

Political Science 2142B Course Outline

1. Course Information

Course Information

Politics & Pop Culture POLS 2142B; undergraduate winter term; online; course website: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/f2c0ce5e-625f-49eb-b20b-c992f5279387>

Prerequisites

N/A

2. Instructor Information

Instructors	Email	Office	Phone	Office Hours
Dr. Nandita, Biswas Mellamphy (Course director and principal instructor)	nbiswas[at]uwo.ca or mohuya[at]protonmail.com (either one is fine and both are unnecessary since I check both).	Social Science Bldg., Room 7316	519-661-2111 Ext. 81161	Online (zoom); By appointment; please email to schedule.
Shane, Cooney (Teaching assistant)	scooney3[at]uwo.ca			Online (zoom); By appointment; please email to schedule.

Students are advised to use their Western (@uwo.ca) email addresses when contacting their instructors.

Your TA is your first point of contact for any questions about the course mechanics, quizzes and tests, and course content that isn't answered in the syllabus or FAQ.

3. Course Syllabus, Schedule, Delivery Mode

What is this course about?

This course critically explores politics and popular culture through film, television, as well as digital and print media (social media, ads, blogs etc.). As Canadian media theorist Marshall McLuhan famously argued, the medium is the message: perception influences communication; likewise, communication influences how we perceive politics and its potentials (both positive

and negative). With the increasing popularity of digital culture, television news shows and reality programming, as well as new social media and networks, it is apparent that various forms of political consciousness are taking shape. Increasingly, the roles of citizen and consumer are blurred, and the main aim of this course will be to ask whether the convergence of entertainment and politics is a good or a bad thing: can popular cultural forms create new utopian visions that fuel political change, or conversely, do they only lead to manipulation of perceptions and cultural control? A second aim of this course is to introduce you to critical theories of consumerism, humanitarianism, orientalism, surveillance and security, technoscience, and transhumanism, as well as acquaint you with some major political theories such as realism, idealism, constructivism, feminism, neo-marxism and postmodernism.

Topics include:

- the politics of satire and fake news
- the politics of utopia and dystopia
- the politics of celebrity humanitarianism and ‘decaf capitalism’
- the politics of fear and authority
- the politics of surveillance and (in)security
- the politics of digital culture and social media
- the politics of money, consumption and desire
- the politics of techno-science and techno-culture
- the politics of justice, gender, and race in superhero(ine) narratives

What will I learn?

- To identify and recognize diverse political concepts, problems and ideologies in relation to popular culture, world affairs, and current events.
- To critically explore the complex interrelationships between political, social, cultural and historical ideas.

What is expected of me each week?

- Completion of weekly readings, viewing of visual materials/films etc. and taking your own notes
- Watching the online lecture available every week on the course content page and taking good notes
- Completion of weekly quiz. There are 10 quizzes (starting January 15, 2024 and ending April 4, 2024), but only the best 8 quizzes will count making each quiz worth 2.5% of your overall grade (cumulatively worth 20% of your overall grade).
- Each quiz is available online, opening on Monday at 8am and closing on Thursday by 8pm; **YOU MUST COMPLETE YOUR QUIZ DURING THIS PERIOD OF TIME.** there are no makeups for missed quizzes (since you can miss 2 with no penalties).
- Completion of an online midterm test worth 35% on Monday February 12, 2024.
- Completion of an online final exam worth 45% (TBD; scheduled by Registrar during final exam period).

- There are no exceptions to these rules except for those who have received formal academic consideration/accommodation (for University policy: https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/academic_consideration.html).

Each week you will complete an online module which includes reading, watching a film or short videos, and reviewing an online lecture video that is designed to complement the course materials. When you complete your weekly readings and viewings, you will complete a short mandatory online quiz relating to that week’s content. Each week’s quiz will appear in the ‘Tests/Quizzes’ tab of your OWL course website. The quiz opens on Mondays at 8AM (Standard time) and closes on Thursday at 8PM (Standard time); you can take the quiz anytime during this time period, but not before or after this time period. Each quiz will only last for that week, and it is your responsibility to complete it. Remember to do all your readings, viewings, and online homework **before** taking the quiz because you only have ONE chance (no re-do’s will be allowed).

