CGS 1023F
Introduction to Development
Matthew McBurney

Office: Lucas Annex
e-mail address: mmcburn2@uwo.ca
Scheduled class times: Tuesday 11:30-1:30 and Thursday 11:30-12:30, HUC – V210
Office Hours: Tuesday 1:30-2:30 or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is an introduction to the interdisciplinary field of global development with the focus on investigating the notion of ‘poverty’. Discourses and practices within global development will be examined critically, and the roles of development organizations, states, and civil society in addressing globally identified development issues through the negotiation of global development agendas will also be examined.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES
This course will help students develop as critical and creative thinkers by analyzing various theories and practices in the field of global development. The main goal of this course is to encourage a critical awareness on “global development” as something in which we are intimately involved. Specifically, this course will emphasize the following learning outcomes:

- Reflect on individual positions, places and values within the field of global development and identify personal strengths.
- Demonstrate a critical awareness of the historical changes within global development discourse and practices.
- Recognize and critically assess diverse meanings of development, underdevelopment, poverty and inequality that are found in the wide range of literature on global development.

DESCRIPTION OF CLASS METHODS
Classes will consist of a combination of lecture and participatory learning methods. It is expected that students will arrive at each class having read all of the week’s required readings. Students are required to engage with the readings and with each other during the weekly seminar.

During lectures and classroom learning methods, students are expected to be respectful and to not distract fellow students or the instructor. If you would like to send text messages, browse irrelevant websites, or talk without contributing to class discussion, please do so elsewhere.

READINGS
A majority of the course readings can be found in The Companion to Development Studies Third Edition by Vandana Desai and Robert B. Potter (Routledge, 2014). Other readings can be found in the library, and instructions will be given in class on how to locate assigned course readings. I reserve the right to add to or otherwise alter the reading list, given sufficient notice is provided. All required readings must be read. Students do not have to read each weekly recommended reading. However, these readings will be discussed in class and are used as additional literature and examples of each specific topic.
EVALUATION

Participation 10%
In this course, emphasis will be placed on student participation and interaction. The course will include theoretical critiques of development practices, requiring high levels of student participation. As a result, students are required to come to class having read the material and ready to participate in discussions and group work. Students will be graded on attending class and their ability to engage critically the course materials and lectures within class discussions.

The Conceptualization of Poverty Group Project 10%
This assignment will require students to identify a “marketization” of poverty. Students may use the internet, YouTube, flyers, or other websites (international/local NGOs, governments, and international organizations) to show how poverty is conceptualized and to explain how poverty or the “poor” are being constructed through the use of symbols, stereotypes, or discourse in the global development regime. This work must be carried out in a group (minimum of 3 and a maximum of 4 people). The project consists of a presentation (maximum 10 mins) of the example in class. Students will be graded on their ability to assess from a critical perspective how poverty is being conceptualized in the chosen example. Due October 1 and 3 in class

Concept Map 10%
Class time will be dedicated to this assignment. You will be required to develop a concept map that clearly demonstrates the key concepts related to your research paper. The concept map will demonstrate how these concepts are related to other and help you to refine your topic for the research paper.
Due October 10

Research Paper Proposal and Preliminary Bibliography 10%
Some class time will be dedicated to the development of this assignment. The proposal and bibliography will be the starting point for a research topic of the student’s choosing that will result in the final research paper. The topic must be related to global development. The proposal must contain a brief introduction of your topic and its importance in the field of development, a thesis statement, and a brief outline of your arguments that will support your thesis. The bibliography must have a minimum of 5 scholarly sources. Chicago style citation must be used.
Due October 24

