

ENVIRSCI 1021G – Environmental Science and Sustainability

Course Outline: Section 550 Winter 2021



Although this academic year might be different, Western University is committed to a **thriving campus**. We encourage you to check out the [Digital Student Experience](#) website to manage your academics and well-being. Additionally, the following link provides available resources to support students on and off campus: <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

1. Technical Requirements



Stable internet connection



Laptop or computer



Working microphone



Working webcam



Zoom application installed

Recommended technical specifications:
<https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/timetables.html>

Western Zoom webpage, including privacy information: <https://wts.uwo.ca/zoom/index.html>.

2. Course Information

Instructor:	Kelly Hollingshead E-mail: khollin2@uwo.ca
Grading Assistant:	TBA
Office Hours:	I will stay on after each weekly Zoom session to discuss any items. I am also available by appointment Monday to Friday. To schedule an appointment, send me an OWL Message, and tick the box that sends the message to my email as well.
Email Hours:	I endeavour to reply to emails within one day from Monday to Friday.
Lectures:	Our class block is Tuesdays from 6:30-9:30 pm ET. The first portion will be reserved for synchronous learning. The remainder of the block and week can be used for group work and asynchronous learning tasks.
Course Prerequisites:	There are no prerequisites for this course.



3. Calendar Description

Every day the media reports on a large number of environmental issues, including the loss of insect pollinators, the development of oil pipelines, and the changing climate. This course is intended to give you the scientific background necessary to think critically about these issues. We will use readings from the textbook and from online news articles and additional sources to provide us with a basis of discussion in online sessions.



4. Textbook and Readings

The textbook for the course is: Environmental Science for a Changing World (Canadian Edition) by Marnie Branfireun. There are a few options for the textbook.

A good portion of the readings from the textbook are provided in the 'Course Readings' tab on OWL from the Huron Library. There is also a physical copy of the text at the Huron Library available to borrow through curbside pick up. The full instructions for contactless pickup at Huron are located here: <https://huronatwestern.ca/library/no-contact-pick-up/>



There are two options for the text available for purchase at the UWO Bookstore. The first is a physical textbook and the second is the LaunchPad which is the digital option. This is the URL for the LaunchPad: <https://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/saescanadian/15823500>.

We will be using the textbook as well as online news articles throughout the semester to provide us with a starting point for our online discussions. Textbook readings are listed in the schedule below. Students are expected to complete these readings and answer a short quiz on OWL before class. More information on these quizzes is given below. Further readings will be on OWL as part of the asynchronous learning to be completed through the week. It is not necessary to own a copy of the textbook, but I recommend that you take steps to ensure you can keep up with the readings.

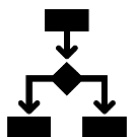
5. Course Format

Real-Time Interaction: Our class block is Tuesdays from 6:30 – 9:30 pm ET. Every Tuesday starting at 6:30 pm ET, we will come together on the Zoom platform for a synchronous session. During the Zoom session, we will cover topics that require interactivity, whether small group discussion, an exercise with a partner or triad, or Q and A with the large group. Most weeks this will be an hour session, but some weeks the library or Writing Centre will be joining us to build skills related to the written assignment. During these weeks, the Zoom session will be up to 2 hours. The remainder of the block and week can be used for meeting with your group and completing the asynchronous components of the course.

Online Learning Interaction: Within OWL, each week you will find lessons, videos, assignments, online discussions, and quizzes that must be completed before the end of the week. Our online week will run from our class block time on Tuesday to the following Tuesday's class block.

Short readings are assigned most weeks, from the textbook or an online article. After the class block on Tuesday, a short quiz will become available on OWL and will close before the next class block begins the following Tuesday. The reading and quiz for each week are due prior to the class block (i.e., Tuesday at 6:30 pm ET). The remaining online learning for that week's topic (e.g., lessons, online discussions, videos, etc.) are to be completed following the class block with a deadline of the beginning of the next class block.