This course is "asynchronous," and completely online, which means that we will not be meeting as a group in a physical space together. Nonetheless, I would recommend that you manage your time for this class as if we were meeting in person. Ideally, this involves setting out a regular 4-5 hour chunk of dedicated time each week to go through that week’s content (Why that much time? Each week has an assigned film to watch which can take up to 120 minutes, including a reading and a few other short videos/blogs). Also, there is no need to ‘binge’ on the course content: do not do more than one week at a time. The course has been designed to be completed on a weekly basis, so follow along with the suggested order and schedule.

You cannot opt out of any of these components; all are necessary to fulfill the course requirements and learning objectives. Satisfying these requirements will demonstrate the minimal level of engagement to complete the course.

Where can I find course information?

Most everything you will need for this course can be found on the OWL course website.

The course offers students an FAQ sheet where the most commonly asked questions are answered.

Schedule of Online Modules:

Week 1/Jan 8	Access course website, become familiarized with course website, course outline, mechanics and policies.
Week 2/Jan 15	Introduction to Politics and Pop Culture in the Age of Spin
Week 3/Jan 22	Walking the Line: Satire and Fake News
Week 4/Jan 29	Dystopian Utopias: The 'Ideal' vs. the 'Real'

Week 5/Feb 5	Ideologies, Perceptions, and Framing
Week 6/Feb 12	Midterm Test; online; Monday Feb. 12.
Week 7/Feb 19	Reading Week; no weekly content, no quiz.
Week 8/Feb 26	The Ideology of Humanitarianism: Orientalism and 'Decaf Capitalism'
Week 9/Mar 4	Who Rules and Over Whom? Governance, Leadership and the Politics of Fear
Week 10/Mar 11	The Power of an All-Seeing Eye: Surveillance and the Politics of Insecurity
Week 11/Mar 18	The Politics of Transhumanism: Is the Mind just a Machine?
Week 12/Mar 25	The Neuropolitics of Control: Neuropath
Week 13/Apr 1	Who Gets to Be a Superhero? Justice, Gender, and Race in Pop Culture Narratives

Relevant Key Sessional Dates for this course

- Winter session resumes January 8, 2024.
- Last day to drop: January 16, 2024; Courses dropped by this date will not appear on a transcript; no fee penalty. Courses dropped after this date will appear on a transcript with a grade of 'WDN' withdrawn, without academic penalty
- Winter Reading Week: February 17-25, 2024; no class or weekly quiz.

4. Course Materials

Do I have to buy a textbook for this class?

There are no required textbooks that you have to purchase for this course, and the assigned readings and films to watch are available for free through the weekly content page.

All course material will be posted to OWL: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/f2c0ce5e-625f-49eb-b20b-c992f5279387>

Students are responsible for checking the course OWL site on a weekly/regular basis for content, and announcement. This is the primary method by which information will be disseminated to all students in the class. If students need assistance with the course OWL site, 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.

Technical Requirements

A functional computer and stable internet connection are required to complete the online component and some of the assignments. If your computer crashes, malfunctions or has technical issues during a quiz, you will not automatically get a chance to redo the quiz. Unfortunately, we cannot control or verify that a technical issue has occurred.

To avoid this issue, make sure no other windows are open on your device, and all applications other than OWL are closed before starting with a quiz. Do not have multiple windows open when you begin your assessment as this can cause issues. This means that you should print out

your notes and use the hardcopy of your notes during your quiz. If you live with roommates, make sure you are taking your quiz during a time when your internet will be reliable or come to campus to take advantage of the school's wi-fi. No make ups will be provided for these reasons. If you are experiencing an issue beyond what has been specified previously, please contact University technical services and notify your TA immediately.

5. Methods of Evaluation

How will I be graded?

- a short quiz to be completed after each week's content; there are 10 weeks with a quiz for each. The bottom two quiz grades will be dropped leaving 8 quizzes worth 2.5% each making up 20% of your overall grade (there is no quiz for the week you take your midterm test).
- The content of each quiz will correspond to that week's materials. The format of the quiz will be multiple choice and/or true/false questions; it will be short and consist of 4 questions in total.

