

Course: WGS367H - Women and Health Summer 2015 Syllabus**Lecture:** Mondays and Wednesdays, 1:00PM – 3:00PM Rm: TBA**Instructor:** Shahad Abdulnour**E-mail:** shahad.abdulnour@utoronto.ca (allow 48 hours for response)**Office:** TBA**Office Hours:** Wednesdays 3-4 PM or by appointment.**Course Description**

The course will explore the interconnections between women, health and biomedicine in North America and transnationally. The purpose of this interdisciplinary course is to address issues of importance to women as recipients, as providers of health care, and as subjects of health research. Throughout this course, health promotion, health protection and disease prevention, recurring health problems of women, policies and methodological issues in research about women's health will be examined.

The format of the class will be lectures, interactive discussion/exercises with fellow class members based on course readings.

Recommended Preparation:

The level of this course is appropriate for all undergraduate students from different programs. However, it is recommended that the students have taken or currently taking WGS200 course.

Required Readings:**

The Sociology of Health, Illness, & Health Care in Canada by Strohschein and Weitz
The required course textbook can be purchased from UTM Bookstore.

**You are expected to read the assigned textbook chapter before each lecture.

Any additional reading assignments will be available through the library and course web sites (Blackboard).

Course Evaluation

You will be evaluated on the assignments listed below.

Criteria	Percentage
1. Questionnaires Activity	10%
2. Group Assignment	15%
3. Research Grant Proposal	30%
4. Class Participation	10%
5. Final Exam	35%

On Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments:

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
- Making up sources or facts.
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.

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.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources

(see <http://www.utoronto.ca/academicintegrity/resourcesforstudents.html>).

For further information, read "How Not to Plagiarize" prepared by the U of T Writing Centre: <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>.

***Use of Turnitin.com:** Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.*

For those who do not wish to submit their work via Turnitin.com, you will be asked to submit their assignments 10 days in advance for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism.

1. Questionnaire Assignments - 10%

Each week during the class, you will be asked to answer questionnaire sheet. Some of these questionnaires will be in a format of pre- and post-quizzes.

2. Group Assignment: Promoting Healthy Living at UTM - 15%

Each student will be randomly assigned to 1 of 7 groups organized around specific topics. Each group must gather information about its assigned topic and develop a pamphlet that would promote broader community awareness of their assigned topic. You are also required to present and hand-in a summary (maximum of 2 pages) of the types of activities that can be carried out within UTM to promote awareness of the assigned topic. Your in-class presentation (10 minutes, with PowerPoint) will be evaluated based on quality, creativeness, and marketing ideas. Further information regarding this assignment will be posted on Blackboard.

Due date: June 1, 2015

3. Research Grant Proposal – 30%

The grant proposal is to be on any topic in Women's Health that is of interest to you. The topic of the proposal has to be cleared with me. The proposal will be composed of a critical summary of a field in women's health followed by a proposal of a series of methodologies that must be considered in order to answer your proposed questions. The assignment should be no longer than 7 pages in length, including references. It must be written in the language of a scientific paper with proper citations and references in the standard format. See "Research Grant Proposal" assignment handout for more information.

Topic Submission is due on May 27, 2015

Final Grant Proposal Project is due on: June 10, 2015 beginning of class

4. Class Participation – 10%

You are expected to attend all classes. Participation marks are given based on your contribution to class discussion and presentations. You are encouraged to engage and ask questions that

relates to women's health. The discussion will be related to the assigned readings for that day and to relevant topics.

5. Final Exam – 35%

Final exam will cover concepts presented in the textbook, readings, and lectures.

Due date: TBA by the Registrar Office

Policy on late assignments: All assignments must be handed in during the class, at the beginning, on the date outlined in the syllabus. Late assignments for “Social Media” will not be accepted after the presentation. Late “Research Grant Proposal” assignment will be penalized at the rate of 5% per each late day, including the day on which they are due. Under medical legitimate circumstances please follow “***Documentation and Procedures***” below. Under no circumstances will a Grant Research Proposal assignment be accepted more than a week after its due date. *No electronic copies will be accepted!*

Religious Observance

Information about the University's Policy on Scheduling of Classes and Examinations and Other Accommodations for Religious Observances is at

<http://www.viceprovoststudents.utoronto.ca/publicationsandpolicies/guidelines/religiousobservances.htm>

Classroom Management

You are expected to read the assigned reading BEFORE coming to class. You are also expected to come to class on time, turn off cellphones and pagers, and to use laptops/computers only when being asked.