Weeks with online discussions require you to post your own thoughts and research on the topic and reply to or comment on at least 3 of your peers. To get the most out of the discussion, I would suggest that you post your thoughts about the material by the first half of the week (i.e. no later than the Friday of the week). That will provide you with 4 more days to reply and interact with your peers. In planning the course, I assumed that you would spend about 30 minutes on each forum.



Mode	Dates	Time	Frequency
Virtual synchronous	Tuesdays	6:30 pm ET	weekly
Virtual asynchronous	N/A	3 hours	weekly

- Asynchronous pre-work must be completed prior to synchronous sessions.
- A recording will be provided for synchronous sessions. Recordings will be posted within 24 hours of the synchronous lecture and must be viewed prior to the next synchronous lecture.
- Closed captioning will be provided on audio or video recordings.

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.

6. Learning Outcomes

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

1. Assess the impact of human behaviours on environmental issues and solutions.
2. Recognize that environmental issues are multi-faceted and challenges are global.
3. Develop environmental literacy and critical thinking skills.
4. Navigate various literature sources (TV, newspaper, journals, magazines, etc.).
5. Evaluate environmental issues presented in various literature sources through well-formulated questions, information collection, and analysis.
6. Explain scientific concepts behind environmental issues addressed in media, policy, legislation, and business decisions.
7. Apply the skills developed in this class to make informed and well thought-out life choices regarding environmental issues.
8. Collaborate effectively in a team environment.



7. Course Content and Schedule (subject to change)

Week	Date (2021)	Topic	Tutorial	Readings	Assignments due
1	January 12	Introduction & Philosophy of the Environment	Description of group assignment Team building activity	Optional: Chapter 1	Week one reflection due (NOTE: this must be completed during week one in order to write the midterm)
2	January 19	Environmental issues & Scientific Literacy	Find a group Library: Finding and assessing primary & secondary sources	Optional: Chapter 1, 3 (pg. 42-43)	Weekly quiz (covers Food & Land I readings; opens Jan 19 after class block, closes Jan 26 before class block begins. The same format applies for each week, i.e., reading and quiz due prior to the class block).
3	January 26	Food & Land I – Grasslands & Agriculture	Meet with groups	Chapter 18, pages 316-323 Optional: Chapter 12	Weekly quiz
4	February 2	Food & Land II – Agricultural Inputs & Forests	Discussion on referencing and plagiarism Meet with groups	Chapter 11, pages 191-199	Weekly quiz Group contract due

Week	Date (2021)	Topic	Tutorial	Readings	Assignments due
5	February 9	Waste	Writing Centre: Integrating research into writing Meet with groups	Chapter 17, pages 302- 309	Weekly quiz Annotated Bibliography due (10%)
-	February 16	READING WEEK – NO CLASS	-	-	-
6	February 23	Midterm	Meet with groups	-	Midterm (20%)
7	March 2	Water I – Fish & Oil	Group work time on final project	Two videos Optional: Chapter 14	Weekly quiz
8	March 9	Water II – Coral Reefs & Invasive Species	Writing Centre: Media writing & editorial writing Group work time on final project	Chapter 13, pages 225- 236	Weekly quiz
9	March 16	Air Pollution	Group work time on final project	Chapter 21, pages 372- 385	Weekly quiz
10	March 23	Energy I – Fossil Fuels	Group work time on final project	Chapter 20, pages 354- 367 Optional: Chapter 19	Weekly quiz
11	March 30	Energy II – Green Energy	Writing Centre: Guided peer review of final project	Chapter 24, pages 436- 443 Optional: Chapter 25	Weekly quiz
12	April 6	Climate Change	-	Chapter 22, pages 392- 404	Final project due (20% individual component, 10% group component)
-	April exam period	-	-	-	Final exam (30%) Submit participation marks for your fellow group members by final exam

8. Online Participation and Engagement



- Students are expected to participate and engage with content as much as possible.
- Students can participate during synchronous sessions and post on Voicethread presentations while watching the recording.
- Students can also participate by interacting in the forums with their peers.