Research Paper 30%
The research paper assignment will challenge students to think critically about a global issue related to global development. Students will be required to provide a unique research topic that contains an argument, gather information to back up their argument, and present their findings in a clear and concise manner. This assignment will provide students with an opportunity to sharpen many skills necessary for a future in academia or the field of development, such as critical thinking, research, data analysis, proposal design, and communication. Papers must incorporate a minimum of 10 scholarly sources. The essay must be between 1,500-2,000 words (Times New Roman, 12 font, Double spaced). (Due November 7)
Further details will be provided in class. However, students will be graded based on the following marking scheme:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Research</th>
<th>Argument (Intro/Conclusion)</th>
<th>Analysis (Body of Paper)</th>
<th>Clarity</th>
<th>Format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>A significant amount of independent, scholarly research was undertaken</td>
<td>An innovative and provocative thesis is clearly stated at the beginning of the paper</td>
<td>Based on excellent research and an original thesis, the analysis is strong, and clearly follows established research questions</td>
<td>The paper is easy to read, analysis flows expertly</td>
<td>TimesRoman 12pt, double spaced, 1-inch margins, page numbers</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the majority of sources are from peer-reviewed publications, those that aren’t are used as primary research only.</td>
<td>the method of proving that thesis is established early on and justified on scholarly terms</td>
<td>the research is artfully woven throughout the analysis, shoring up and thoughtfully supporting the argument</td>
<td>language is sophisticated without using jargon</td>
<td>a cover page provides pertinent information</td>
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<td></td>
<td>research is solidly within the parameters of the analysis and thesis argument</td>
<td>the thesis provides the backbone of analysis and reaches a satisfying conclusion based on what was proposed at the beginning</td>
<td>new information is well contextualized and serves to propel the argument towards a satisfying conclusion</td>
<td>terms of analysis and argumentation are clearly laid out and well-defined</td>
<td>the bibliography follows a recognized scholarly style</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>A reasonable amount of independent, scholarly research was undertaken sources are mainly from peer-reviewed publications research is sound but predictable</td>
<td>An interesting but predictable thesis is clearly stated at the beginning of the paper</td>
<td>The analysis is good but there are some significant weaknesses or lapses</td>
<td>The paper is well written but suffers from some significant grammatical inconsistencies or spelling errors</td>
<td>the paper basically follows the technical requirements, with a few minor exceptions</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the thesis tends toward more description than argument, leading to a weak conclusion the methodology is there but isn’t clearly laid out, or is laid out but not followed through on an expert level</td>
<td>the thesis tends toward more description than argument, leading to a weak conclusion the methodology is there but isn’t clearly laid out, or is laid out but not followed through on an expert level</td>
<td>the paper occasionally drifts off-topic or into territory that isn’t adequately supported by the research the research questions are interesting but potentially unrealistic in terms of the type and/or level of research undertaken</td>
<td>language is clear but lacks scholarly depth there are some lapses in definition and explication of terms segue between points in the analysis are weak</td>
<td>citations are thorough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>the minimum amount of independent, scholarly descriptive or dependent on a</td>
<td>the thesis is fundamentally descriptive or dependent on a</td>
<td>analysis is uninteresting or uninspired, tending toward</td>
<td>there are significant but not quite major problems</td>
<td>citations are solid but not thorough, with some noticeable omissions</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>analysis is uninteresting or uninspired, tending toward weaknessess or lapses</td>
<td>analysis is uninteresting or uninspired, tending toward</td>
<td>there are significant but not quite major problems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>Note</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Technical Problems</td>
<td>Grammar and Spelling Problems</td>
<td>Language Problems</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>less than the minimum amount of independent, scholarly research was undertaken</td>
<td>research questions are not identified at the outset and/or little in the way of method</td>
<td>there is a paucity of definitions or context for analysis</td>
<td>major problems with grammar and spelling</td>
<td>language is sub-par for university, riddled with grammatical and spelling errors</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sources depend heavily on non-scholarly publications</td>
<td>research questions are not adequately explored</td>
<td>there is little interaction between research and analysis</td>
<td>language is unclear and/or shallow terms are not well defined and analysis</td>
<td>analysis is difficult to follow and lacks any sense of flow</td>
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<td></td>
<td>research is weak and unoriginal, but also fails to adequately support the argument</td>
<td>the method is vague or poorly laid out</td>
<td>what is supposed to pass as analysis is little more than description</td>
<td>leaps erratically from point to point</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>the argument fails to reach a satisfying conclusion, with the paper simply petering out</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>little to no research undertaken, scholarly or not</td>
<td>analysis is nearly non-existent, weak, minimal and unsupported by research</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>little evidence of scholarly research in the paper</td>
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Final Exam 30%
The final exam can include material from all the topics taught throughout the course. Students will be challenged to think critically on the spot and develop an argument in a limited period of time. A good record of class attendance is required to take the exam. Date set by Registrar’s Office. Do not plan travel before December 20.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
All assignments will be submitted on Owl and no hard copies are needed. However, make sure to keep an electronic copy of your assignment until it has been graded and returned to you.

