetes prevalence in an urban area. *Social Science and Medicine*, 57: 551-560. **Online** – Scholarsportal
- Oyana et al. (2004) Geographic clustering of adult asthma hospitalization and residential exposure to pollution at a United States-Canada Border crossing. *American Journal of Public Health*, 94(7): 1250-1257. **Online** – ProQuest or PROFESSIONAL or HIGHWIRE

Geography of Mental Health

- Giggs, J. (1988) The spatial ecology of mental illness. In Smith, C. and Giggs, J. (Eds.) *Location and Stigma*. Boston: Unwin Hyman, 103-33.
- Holley, H. L. (1998) Geography and mental health: a review. *Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr Epidemiol*, 33: 535-542.
- Knowles, C. (2000) Burger King, Dunkin Donuts and community mental health care. *Health and Place*, 6(3): 213-224. **Online** - Scholarsportal

Health Care System and Planning

- Rosenberg MW. (1988) Linking the geographical, the medical and the political in analysing health care delivery systems. *Social Science and Medicine*, 26(1): 179-186.
- Pampalon, R. et al. (1996) The selection of needs indicators for regional resource allocation in the fields of health and social services in Quebec. *Social Science & Medicine*, 42(6): 909-922. **Online** – Scholarsportal
- Bryant, T. (2003) A critical examination of the hospital restructuring process in Ontario, Canada. *Health Policy*, 64: 193-205. **Online** – Scholarsportal
- Romanow, R (2004) Sustaining Medicare: The Commission on the Future of Health Care in Canada. In Baylis et al (Eds). *Health Care Ethics in Canada* (pp. 79-100). Thompson & Nelson: Toronto.

Globalization, Climate Change and Health

- Collins, T. (2003) Globalization, global health, and access to healthcare. *International Journal of Health Planning and Management*, 18: 97–104. **Online** – Scholarsportal
- Haines, A. & Patz, J. A. (2007) Health Effects of Climate Change. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 291(1): 99-103.
- Lee, K. et al. (2003) Global change and health - the good, the bad and the evidence. *Global Change & Human Health*, 3(1): 16-19. **Online** – Scholarsportal

General Texts

- Gatrell, A.C. and Elliott, S. J. (2009) *Geographies of Health: An Introduction*. Blackwell, Oxford.
- Meade, M. S and Emch, M. (2010) *Medical Geography*. New York. Guilford.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

ACADEMIC OFFENSES

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

Plagiarism – Students must write their assignments in their own words. When an idea or a passage is used from another author, students must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes and citations. If you do not directly quote an author’s idea but you paraphrase it, quotations are not required, however proper referencing still is. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Academic Calendar).

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>).

SUPPORT SERVICES

If you or someone you know is experiencing emotional/mental distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit Mental Health at Western (<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

For additional support services, please visit:

Registrar Services: <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>.

Student Development Services: <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

ACCOMMODATION FOR MEDICAL ILLNESS

UWO Policy:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

NON-MEDICAL ACCOMMODATION

Students with conflicts during lectures, tutorials or exams should discuss these with the course instructor or TAs in advance of the absence.

Western Geography Undergraduate Advisor: Angelica Lucaci, alucaci@uwo.ca

