Course Description:

Work, whether paid employment or unpaid domestic labor, impacts all facets of life, including socioeconomic status, family, and well-being. This course examines the relationship between social structures related to work and health, both physical and mental health, throughout the life course from a sociological perspective. Connections between work and health may differ from young to old age, and experiences at younger ages may set us on trajectories of advantage or disadvantage. Throughout the course we will pay particular attention to the ways social inequalities related to work (by class, race, and gender) produce differences in health outcomes.

Prerequisite(s):

Third or fourth year standing in a module in Sociology, Criminology, BMOS. BMOS students must have completed 1.0 from: Sociology 1020, 1021E, 1025A/B, 1026F/G, 1027A/B. 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. The 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.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course the successful student will be able to:

- Identify and explain the relationship between work and health across the life course from a sociological perspective
- Demonstrate an understanding of the ways in which social change affects work and health inequality.
- Write a paper that clearly utilizes class concepts and makes an evidence-based, sociological argument to discuss the intersection of work and health across the life of an individual.
- Prepare an effective oral presentation that conveys key information in a narrow time frame
**Expectations:**

1) Students are expected to attend all lectures and are responsible for all material presented in lectures and from course readings. Class sessions include lectures, discussion, and in-class exercises designed to help you understand assigned readings. Lectures will often cover material not discussed in the course readings, but for which you are responsible. You also are responsible for the material covered in the readings, even if the material is not reviewed in class.

2) You are encouraged to participate in class discussions and raise questions throughout class.

3) You should do the assigned readings in preparation for class on the date indicated on the course outline.

4) I do not post Powerpoint slides or distribute them to students who miss class. It is important that you get to know at least one of your classmates because you will need to ask another student for notes from missed classes.

**Required Text(s):**

No textbook will be used. Articles are assigned weekly. A list of readings and options for accessing them will be discussed in class.

**Method of Evaluation:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation Type</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm test (during class time, in regular classroom)</td>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>Due: April 5</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current events assignment</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>30%</td>
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**Evaluation Breakdown: (detailed information provided in class)**

**Exams**

Exams will consist of multiple-choice and short essay questions covering the lectures, films, and reading assignments. You are responsible for all the material in the assigned readings even if this material is not covered in class. The final exam covers the material covered after the midterm and is **NOT** cumulative. You will not be allowed to use any electronic devices during the test. Please write legibly. Answers that the instructor cannot read cannot be graded.

**Essay Assignment**

This assignment involves applying the sociological tools and knowledge that you gain in this course to understand the intersection of work and health in an individual’s life. Papers must be at least 10 pages in length. I will provide detailed instructions in class. **Unexcused late papers will be penalized 5% per day.**
**Current Events Assignment**

In the second week of class students will sign up for a date and topic for their current events assignment. If you are not present in class on that day you are responsible for contacting me to schedule your assignment. The assignment involves two parts 1) A two-page critical analysis of a current events item of your choosing (obtained from newspapers, magazines, or internet news sources) related to the topic covered on the day the assignment is due (further instructions will be discussed in class). 2) A brief presentation of the news item to the class on the day your assignment is due. A portion of your grade for this assignment will come from your in-class presentation. The written current events assignment is due in class on the due date. Unexcused late assignments will be penalized 5% per day and points will be lost for missing the presentation.

Note: All written work (including exams) is expected to meet the standards of university work. Grades will be based on mechanics, style, clarity and diction, in addition to ideas. This is a sociology class, so the major focus will be on learning sociological ideas. But clear thinking is related to clear writing, and the grading will reflect this. Marks are based on the following:

- A+ = outstanding work that far exceeds basic requirements
- A = outstanding work that significantly exceeds basic requirements
- B = work that exceeds basic requirements
- C = (average) work that satisfies course requirements in all respects
- D = substandard work
- F = performance that fails to meet course requirements

**How to Contact Me:**

Email is the best way to contact me. During weekdays, allow for 24 hours until response. During weekends, allow for 48 hours until response.

**How to get important information:**

Make sure to check the course OWL site regularly for course updates, cancellations, and other course-related postings. Attend class.

**Important Policies**

**Policies for Assignment Deadlines:**

If you miss the due date for an assignment or exam due to illness or for any other unforeseen reason, you must provide notification of and documentation for the reasons for your circumstances to your Academic Counselor within 48 hours. If your problem is medical in nature, you should be seen by your doctor on the date of the exam or on the date the assignment is due. If your Academic Counselor agrees that your reasons are legitimate and are supported by your medical doctor’s documentation, you will be allowed to schedule a make-up exam or hand in your assignment at a later date without penalty. Unexcused late assignments will be penalized 5% per day.
(including weekend days). Make-up exams may be of a different format (i.e. essay exam). Late assignments are to be placed in the Sociology drop box (5th floor SSC) upon completion.

A Note on Plagiarism:
Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea 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 scholastic offence (the Scholastic Offence Policy can be viewed 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 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).

Policies on Examinations:
You may not use any electronic devices during examinations. 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

Policy on Laptops and other Electronics/Phones in Class:
Laptops and phones are to be closed during in-class films and student presentations. Laptops are otherwise permitted in class but if it is observed that students are on social networking sites such as Facebook or Twitter, or are being disruptive to other students, they will be told to close the lid and they will not be permitted to use it for the remainder of the class. Be sure that all cell phones are turned off at the beginning of class.

Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness
Western’s policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation: http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html

Accessibility Options:
Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar’s website: http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html
Scholastic 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

Mental Health

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.

Course Schedule:

**A list of readings is provided in OWL. The following outline is subject to change**

WEEK 1: Jan 11
INTRODUCTION to the course: content, assignments, expectations

WEEK 2: Jan 18
INTRODUCTION TO THE KEY CONCEPTS: WHAT DO WE MEAN BY LIFE COURSE, WORK, AND HEALTH?

WEEK 3: Jan 25
INEQUALITY IN HEALTH OUTCOMES OVER THE LIFE COURSE

WEEK 4: Feb 1
PAID WORK AND HEALTH part 1: the structure of work, job stress

WEEK 5: Feb 8
PAID WORK AND HEALTH part 2: emotional labour, work intensification

WEEK 6: Feb 15
PAID WORK AND HEALTH wrap up: gender differences

WEEK 7: Feb 22

**Reading Week, No Class**
WEEK 8: March 1

**MIDTERM EXAM**

WEEK 9: March 8

SOCIAL POLICY AND WORKPLACE POLICY

WEEK 10: March 15

RETIREMENT AND HEALTH

WEEK 11: March 22

INTERNATIONAL AND MIGRANT WORKERS

WEEK 12: March 29

UNPAID WORK AND THE INTERSECTION OF WORK AND FAMILY

WEEK 13: April 5

**ESSAY DUE**