9. Communication



- Students should check the OWL site regularly.
- Regular updates will be provided on OWL announcements.
- Students should email their instructor using OWL “messages”.
- 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 their 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 from Monday to Friday; students will receive a response in 24-48 hours. If a student does not receive a reply after two days, they are encouraged to send a reminder email.
- This course will use the OWL forum for discussions.
- Students should post all course-related content on the discussion forum so that everyone can access answers to questions.
- The discussion forums will be monitored daily, Monday to Friday.

10. Evaluation

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

Format	Weighting	Due Date
Quizzes	10%	Weekly
Annotated bibliography for research paper	10%	February 9
Final research paper	20%	April 6
Group component of research paper	5%	Submitted with research paper on April 6
Participation on research paper	5%	Assigned by group members, by final exam
Midterm	20%	February 23
Final exam	30%	Date TBD by Registrar's Office

Students are responsible for material covered in lectures (synchronous and asynchronous) as well as the assigned chapters/sections in the text.

Online Quizzes:

Short readings are assigned most weeks, from the textbook or an online article. After the class block on Tuesday, a short quiz consisting of two multiple choice questions will become available on OWL. This quiz will remain open until the beginning of class the following Tuesday. I will announce if there will not be a quiz for the following week. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped at the end of the course. No make-up quizzes or assignments will be given for missed quizzes.



Final Group Project:

This is a mixed group/individual project. Most of the work will be done individually, but you will work in a group of three to put together a mini-magazine that discusses a common theme. Each magazine should have the following:

A cover page with a picture that highlights your theme, a title, and a list of the articles with the authors;

1. An unsigned 'editorial' written by the group which is one page in length. It should summarize the importance of the issue and explain how each article discusses the issue; and
2. Three articles, with each article written by a single member of the group.

You may choose to include additional elements such as a table of contents page, or page numbers on the cover page, if you think that these would help a reader navigate your magazine. The articles should be tied together by a common theme. For example, you might choose a theme of water quality. Each group member will write a different article related to the common theme of water quality (e.g., microplastics in the Great Lakes). The cover page could show an aerial view of the Great Lakes, and the editorial might bring up statistics that describe the type and amount of pollutants found within the Great Lakes watershed. Groups are encouraged to discuss their ideas with the instructor.

Working well as a group on the final project is worth 10% of your total mark for the course. 5% of that will be marks based on the quality of the cover page and the editorial. The remaining 5% is based on a participation mark assigned to you by your fellow group members.

Group Contract:

For effective teamwork to occur, group members need to align their expectations before going into assignments. A group contract is a document that a team creates to formalize the group members' expectations, which will be provided by the instructor. Students are required to complete the group contract before February 2. Groups that fail to complete the group contract before the deadline will receive penalties on the final group participation grade.

Annotated Bibliography:

To ensure that you are on the right track with your final research project, you are expected to submit an Annotated Bibliography by February 9. You will submit this assignment individually, using the Assignments section on OWL. In an annotated bibliography, you are expected to give a short outline of your final paper, and include at least five references, of which a minimum of two should be primary sources. There is no maximum number of references. With each of your references, you should give at least one piece of information that clearly shows how the article contributes to the point you are trying to make in your final paper.

Be sure to give the names of your two group members and mention the theme that your magazine will discuss. The annotated bibliography will be 1-2 pages long. The annotated bibliography should follow APA style guide.

Final Research Paper:

The individual component of the group project will be an individually written article in the magazine and should be 6-8 double-spaced pages in length. The article should include a title, the name of the author, and a list of references. You may choose to include additional information such as graphs, tables, maps, or pictures that will not count towards your page allotment, but if you do include these items, make sure that you refer to them in the text and include a caption that makes it clear what each graph, table, map, or picture is showing. These additional elements may improve the readability, information level, or appearance of your article, but they are not required or expected.

References:

It is important that you research your topics thoroughly and give credit to the original authors for their ideas. This means citing the author within the text when their idea is used, and again in the reference section at the end of the article. Citing well-established authors has the additional benefit of giving your article's message some additional credibility. References in your assignments should follow the APA style guide.