Documentation and Procedures:

1. Declare your absence on ROSI.
2. Contact me via email within 48 hours of the missed assignment.
3. Submit an explanation in writing within one week, detailing the University-approved circumstances, beyond your control, that caused you to miss the assignment. The explanation must be accompanied by proper documentation (originals, in hard copy). Include your name, your student number, your @utoronto e-mail address, your phone number, the course designator/code, and a description of the item you missed. The standard U of T Mississauga medical certificate is the appropriate documentation to submit if you were ill.

Note that it is not sufficient simply to visit a doctor's office; the documentation must show that you were incapable of completing the assignment, for medical reasons. The medical certificate must include the statement: "[Name of student] was unable to finish the assignment on [date] for

medical reasons." Documentation must show the physician was consulted within one day of the due date. A statement merely confirming the report of an illness made by a student is not acceptable.

Notice of Collection

The University of Toronto respects your privacy. The information on this form is collected pursuant to section 2(14) of the University of Toronto Act, 1971. It is collected for the purpose of administering accommodations for academic purposes based on medical grounds. The department will maintain a record of all medical certificates received. At all times your information will be protected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Note that holidays and pre-purchased plane tickets, family plans (unless critical, such as death of an immediate family member), and lack of preparation or too many other tests are not acceptable excuses.

Missed Final Exam

Students who cannot write a final examination due to illness or other serious causes must file an online petition within 72 hours of the missed examination. Original supporting documentation must also be submitted to the Office of the Registrar within 72 hours of the missed exam. Late petitions will NOT be considered. If illness is cited as the reason for a deferred exam request, a U of T Medical Certificate must show that you were examined and diagnosed at the time of illness and on the date of the exam, or by the day after at the latest. Students must also record their absence on ROSI on the day of the missed exam or by the day after at the latest. Upon approval of a deferred exam request, a non-refundable fee of \$70 is required for each examination approved.

E-Mail Policy

The University's official method of correspondence with students is through the University of Toronto e-mail accounts. It is your responsibility to keep your @mail.utoronto.ca account active and check it on a regular basis.

All e-mails must include your full name and student number as well as the course code in the subject line. Please allow 48 hours for response. If you do not hear from me after the 48 hours, please do send another email just in case it was moved to spam.

Logging in to your Blackboard Course Website: To access the Blackboard-based WGS367H5 website you will need to go to the UofT portal login page at <http://portal.utoronto.ca> and log in using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in to the portal using your UTORid and password, look under "My Courses" Module (on your right-hand side column), where you will find the link to the WGS367H5 course website.

Writing

The University of Toronto expects its students to write well, and it provides a number of resources to help you meet this expectation. A good place to start is the Writing at the University of Toronto website: <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/>. Read the Frequently Asked Questions page, explore the advice files, and look at the latest announcements about writing support programs. The **Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre** at UTM offers one-on-one instruction in various forms of academic writing and oral presentations. Its learning strategists will help you at any stage of your project, from understanding the assignment, through planning a draft, to developing strategies to improve grammar and syntax. They recommend that you book an appointment at least one week in advance and that you leave yourself lots of time before the assignment is due to apply what you have learned in your session. They can be contacted through their website: <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/asc/Students/index.htm>.

***Accessibility:** Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Resource Centre as soon as possible. AccessAbility staff (located in Rm 2047, South Building) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. Please call 905-569-4699 or email access.utm@utoronto.ca. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course. For more info, please see <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/accessability/>*

Course Outline: The objectives and goals for each topic area are listed and will be fulfilled by lecture and reading materials. This information will be updated as needed.

Summer Session 2015 Lecture Date	Course Topic	Readings	Due Dates
May 11	Introduction: Sociology of Health, Illness, and Health Care. Social Sources of Diseases	Chapter 1 Chapter 2	
May 13	Social Determinants of Health and Illness	Chapter 3	Group Assignment for Presentation
May 20	Health and Socioeconomics Inequalities ** Session about Grant Proposal	Chapter 4	
May 25	The Effect of Work and Family on Health Writing an Academic Paper	Chapter 5	
May 27	History of Health Care in Canada Group work (preparation for presentation)	Chapter 10	Your Topic for Grant Proposal is due. Please confirm your topic via an email by this date.
June 1	In-Class Presentations		
June 3	Reproductive Health Body-Weight Health Factors	Chapter 7	
June 8	Women, Immigrants, and Disability Women with Cancer	Chapter 8	
June 10	Mental Health and Self-Image	Chapter 9	Research Grant

			Proposals are due!
June 15	Diseases, Women, and Society Cardiovascular Heart Diseases	Chapter 6	
June 17	Women in Health Care Education and Professions	Chapter 12	
June 22	Issues in Bioethics Genetics	Chapter 14	