## **POLS 3353E**

## Security Studies: Theory & Governance

Huron University College Full Year Course 2020/21 Mondays: 10:30pm-12:30pm EDT (GMT -4) OWL ONLINE- DISTANCE DUE TO COVID-19

# Dr. Jennifer Mustapha

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**Course Prerequisites: - Political Science 2231E** 

#### **Required Texts and Materials:**

- TEXTBOOK- *Security: A Critical Introduction*, by Lee Jarvis and Jack Holland (2015) London: Palgrave MacMillan (ISBN: 9780230391956)
- All other required course materials are available through your access to the UWO library and through provided web links on OWL.

#### **Course Overview:**

This course offers an introduction to the field of Security Studies as well as a critical exploration of specific topics, debates, and issues in contemporary security theory and governance. "Traditional" approaches to security, preoccupied with military threats, steeped in the language of the Cold War, and grounded in a rigid understanding of the state have become less tenable in our current world. "Security" (and "insecurity") can mean many different things in a time of global pandemics, climate change, mass migration, economic and political upheaval, and new technologies. With this in mind, this course is concerned with basic questions around how security is understood and approached, as well as questions around the material practices and policies of security. What is "security"? Whose security are we concerned with? What are the politics of security? What do the politics of security foreclose and what do they make possible? In addressing such questions, this course will introduce the broad field of Security Studies and consider the always intimate relationships between theory and governance.



## **Learning Objectives:**

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate familiarity with the basic concepts and questions that animate the broad field of Security Studies.
- Demonstrate a critical understanding of the concept of "security" and, in particular, recognize that there are multiple ways of understanding and enacting "security."
- Demonstrate analytical and empirical knowledge of contemporary topics and issues in security; and material practices and policies of contemporary security governance.
- Demonstrate and convey these competencies in a clear, critical, and reflexive communication style.

**Assignments and Assessment:** Note: May be modified depending on class size etc.

Participation (2 term average): 10%
Module Reflections (2 term average): 10%
Discussion Prompt (T1): 10%
Peer Response (T1): 5%
Film Response/Think Piece (T1): 15%
Issue Presentation (T2): 20%
Capstone Research Proposal (T2): 5%
Capstone Research Essay (T2): 25%



## **Course Format and Expectations:**

This is an upper-level combined lecture/seminar course to be delivered online through *a combination of module learning items that you complete at your own pace, and weekly synchronous meetings that will take place during the scheduled class time.* Note that our weekly meetings will not be traditional lectures and we will be using the time differently depending on the module/week. **If you are in a different time zone or having tech issues, and not able to attend as scheduled, please reach out to me ASAP- doing so is your responsibility.** I am just an e-mail away! The course modules on my course website are meant to be explored in chronological sequence, and each include required readings and content for you to complete before moving on to the next module. These will include texts, mini lecture videos; slides; podcast/mp3s you can listen to on the go; and links to external resources or news items depending on the topic. You are always free to read/explore ahead, but keep in mind that our weekly meetings are a part of each corresponding module so you cannot complete a module without them. I will also be adding things to the modules as the weeks go by, depending on current events and the evolution of our course according to what we all contribute to it.

#### **Contacting me:**

The best way to contact me is through e-mail at <a href="mustap@uwo.ca">jmustap@uwo.ca</a> - During the week, I will try to respond within 24 hours, and on the weekends or over holidays within 48 hours. Due to privacy rules, you must e-mail me from your own uwo.ca e-mail account.

#### Success in this course:

If you attend meetings, engage with the assigned material, complete your assignments and participate in discussions and class activities you will be well equipped to achieve the learning objectives of the course and do well. The key though, is to stay on top of things. Familiarize yourself with the course structure on OWL and read the course outline and assignment info. Utilize your resources. Attend my scheduled office hours if you have questions or need course guidance.