Each quiz opens Monday at 8am and closes on Thursday by 8pm; **YOU MUST COMPLETE YOUR QUIZ DURING THIS PERIOD OF TIME**; there are no makeups for missed quizzes. You should ensure that you have engaged with all of the week's materials before completing the quiz. The quiz should be your last course item for the week.

- a mid-term multiple choice test to be completed week 6 on February 12, 2024 covering course materials from weeks 2-5(inclusive) worth 35%; there will be up to 40 questions on this test. The test will last 80 minutes in total time, and it will be open from 8AM until 11PM, so you can choose when you want to take it during this time period.
- a final multiple choice exam covering all the course materials to be scheduled by the Registrar's office during the final exam period worth 45%.; there will be up to 100 questions on this test.

All assessments are available online and can be taken by going to the Tests/Quizzes tab of your course OWL webpage.

All assessments will be timed and linear, meaning you will only have a specific amount of time for each question and once you click on your answer, you will NOT be able to change it, or go back to review/modify it.

All assessments are open book and no proctoring software is being used.

Weekly quizzes will open on Monday at 8am and close Thursday at 8pm; everyone must take their weekly quiz between these times each week. Quiz 1 opens Monday January 15, 2024 and will close Thursday January 18, 2024 at 8PM.

The midterm test and final exam will open on Monday February 12, 2024 at 8am and close that day at 11pm. You will have a window of time during which you will take your assessment, which will be timed and linear.

Please note that computer-marked multiple-choice tests may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

6. Student Absences

What's the policy on missed tests/assignments?

For missed tests/assignment deadlines, a student must get student accommodation through Academic Counselling.

The course policy (no exceptions) is that no tests/exams may be taken early for any reason.

Failure to write one of the tests/exams without providing documentation a sufficient excuse will result in a grade of zero for that test/exam.

Absences & Academic Consideration

https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/academic_consideration.html

We all know that short-term absences can occur because all students must contend with ailments, varying demands, and the pressures of everyday life. Missing an occasional class/lecture/quiz will not have a significant impact on your academics as a whole, and for the most part, you are able to catch up without incident. Part of being a student means learning to cope with and manage these ailments, demands, and pressures – all of which are reasonably expected to surface during the school year.

What will **not** qualify for academic consideration:

https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/exams/index.html#No_AC

- Sleeping in
- Misreading the timetable
- Flight arrangements

- Moving

Professors are not required to set a special examination and requests of this nature will be denied. Students are expected to schedule their personal business such as changing residence, vacations and flights so that these activities do not conflict with the exam schedule.

If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to illness or other serious circumstances, please follow the procedures below.

Assessments worth less than 10% of the overall course grade

There are no alternate assignments for missed classes (unless you have documentation proving that you had an unforeseen and unavoidable emergency/accident preventing you from attending the Tuesday class in which case, the instructor may decide upon an alternate assignment; you must contact the instructor and provide your documentation as soon as possible).

For missed quizzes worth less than 10% of the total course grade, contact your TA to request a make-up as soon as possible (during the week you missed and not after). If you are granted a make-up, you will be instructed on the date/time of the makeup by your TA.

Assessments worth 10% or more of the overall course grade:

For work totalling 10% or more of the final course grade, you must provide valid medical or supporting documentation to the Academic Counselling Office of your Faculty of Registration as soon as possible. For further information, please consult the University's medical illness policy at

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

The Student Medical Certificate is available at

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

How much time do I have to do the assignments?

Students Seeking Academic Accommodation (through Accessible Education services): UNIVERSAL DESIGN

This course employs 'universal design', meaning that all students receive double the amount of time to complete assessments. This is done to streamline both student access to accommodation as well as TA ability to respond in a timely manner to accommodation requests. As accommodations are built into the course design, students do not need to pursue official accommodation to ensure they receive the time they require.

The midterm contains 40 questions and typically, you would be given 1 minute per question for a total test time of 40 minutes. However, using universal design principles, all students will receive double the time (80 mins) to complete the 40 question exam. Likewise, the final exam is up to 100 questions and each student will receive almost double the time (180 mins) to complete.

