



The University of Western Ontario
SOCIOLOGY 3315F-200

Disability
Fall 2024

Delivery Method – Blended

See Zoom tab in OWL for class meeting links

Instructor: Dr. Kim Shuey

Office Hours: by appointment via Zoom

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This is a DRAFT only. Please see the course site for the final version.

Course Description:

This course covers the sociology of disability, examining both the medical and social models of disability and institutional and interpersonal barriers to inclusion. The course provides critical tools to promote inclusion in education, the workplace, and other institutions.

Prerequisite(s): Registration in third year or above in any program.

Unless you have either the prerequisites or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in the course, 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

Antirequisite(s): Disability Studies 1010A/B.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

- Understand and critically evaluate theoretical models of disability
- Assess how key social issues relate to disability and impact people with disabilities
- Develop research and writing skills
- Develop skills to describe and discuss ideas and apply them to people's contexts, including one's own

Course Material:

Technical Requirements:

Stable internet connection, computer with working microphone and webcam.

Required Texts:

- 1) A.J. Withers. 2024. *Disability, Politics, & Theory*, revised and expanded edition. Fernwood Publishing.
- 2) D. Stienstra. 2020. *About Canada: Disability Rights*, 2nd Edition. Fernwood Publishing.

Options for purchase are available from the UWO bookstore.

Additional required readings will be available online or posted on OWL.



Communication:

Students are responsible for checking the course OWL Brightspace site (<https://westernu.brightspace.com/d2l/login>) and Western email on a regular basis for news and updates. This is the primary method by which information and announcements will be disseminated to all students in the class.

Contact me directly via email at kshuey@uwo.ca

Method of Evaluation:

The evaluation methods described in the course outline are essential requirements for the course.

Evaluation Breakdown:

Mid-term Exam (November 4 th)	35%
Reflection 1	15%
Reflection 2	15%
Final project (November 25 th)	35%

1. Mid-term Exam: November 4, 35%

The 2-hour exam will be held in person, during class time, in the scheduled classroom. It is mixed format, including a range of types of questions (multiple choice, short answer, longer answers) that cover all elements of the course to date. 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: Instructors are permitted to designate one assessment per course per term as requiring supporting documentation to receive academic consideration. For this course, the mid-term exam held on NOVEMBER 4th, has been designated as requiring supporting documentation.

2. Reflections: Two reflection papers, 15% each, uploaded to OWL by 1:30 on due date

The purpose of these assignments is for you to develop your critical thinking and observational skills by applying what you are learning in class. Topics, length, and additional instructions will be provided in class. Reflection papers should be submitted to the OWL Brightspace course website by class time as they will be used in class discussion – the assignment submission *portal will close at 1:30 on the due date*.

NOTE: Please note that flexibility is built into this assignment. There are 5 possible options for submitting reflection papers on the topic covered that week. Students will decide which 2 out of the 5 possible weeks they wish to submit their papers. Flexibility is built into the fact that students have a choice of which reflection assignments to write. If submission in one of the weeks is not possible due to illness or extenuating circumstances, students can choose to instead write and submit a reflection on one of the other upcoming weeks. It is therefore strongly recommended that students do not wait until later in the term to write their reflections. Because of this built-in flexibility, and because reflections are tied to weekly class discussions, *due dates and times listed are firm* and requests for academic consideration will not be granted.

3. Final Project: due November 25th, 11:59 pm, 35%

The final paper should be approximately 2500 words (10 pages) in length, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, including references (references should follow [ASA formatting](#)). The assignment will be submitted to the OWL course site, including Turnitin.com for plagiarism checking.

NOTE: Students are expected to submit the assignment by the deadline listed. Should illness or extenuating circumstances arise, or if students have accommodation for flexible deadlines through Accessible Education, students are permitted to submit their assignment up to 72 hours past the deadline without academic penalty. Should students submit their assessment beyond 72 hours past the deadline, a late penalty of 5% per day will be subtracted from the assessed grade. As flexible deadlines are used in this course, requests for academic consideration will not be granted.

Student Absences:

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

University policy on academic considerations are described [here](#). This policy requires that all requests for academic considerations must be accompanied by a self-attestation. Further information about academic considerations, and information about submitting this self-attestation with your academic consideration request may be found here. Please note that any academic considerations granted in this course will be determined by the instructor, in consultation with the academic advisors in your Faculty of Registration, in accordance with information presented in this course outline.”

Students must familiarize themselves with the [Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#). Students missing course work for medical, compassionate or extenuating circumstances can request academic consideration by completing a request at the central academic consideration portal. Students are permitted one academic consideration request per course per term without supporting documentation. Note that supporting documentation is **always** required for academic consideration requests for examinations scheduled by the office of the registrar (e.g. December and April exams) and for practical laboratory and performance tests typically schedule during the last week of the term. Students should also note that the instructor may designate one assessment per course per term that requires supporting documentation. This designated assessment is described elsewhere in this document. Please note that any academic considerations granted in this course will be determined by the instructor of this course, in consultation with the academic advisors in your Faculty of Registration, in accordance with information presented in this course outline. Supporting documentation for academic considerations for absences due to illness should use the [Student Medical Certificate](#) or, where that is not possible, equivalent documentation by a health care practitioner.

Students with an approved absence from an in-class test or exam will be required to write a makeup exam. Course professor or teaching assistant(s) may not be available to respond to questions during the makeup exam. Students should be aware that the make-up test will not necessarily be in the same format, be of the same duration, or cover the same material as the original test.

Course Schedule and Readings:

Discussed in class and posted on OWL

Artificial Intelligence:

Within this course, students are permitted to use AI tools exclusively for information gathering and preliminary research purposes. These tools are intended to enhance the learning experience by providing access to diverse information sources. However, it is essential that students critically evaluate the obtained information, exercise independent thinking, and engage in original research to synthesize and develop their own ideas, arguments and perspectives. The use of AI tools can serve as a starting point for exploring a topic, with students expected to uphold academic integrity by appropriately attributing all sources of information and avoiding plagiarism. Essays, written assignments and/or lab reports should reflect the student's own thoughts and independent written work. Students should also generate their own figures (e.g., graphs, diagrams) rather than using AI generated ones. By adhering to these guidelines, students contribute to a responsible and effective learning environment that promotes critical thinking, independent inquiry and all them to produce original written contributions. The same principles also apply to the use of translation software to support the writing the essays and other written assessments.

Academic Policies:

Please review the Department of Sociology “[Important Academic Policies](https://sociology.uwo.ca/undergraduate/courses/Academic_Policies.pdf)” document https://sociology.uwo.ca/undergraduate/courses/Academic_Policies.pdf for additional information regarding:

- Scholastic Offences
- Plagiarism
- Copyright
- Course Selection
- Absence from Course Commitments
- Missed Tests and Exams
- Religious Accommodations
- Accessibility Options
- Mental Health
- Gender-Based and Sexual Violence statement