# **Quick Index of Weeks and Topics**

Fall Term	
Dates	Week/Topic *weeks with discussion prompts/ peer responses
MODULE 1-	THE BASICS: WHAT IS SECURITY?
Sep. 14	W1. Course Overview and Introduction(s)
Sep. 21	W2. Security: What is it and how do we know?
Sep. 28	W3. "Referents" of Security: Who or what is security for?
MODULE 2-	SECURITY GOVERNANCE AND SECURITY KNOWLEDGE
Oct. 05	W4. *Security Organizations and Institutions
Oct. 12	(NO CLASS) Thanksgiving Monday
Oct. 19	W5. Security Scholarship: Power, Information and Authority
MODULE 3-	STORIES OF SECURITY- EMPIRE AND ORDER
Oct. 26	W6. *Conflict and Cooperation: Realist and Liberal Approaches
Nov. 02	(NO CLASS) Fall Reading Week
Nov. 09	W7. *Making the World: Social Constructivist Approaches
MODULE 4-	STORIES OF SECURITY- FREEDOM AND REVOLUTION
Nov. 16	W8. *People and Peace: Welsh School and Critical Approaches
Nov. 23	W9. *Discourses and Things: IPS Approaches
Nov. 30	W10. *Bodies and Borders: Feminist and Post-Colonial Approaches
FALL TERM WRAP UP	
Dec. 07	W11. Term Review (Film Response/Think Piece Due)
Winter Term	
Dates	Topic * weeks with student issue presentations
	THE CHANGING NATURE OF SECURITY GOVERNANCE
Jan. 04	W12. New wars and New Threats
Jan. 11	W13. New Security Actors I: PMCs and Defence Manufacturing Sector*
Jan. 18	
I MODIII F 6-	W14. New Security Actors II: Think Tanks, Civil Society, New Media*
	SPACES OF SECURITY - INSIDE/ OUTSIDE
Jan. 25	SPACES OF SECURITY - INSIDE/ OUTSIDE W15. Inside: Risk Society and "Homeland" Security*
Jan. 25 Feb. 01	SPACES OF SECURITY - INSIDE/OUTSIDE W15. Inside: Risk Society and "Homeland" Security* W16. Outside: Pre-emption and States of Exception*
Jan. 25 Feb. 01 MODULE 7-	SPACES OF SECURITY - INSIDE/ OUTSIDE W15. Inside: Risk Society and "Homeland" Security* W16. Outside: Pre-emption and States of Exception* SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES
Jan. 25 Feb. 01 MODULE 7- Feb. 08	SPACES OF SECURITY - INSIDE/ OUTSIDE  W15. Inside: Risk Society and "Homeland" Security* W16. Outside: Pre-emption and States of Exception*  SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES  W17. "Smart" Borders and State Surveillance*
Jan. 25 Feb. 01 MODULE 7- Feb. 08 Feb. 13	SPACES OF SECURITY - INSIDE / OUTSIDE  W15. Inside: Risk Society and "Homeland" Security* W16. Outside: Pre-emption and States of Exception*  SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES  W17. "Smart" Borders and State Surveillance* (NO CLASS) Winter Reading Week
Jan. 25 Feb. 01 MODULE 7- Feb. 08 Feb. 13 Feb. 22	SPACES OF SECURITY - INSIDE/ OUTSIDE  W15. Inside: Risk Society and "Homeland" Security* W16. Outside: Pre-emption and States of Exception*  SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES  W17. "Smart" Borders and State Surveillance* (NO CLASS) Winter Reading Week W18. "Smart" Weapons, AI and Algorithms*
Jan. 25 Feb. 01 MODULE 7- Feb. 08 Feb. 13 Feb. 22 MODULE 8-	SPACES OF SECURITY - INSIDE/ OUTSIDE  W15. Inside: Risk Society and "Homeland" Security* W16. Outside: Pre-emption and States of Exception*  SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES  W17. "Smart" Borders and State Surveillance* (NO CLASS) Winter Reading Week W18. "Smart" Weapons, AI and Algorithms*  GLOBAL HEALTH AND HUMAN SECURITY
Jan. 25 Feb. 01 MODULE 7- Feb. 08 Feb. 13 Feb. 22 MODULE 8- Mar. 01	SPACES OF SECURITY - INSIDE/ OUTSIDE  W15. Inside: Risk Society and "Homeland" Security* W16. Outside: Pre-emption and States of Exception*  SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES  W17. "Smart" Borders and State Surveillance* (NO CLASS) Winter Reading Week W18. "Smart" Weapons, AI and Algorithms*  GLOBAL HEALTH AND HUMAN SECURITY  W19. Climate Change, Pandemics, and Food Security*