Midterm:

The midterm is scheduled for class on February 23, and is worth 20% of your final mark. The midterm is a reflection paper building on week one reflection, and will draw on material up to and including the week of February 9. It is imperative that week one reflection is completed during the week of January 12th (no later than January 19th) in order to complete the midterm. If week one reflection is not completed during week one, the midterm reflection will not be able to be written. Further details will be posted on the OWL course website.

Final Exam:

The final exam will be scheduled by the Registrar's office for a date between April 14 and April 30, 2021. The final exam is worth 30% of your final mark. The exam will include written questions, and will draw on the material from the entire course, with an emphasis on material from the midterm to the end of the course. Some questions may test your ability to integrate information from the first and second halves of the course. Further details will be posted on the OWL course website.

- All assignments are due at 6:30 pm ET unless otherwise specified.
- All assignments should be submitted electronically using these file types: Word 97-2003 (.doc), Word 2007+ (.docx).
- Written assignments will be submitted to Turnitin.
- 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.

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.
- An assessment cannot be submitted after it has been returned to the class.

11. 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.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see

[Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#)

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:

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

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](#).

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 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. Treat this course as you would a face-to-face course. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching the lessons.
5. Connect with others. Try forming an online 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.
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. Use of Recordings

All of the remote learning sessions for this course will be recorded. The data captured during these recordings may include your image, voice recordings, chat logs and personal identifiers (name displayed on the screen). The recordings will be used for educational purposes related to

this course. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals under special circumstances. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings.

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation, or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor.

14. Statements concerning Online Etiquette

Some components of this course will involve online interactions. To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please honour the following rules of etiquette:

- Please “arrive” to class on time
- Please use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet)
- Ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions in the event that a class discussion deals with sensitive or personal material
- To minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone for the entire class until you are invited to speak, unless directed otherwise
- Please be prepared to turn your video camera off at the instructor’s request if the internet connection becomes unstable
- Unless invited by your instructor, do not share your screen in the meeting

The course instructor will act as moderator for the class and will deal with any questions from participants. To participate please consider the following:

- If you wish to speak, use the “raise hand” function and wait for the instructor to acknowledge you before beginning your comment or question
- Remember to unmute your microphone and turn on your video camera before speaking
- Self-identify when speaking
- Remember to mute your mic after speaking (unless directed otherwise)

General considerations of “netiquette”:

- Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.
- Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.
- Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment. “Flaming” is never appropriate.
- Be professional and scholarly in all online postings. Cite the ideas of others appropriately.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of Zoom-bombing a class or of other serious online offenses may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2020 - 2021

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.

While in the physical classroom or online 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 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: 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 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.

Adding / Dropping Courses

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Huron website,

<https://huronatwestern.ca/academic-advising> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <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.

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 and on the Huron website at, <https://huronatwestern.ca/about/accessibility>.

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.

Please see the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here:

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

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: <https://huronatwestern.ca/academic-advising> .

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at:

<https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/contact-directory> .

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, it is also 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 .

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 The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<https://www.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.

Academic Accommodation for Students With Disabilities

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://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

Please review the full policy at,

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf.

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.

Requests for Academic Consideration Using the Self-Reported Absence Form

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.

Please note the following conditions that are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

- Students will be allowed **a maximum of two self-reported absences** between September and April and one self-reported absence between May and August;
- 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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

Please review the full policy at,

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf .

Policy on “Academic” Accommodation - Medical / Non-Medical Grounds

- (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 , 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 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 Huron Support Services/ Academic Advising

Where the grounds for seeking accommodation are not medical (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, bereavement) the student should contact an academic advisor directly. All accommodation requests must include a completed [Accommodation Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

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.

Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca

Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca

Chaplaincy: gthorne@huron.uwo.ca

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

Important Dates & Directory

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>
- **Academic Calendar & Sessional Dates:** <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>
- **Huron Directory – Faculty, Staff and Administration:** <https://huronuc.ca/index.php/contact/contact-directory>
- **Western Directory – Faculty, Staff and Administration:** <https://www.uwo.ca/directory.html>