Extensions on assignments can only be requested in-person, and more than 48 hours prior to the assigned deadline. Extensions or approvals being requested for emergency or medical reasons or being requested after the due date must be approved through academic advising.

Late assignments will only be accepted without penalty if a prior agreement with me has been made, or if academic advising has provided academic accommodation. Students who submit assignments late without making a prior agreement with me, or without academic accommodation will be penalized 2% for every 24-hour period past the assignment deadline.

Please note that I adhere to a “24/7 rule” for reviewing graded course work. This means that you must wait 24 hours after an assignment is returned before approaching me about your grade, and you must make an appointment to speak with me about said grade no longer than 7 days after an assignment is returned in class.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Week 1 (September 5) - Course Intro


Week 2 –Positionality and Reflectivity in the Development Game Required


**Recommended**


**Week 3 – Challenging the Definition of Development**

**Required**


**Recommended**


**Week 4 – Marketing Poverty: Harmful Stereotypes**

**Required**


**Recommended**


**Week 5 – Marketization of Poverty Group Project Presentations**
Week 6 - Development as a Colonial Project
Concept Map Workshop (October 8)
Writing Workshop with Writing Service (October 10)

Required
Adam Smith. 1776 (2008). “Of the Advantages which Europe has Derived from the Discovery of America, and from that of a Passage to the East Indies by the Cape of Good Hope,” in The Development Reader eds. Sharad Chari and Stuart Corbridge, New York: Routledge, 58-63.


Recommended

Week 7 – The Modernization Myth
Research Paper and Thesis Workshop (October 15)

Required


Recommended


**Video: Under Rich Earth, Gold Fever, or Poverty Inc**

Week 8 – Development Alternatives or More of the Same I?

1. Needs, Human Development and Capabilities


**Recommended**


2. Putting the Last First


**Recommended**


Week 9 – Development Alternatives or More of the Same II?

3. (un)Sustainable Development – MDGs to SDGs


**Recommended**


4. The Parable of Eternal Growth


5. Women in Development: Inclusion or Patriarchy?

Kabeer, Naila. 2015. “Gender, Poverty, and Inequality: A Brief History of Feminist Contributions in the Field of International Development.” Gender & Development 23(2), 189-205.


Week 10 – Alternatives to Development
Required


Recommended

Week 11 – Decoloniality: Is Plurality a Possibility?
Required


Recommended


**Week 12 – Conclusion: Where do I fit in?**


**Documentary Screening: Volunteers Unleashed (2015)**

**Week 13 - FINAL DAY OF CLASS WILL BE DEDICATED TO REVIEWING COURSE MATERIAL FOR THE EXAME**

**Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2019/2020**

**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:

**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: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf.
**Class Cancellations**

In the event of a cancellation of class, every effort will be made to post all relevant information on the OWL class site at: [https://owl.uwo.ca/portal](https://owl.uwo.ca/portal), and on the Huron website at [www.huronuc.on.ca/about/accessibility](http://www.huronuc.on.ca/about/accessibility).

**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 huronsss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: [www.huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/academic-advising](http://www.huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/academic-advising).

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: [www.huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/art-social-science](http://www.huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/art-social-science) and at [www.huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/management-and-organizational-studies](http://www.huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/management-and-organizational-studies).

**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, [huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/academic-advising](http://www.huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/academic-advising) or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: [http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm).

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: [huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/health-wellness](http://www.huronuc.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/health-wellness) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help, or email Huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca 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/](http://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: [sert.uwo.ca/about-sert/about-sert](http://sert.uwo.ca/about-sert/about-sert).

**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: [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).
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 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 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: http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/index.html.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is 48 hours or less and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last longer than 48 hours, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.
Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation.

**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: [http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/index.html](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/index.html).

(a) **Medical Grounds** 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](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](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 Medical Grounds** 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 not 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](https://huronuc.ca/important-dates-and-deadlines)
- **Western – Academic Calendar & Sessional Dates**: [http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm)
- **Huron Directory – Faculty, Staff and Administration**: [https://huronuc.ca/index.php/contact/contact-directory](https://huronuc.ca/index.php/contact/contact-directory)
- **Western Directory – Faculty, Staff and Administration**: [https://www.uwo.ca/directory.html](https://www.uwo.ca/directory.html)