Jan. 25 Feb. 01 MODULE 7- Feb. 08 Feb. 13 Feb. 22 MODULE 8- Mar. 01 Mar. 08	W15. Inside: Risk Society and "Homeland" Security* W16. Outside: Pre-emption and States of Exception*  SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES  W17. "Smart" Borders and State Surveillance* (NO CLASS) Winter Reading Week W18. "Smart" Weapons, AI and Algorithms*  GLOBAL HEALTH AND HUMAN SECURITY  W19. Climate Change, Pandemics, and Food Security* W20. Mass Migration & Humanitarian Intervention* (Research Proposal Due)
Jan. 25 Feb. 01 MODULE 7- Feb. 08 Feb. 13 Feb. 22 MODULE 8- Mar. 01 Mar. 08 MODULE 9-	SPACES OF SECURITY - INSIDE/ OUTSIDE  W15. Inside: Risk Society and "Homeland" Security* W16. Outside: Pre-emption and States of Exception*  SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES  W17. "Smart" Borders and State Surveillance* (NO CLASS) Winter Reading Week W18. "Smart" Weapons, AI and Algorithms*  GLOBAL HEALTH AND HUMAN SECURITY  W19. Climate Change, Pandemics, and Food Security* W20. Mass Migration & Humanitarian Intervention* (Research Proposal Due)  CAPSTONE RESEARCH WEEKS
Jan. 25 Feb. 01 MODULE 7- Feb. 08 Feb. 13 Feb. 22 MODULE 8- Mar. 01 Mar. 08 MODULE 9- Mar. 15	SPACES OF SECURITY - INSIDE/ OUTSIDE  W15. Inside: Risk Society and "Homeland" Security* W16. Outside: Pre-emption and States of Exception*  SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES  W17. "Smart" Borders and State Surveillance* (NO CLASS) Winter Reading Week W18. "Smart" Weapons, AI and Algorithms*  GLOBAL HEALTH AND HUMAN SECURITY  W19. Climate Change, Pandemics, and Food Security* W20. Mass Migration & Humanitarian Intervention* (Research Proposal Due)  CAPSTONE RESEARCH WEEKS  W21. Research Week I
Jan. 25 Feb. 01 MODULE 7- Feb. 08 Feb. 13 Feb. 22 MODULE 8- Mar. 01 Mar. 08 MODULE 9- Mar. 15 Mar. 22	SPACES OF SECURITY - INSIDE/ OUTSIDE W15. Inside: Risk Society and "Homeland" Security* W16. Outside: Pre-emption and States of Exception*  SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES W17. "Smart" Borders and State Surveillance* (NO CLASS) Winter Reading Week W18. "Smart" Weapons, AI and Algorithms*  GLOBAL HEALTH AND HUMAN SECURITY W19. Climate Change, Pandemics, and Food Security* W20. Mass Migration & Humanitarian Intervention* (Research Proposal Due)  CAPSTONE RESEARCH WEEKS W21. Research Week I W22. Research Week II
Jan. 25 Feb. 01 MODULE 7- Feb. 08 Feb. 13 Feb. 22 MODULE 8- Mar. 01 Mar. 08 MODULE 9- Mar. 15 Mar. 22 FINAL COUR	SPACES OF SECURITY - INSIDE/ OUTSIDE W15. Inside: Risk Society and "Homeland" Security* W16. Outside: Pre-emption and States of Exception*  SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES W17. "Smart" Borders and State Surveillance* (NO CLASS) Winter Reading Week W18. "Smart" Weapons, AI and Algorithms*  GLOBAL HEALTH AND HUMAN SECURITY W19. Climate Change, Pandemics, and Food Security* W20. Mass Migration & Humanitarian Intervention* (Research Proposal Due) CAPSTONE RESEARCH WEEKS W21. Research Week I W22. Research Week II
Jan. 25 Feb. 01 MODULE 7- Feb. 08 Feb. 13 Feb. 22 MODULE 8- Mar. 01 Mar. 08 MODULE 9- Mar. 15 Mar. 22	SPACES OF SECURITY - INSIDE/ OUTSIDE W15. Inside: Risk Society and "Homeland" Security* W16. Outside: Pre-emption and States of Exception*  SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES W17. "Smart" Borders and State Surveillance* (NO CLASS) Winter Reading Week W18. "Smart" Weapons, AI and Algorithms*  GLOBAL HEALTH AND HUMAN SECURITY W19. Climate Change, Pandemics, and Food Security* W20. Mass Migration & Humanitarian Intervention* (Research Proposal Due)  CAPSTONE RESEARCH WEEKS W21. Research Week I W22. Research Week II



## Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations

## **Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information**

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it without them, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. If you enrol in this course despite having already taken an antirequisite you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. Removals for these reasons 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 or for having already taken the antirequisites.

#### Conduct of Students in Classes, Lectures, and Seminars

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. The academic and social privileges granted to each student are conditional upon the fulfillment of these responsibilities.

In the classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Students can avoid any unnecessary disruption of the class by arriving in sufficient time to be seated and ready for the start of the class, by remaining silent while the professor is speaking or another student has the floor, and by taking care of personal needs prior to the start of class. If a student is late, or knows that he/she will have to leave class early, be courteous: sit in an aisle seat and enter and leave quietly.

Please see the Code of Student Conduct at:

www.huronuc.on.ca/sites/default/files/pdfs/Code%20of%20Student%20Conduct.pdf.

#### **Technology**

It is not appropriate to use technology (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and is distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

#### **Attendance Regulations for Examinations**

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.

2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

**Short Absences**: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

**Extended Absences**: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory.

Please see the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here: <a href="https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\_policies/exam/attendance.pdf">https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\_policies/exam/attendance.pdf</a>.

#### **Class Cancellations**

In the event of a cancellation of class, every effort will be made to post that information on the OWL class site, is <a href="https://owl.uwo.ca/portal">https://owl.uwo.ca/portal</a> and on the Huron website at <a href="https://www.huronuc.on.ca/about/accessibility">www.huronuc.on.ca/about/accessibility</a>.

## **Academic Student Support Services**

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at <a href="https://www.huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/academic-advising">https://www.huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/academic-advising</a>.

Department Chairs and Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about their individual programs. Their contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <a href="https://www.huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/art-social-science">www.huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/art-social-science</a> and at <a href="https://www.huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/management-and-organizational-studies">www.huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/management-and-organizational-studies</a>.

#### Adding / Dropping Courses

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Huron website, <a href="https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/sessionalDates.cfm">https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/sessionalDates.cfm</a>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

## Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and at Western

Students who are stressed, emotionally distressed or in mental health crisis please refer to: <a href="https://huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/health-wellness">huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/health-wellness</a> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help, or email <a href="https://huron.uwo.ca">huron.uwo.ca</a> to access your wellness staff directly.

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/.

Huron is committed to providing a safe, welcoming campus for students, staff and faculty by providing confidential assistance to those who have personal safety concerns. Providing a safe and welcoming campus for students, staff and faculty is one of Huron's top priorities.

The Student Emergency Response Team (SERT) provides medical response to 9-1-1 calls on Main, Brescia and Huron campuses which operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week during the academic year. SERT is dispatched through the campus community Police Service (CCPS) to any medical emergency on campus at (519) 661-3300. For more information about SERT please visit: <a href="mailto:sert.uwo.ca/about-sert/about-sert/">sert.uwo.ca/about-sert/about-sert/</a>.

## **Statement on Academic Integrity**

The International Centre for Academic Integrity defines academic integrity as "a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to five fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. From these values flow principles of behaviour that enable academic communities to translate ideals to action." (CAI Fundamental Values Project, 1999).

A lack of academic integrity is indicated by such behaviours as the following:

- Cheating on tests;
- Fraudulent submissions online;
- Plagiarism in papers submitted (including failure to cite and piecing together unattributed sources):
- Unauthorized resubmission of course work to a different course;
- Helping someone else cheat;
- Unauthorized collaboration:
- Fabrication of results or sources;
- Purchasing work and representing it as one's own.

### **Academic Integrity: Importance and Impact**

Being at university means engaging with a variety of communities in the pursuit and sharing of knowledge and understanding in ways that are clear, respectful, efficient, and productive. University communities have established norms of academic integrity to ensure responsible, honest, and ethical behavior in the academic work of the university, which is best done when sources of ideas are properly and fully acknowledged and when responsibility for ideas is fully and accurately represented.

In the academic sphere, unacknowledged use of another's work or ideas is not only an offence against the community of scholars and an obstacle to academic productivity. It may also be understood as fraud and may constitute an infringement of legal copyright.

A university is a place for fulfilling one's potential and challenging oneself, and this means rising to challenges rather than finding ways around them. The achievements in an individual's university studies can only be fairly evaluated quantitatively through true and honest representation of the actual learning done by the student. Equity in assessment for all students is ensured through fair representation of the efforts by each.

Acting with integrity at university constitutes a good set of practices for maintaining integrity in later life. Offences against academic integrity are therefore taken very seriously as part of the university's work in preparing students to serve, lead, and innovate in the world at large.