The quizzes typically only have 4 questions, and everyone will get more than double the time (10 minutes) to do each quiz.

In designing this course with a universal approach, I aim to create an inclusive and equitable learning environment that values the diverse strengths and needs of each student. Universal design ensures that all students, regardless of their backgrounds, abilities, or learning styles, have equal access to the content and opportunities for success. By providing multiple means of representation, expression, and engagement, I intend to foster a classroom that celebrates individuality and encourages collaboration. This approach not only promotes academic achievement but also cultivates essential skills such as critical thinking, creativity, and adaptability. Ultimately, incorporating universal design principles into this assignment reflects my commitment to nurturing a learning space where every student can thrive and reach their full potential.

7. Accommodation and Accessibility

Religious Accommodation

When a course requirement conflicts with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the University or prohibits certain activities, students should request accommodation for their absence in writing at least two weeks prior to the holiday to the course instructor and/or the Academic Counselling office of their Faculty of Registration. Please consult University's list of recognized religious holidays (updated annually) at

<https://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>.

Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Accessible Education, which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities can be found at:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic Accommodation_disabilities.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Accommodation_disabilities.pdf).

8. Academic Policies

The website for Registrarial Services is <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>.

In accordance with policy,

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/policies_procedures/section1/mapp113.pdf,

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.

No electronic devices will be permitted during the final in-class test.

Policy on Using AI Tools in this Course: NOT PERMITTED

Using AI tools can be useful for some disciplines. But for this course, AI tools can be more harmful and unreliable than useful for research. For instance, tools like chatGPT often fail to cite correctly, adequately, or reliably. For these reasons, The use of generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT, DALL-E, etc.) *are not permitted* in this class; therefore, any use of AI tools for work in this class may be considered a violation of the University of Western Ontario's Academic Misconduct which may constitute a Scholastic Offence. The use of unauthorized AI tools can result in: a failure to receive full grades, the need to resubmit the assignment, need to orally present the assignment in office hours, or a failure to complete the requirements of the course.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university. The University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously (even when these are unintended because you should know when you are doing it).

Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

On tests and exams:

- Using or possessing unauthorized aids
- Communicating with someone else during an exam or test
- Misrepresenting your identity when you knew or ought to have known you were doing it.

In academic work:

- Falsifying institutional documents or grades
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes when you knew or ought to have known you were doing so.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated. If students have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, they are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from their instructors or from other institutional resources.

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

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

All required essays are subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

9. Support Services

Academic Counselling

Please visit the Social Science Academic Counselling webpage for information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters: [Academic Counselling - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](https://www.uwo.ca/academic_counselling/)

Accessible Education

For issues of accessibility contact Accessible Education at http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html

If you have any questions regarding academic accommodations, contact (http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/academic_accomodation.html)

Health and Safety

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<https://uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at

https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html.

To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

Learning Success Centre

Learning-skills counsellors at the Learning Development and Success Centre (<https://learning.uwo.ca>) are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

University Student Council

Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC, <https://westernusc.ca/services/>.

If you have a question that has not been covered, please contact your TA.

We hope you enjoy the course and wish you every success in completing it!

APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Prerequisite checking - the student's responsibility

"Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites."

Essay course requirements

With the exception of 1000-level courses, most courses in the Department of Political Science are essay courses. Total written assignments (excluding examinations) will be at least 3,000 words in Politics 1020E, at least 5,000 words in a full course numbered 2000 or above, and at least 2,500 words in a half course numbered 2000 or above.

Use of Personal Response Systems ("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."

Security and Confidentiality of Student Work (**refer to current Western Academic Calendar**
<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/>)

"Submitting or Returning Student Assignments, Tests and Exams - All student assignments, tests and exams will be handled in a secure and confidential manner. Particularly in this respect, leaving student work unattended in public areas for pickup is not permitted."

Duplication of work

Undergraduate students who submit similar assignments on closely related topics in two different courses must obtain the consent of both instructors prior to the submission of the assignment. If prior approval is not obtained, each instructor reserves the right not to accept the assignment.