A university degree is a significant investment of an individual's, and the public's, time, energies, and resources in the future, and habits of academic integrity protect that investment by preserving the university's reputation and ensuring public confidence in higher education.

Students found guilty of plagiarism will suffer consequences ranging from a grade reduction to failure in the course to expulsion from the university. In addition, a formal letter documenting the offence will be filed in the Dean's Office, and this record of the offence will be retained in the Dean's Office for the duration of the student's academic career at Huron University College.

## **Statement on 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, as per the Academic Calendar: <a href="http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&Command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading\_189">http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&Command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading\_189</a>.

#### **Turnitin.com**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for a 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 Western University and Turnitin.com.

#### **Computer-Marked Tests/exams**

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.

#### **Clickers**

Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

• the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence

• the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

## **Policy on "Special" Accommodation**

Students who require **special** accommodation for tests and/or other course components must make the appropriate arrangements with the Student Development Centre (SDC). Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <a href="http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/index.html">http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/index.html</a>.

## Policy on "Academic" Accommodation - Medical / Non-Medical Grounds

Students who require academic accommodation for tests and/or other course components must make the appropriate arrangements with the Student Development Centre (SDC). Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <a href="http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/index.html">http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/index.html</a>.

(a) <u>Medical Grounds</u> for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go directly to Huron Support Services/ Academic Advising, or email huronsss@uwo.ca.

University Senate policy, which can be found at,

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\_policies/appeals/accommodation\_medical.pdf
, requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the "home faculty" is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor's decision is appealable to the Dean.

(b) Accommodation on <u>Medical Grounds</u> for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly

When seeking accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth less than 10% of the final course grade, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. The instructor may <u>not</u> collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of

medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor's decision is appealable to the Dean.

## (c) Non-Medical Grounds: Consult your Instructor directly.

Where the grounds for seeking accommodation are not medical, the student should contact the instructor directly. Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor. Apart from the exception noted below, academic advisors will not be involved in the process of accommodation for non-medical reasons.

Where a student seeks accommodation on non-medical grounds where confidentiality is a concern, the student should approach an academic advisor with any documentation available. The advisors will contact the instructor after the student's request is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the challenge without breaching confidence. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified that significant circumstances are affecting or have affected the student's ability to complete work, and the student will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. Before denying a request for accommodation where documentation has been submitted to an academic advisor, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor's decision is appealable to the Dean.

### Requests for Academic Consideration Using the Self-Reported Absence Form

The full Policy on Academic Consideration for student Absences – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs is available at:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic policies/appeals/Academic Consideration for absences.pdf.

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance (48 hours or less) that is sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements (e.g., attending lectures or labs, writing tests or midterm exams, completing and submitting assignments, participating in presentations) should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours or less.

The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

- **a**. students will be allowed **a maximum of two self-reported absences** between September and April and one self-reported absence between May and August;
- **b**. any absences in excess of the number designated in clause a above, regardless of duration, will require students to present a **Student Medical Certificate** (**SMC**), signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner, detailing the duration and severity of illness, or appropriate documentation supporting extenuating circumstances to the Academic Counselling unit in their Faculty of registration no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. Please see section 4 below for more details.

- **c.** The duration of the excused absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30 am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30 pm;
- **d.** The duration of the excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period should the student undertake significant academic responsibilities (write a test, submit a paper) during that time;
- **e.** The duration of an excused absence will terminate at 8:30 am on the day following the last day of classes each semester regardless of how many days of absence have elapsed;
- **f.** Self-reported absences will not be allowed for scheduled final examinations; for midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations scheduled during the final week of term;
- **g.** Self-reporting **may not be used** for assessments (e.g. midterm exams, tests, reports, presentations, or essays) worth more than 30% of any given course.
- h. students must be in touch with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence.

#### Important Dates and Directory at Huron and Western

For a current and up-to-date list of important dates and campus directories, please visit:

- Huron Important Dates: https://huronuc.ca/important-dates-and-deadlines
- Western Academic Calendar & Sessional Dates: http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm
- Huron Directory Faculty, Staff and Administration: <a href="https://huronuc.ca/index.php/contact/contact-directory">https://huronuc.ca/index.php/contact/contact-directory</a>
- Western Directory Faculty, Staff and Administration: <a href="https://www.uwo.ca/directory.html">https://www.uwo.ca/directory.html</a>