Grade adjustments

In order to ensure that comparable standards are applied in political science courses, the Department may require instructors to adjust final marks to conform to Departmental guidelines.

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, at the following Web site:

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

Submission of Course Requirements

ESSAYS, ASSIGNMENTS, TAKE-HOME EXAMS MUST BE SUBMITTED ACCORDING

TO PROCEDURES SPECIFIED BY YOUR INSTRUCTOR (I.E., IN CLASS, DURING OFFICE HOURS, TA'S OFFICE HOURS) OR UNDER THE INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE DOOR.

THE MAIN OFFICE DOES NOT DATE-STAMP OR ACCEPT ANY OF THE ABOVE.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

EXAMINATIONS/ATTENDANCE (Sen. Min. Feb.4/49, May 23/58, S.94, S.3538, S.3632, S.04-097) 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.

Medical Policy, Late Assignments, etc.

Students registered in Social Science should refer to

https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html for information on Medical Policy,

Term Tests, Final Examinations, Late Assignments, Short Absences, Extended Absences, Documentation and other Academic Concerns. Non-Social Science students should refer to their home faculty's academic counselling office.

University Policy on Cheating and Academic Misconduct

Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence." (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

Plagiarism Checking: "All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>)."

Multiple-choice 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."

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of

Scholarship and Academic Policy. https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/index.html

*PLAGIARISM**

In writing scholarly papers, you must keep firmly in mind the need to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged borrowing of another writer's words or ideas. Different forms of writing require different types of acknowledgement. The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. *In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.*

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of publication, and page number.

Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. *In adopting other writers' ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.*

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source, these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases in their suspension from the University.

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Adopted by the council of the Faculty of Social Science, October, 1970; approved by the Dept.

of History August 13, 1991

Accessibility at Western: Please contact poliscie@uwo.ca if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you.

SUPPORT SERVICES

- The Registrar's office can be accessed for Student Support Services at www.registrar.uwo.ca • Student Support Services (including the services provided by the USC listed here) can be reached at: <https://westernusc.ca/your-services/>
- Student Development Services can be reached at: <http://sdc.uwo.ca/>
- Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <https://www.uwo.ca/health/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Procedures for Requesting Academic Consideration

Students who experience an extenuating circumstance (illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstance) sufficiently significant to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

Submitting a Self-Reported Absence form provided that the conditions for submission are met;

- For medical absences, submitting a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner in order to be eligible for Academic Consideration; or • For non-medical absences, submitting appropriate documentation (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration in order to be eligible for academic

consideration. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Counselling unit to clarify what documentation is appropriate.

Students seeking academic consideration:

- are advised to consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying handing in work;
- are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances, recognizing that minor ailments (upset stomach) or upsets (argument with a friend) are **not** an appropriate basis for a self-reported absence;
- must communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by either the self-reported absence or SMC, or immediately upon their return following a documented absence.

Academic consideration **is not** normally intended for students who require academic accommodation based on an ongoing physical or mental illness (recurring or chronic) or an existing disability. These students are expected to seek and arrange reasonable accommodations with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible in accordance with the Policy on Academic

Accommodation for Students with Disability.

Students who experience high levels of stress related to academic performance (including completing assignments, taking part in presentations, or writing tests or examinations). These students should access support through Student Health and Wellness and Learning Skills Services in order to deal with this stress in a proactive and constructive manner.

Requests for Academic Consideration Using the Self-Reported Absence Form

Western is discontinuing use of the Self Reported Absence system as of Fall 2022 and reinstating the AIUS policy or the Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence, found here: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence

Students seeking academic consideration for a medical absence not covered by existing Student Accessibility

Services (SAS) accommodation, will be required to provide documentation in person to Academic Counselling in

their Faculty of registration in the form of a completed, signed Student Medical Certificate (SMC) where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported Absences.

Request for Academic Consideration for a Non-Medical Absence

Students seeking academic consideration for a non-medical absence will be required to provide appropriate documentation to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self- Reported Absences.