

Course Outline – Winter 2022

FSHD-2300G: Understanding Family Research

School of Behavioural & Social Sciences

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course moving away from in-person delivery, course content may be delivered online either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). There may also be changes to any remaining assessments at the discretion of the course instructor. In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence, detailed information about the impact on this course will be communicated by the Office of the Provost and by the course instructor.

General Information

Course #: FSHD-2300G
Section #: 530
Term: Winter
Year: 2022-23
Course Day and Time: TUESDAYS - 6:30pm to 9:30pm
Course Location: IN PERSON - BR-136

Instructor Information

Name: Dr. Peggy O'Neil, PhD, PHEc.. OCT
E-mail: poneil2@uwo.ca
Office hours for students: TUESDAYS - 3:00 pm to 5:00pm
Office location: ONLINE - See Zoom Meeting Schedule posted in OWL

Course Description

Students will become familiar with the primary research methods used by Family Studies and Human Development professionals. Other topics such as research ethics will be covered.

Prerequisite(s): 1.0 from Family Studies and Human Development courses at the 1000 level or 1.0 from former Family Studies courses at the 1000 level

Antirequisite(s): FS2300FG

Extra Information: 3 lecture hours

Note: *Because this is an essay course, as per Senate Regulations, you must pass the writing component to pass the course. That is, the weighted average mark of your written assignments must be at least 50%.*

Required Course Materials

- McGregor, S. L. T. (2018). *Understanding and Evaluating Research: A Critical Guide*. Sage Publications Inc.
- Weekly Readings posted to OWL.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Students will become aware of and be able to describe the ethical standards and procedures required when working with human research participants.
2. Students will learn and apply the basics of social science literature reviews.
3. Students will become aware of and learn about the primary methods of research in Family Studies and Human Development.
4. Students will learn about and be able to demonstrate their knowledge of the basics of analyzing research data.
5. Students will demonstrate their ability to comprehend, evaluate, and communicate effectively about social science research literature.

Brescia Competencies

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the Brescia Competencies:

1. Students will become aware of and be able to describe the ethical standards and procedures required when working with human research participants. Self-awareness and development level 2, valuing level 2: quizzes, exams, and writing assignments.
2. Students will learn and apply the basics of social science literature reviews. Inquiry and analysis level 2: quizzes, exams, and writing assignments.
3. Students will become aware of and learn about the primary methods of research in Family Studies and Human Development. Critical thinking level 2, problem solving level 2: quizzes, exams, and writing assignments.
4. Students will learn about and be able to demonstrate their knowledge of the basics of analyzing research data. Inquiry and analysis level 2, problem solving level 2, critical thinking level 2 and 3: quizzes, exams, and writing assignments.
5. Students will demonstrate their ability to comprehend, evaluate, and communicate effectively about social science research literature. Inquiry and analysis level 3, critical thinking level 2 and 3, communication level 3: writing assignments.

Teaching Methodology and Expectations of Students

This course will be taught utilizing COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE (Wenger & Trayner, 2015) social learning theory. Small group and class discussions will be used; as such, students must read

assigned readings PRIOR to each class in order to be prepared and contribute to their own and to peer learning outcomes.

Copyright and Intellectual Property

PowerPoint lecture slides and notes, lists of readings, in-class activities, assignment guidelines, and other components of the course materials are typically the intellectual property of the instructor. Unauthorized reproduction through audio-recording, video-recording, photographing, sharing on social media, or posting on course-sharing websites is an infringement of copyright and is prohibited. Such action may be considered a Code of Conduct violation and lead to sanctions.

Course policies are as follows:

1. Attendance and participation are **mandatory**.
2. Assignments are due at time and date noted. Late assignments will be reduced by 5% of the value of the assignment, per day. Assignments more than seven days late will NOT be accepted. Late submission of topics or change of topic after the due date will result in a reduction of 10% of the value of the speech.
3. Assignments assigned in groups must be completed as a group. Individual submissions will be automatically reduced by 20%.
4. Requests for academic accommodation must be submitted through the academic advisors.
5. **Re-grading**: If you receive a grade on an assignment and you wish to have it reevaluated, please re-read the assignment instructions and review the grading scheme and comments carefully. If you are still convinced that you have not received the grade that you deserve, prepare a half-page written explanation and submit it with the original assignment and marking scheme. The assignment will be reevaluated based on the strength of your explanation as well as the assignment instructions and grading scheme. There is no guarantee that your grade will go up after re-evaluation, in fact it could even go down. Remember to communicate respectfully and clearly why you believe a grade should be reconsidered. Requests for regrades must be submitted within one week of return of an assignment **in class**. If you are absent from the class where an assignment is returned, please see the professor during office hours or by appointment to retrieve your assignment. The deadline for submission of a request for regrade is based solely upon the date the assignment is returned in class by the professor.

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Use of Zoom technology

Any classes or class presentations and discussions delivered via Zoom will be recorded and posted to OWL in alignment with course pedagogy and in support of student learning outcomes.

Western Technology Services has rules and policies for the use of Zoom, including best practices and information on Zoom's privacy and security can be found here:

<https://wts.uwo.ca/zoom/best-practices.html>.

Students are expected to abide by Western Technology Services rules for the use of Zoom including:

- Do not post group pictures of your meeting on social media without consent from each participant;
- Be mindful of what is in your background during your meeting;
- Be aware of who can listen to your meeting;
- Use the options within a platform to control screen/whiteboard sharing and who has access to your meeting (waiting room, password, distribution of link);
- When sharing screens, ensure no private information is open on your desktop;
- Let your participants know if you are going to record the session.

Evaluation

Evaluation Breakdown:

Component	Weight	Date/ Deadline	Learning Outcomes (See above)	Brescia Competencies (See Above)
Research Community of Practice	20%	Weekly & Apr. 4 th	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	1, 2, 3, 5
Literature Review Assignment	20%	Feb. 14 th	2, 3, 4, 5	1, 2, 3, 5
Research Evaluation Assignment	20%	Mar. 14 th	2, 3, 4, 5	1, 2, 3, 5
Research Overview Paper & Presentation	40%	Apr. 4 th	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Academic Accommodation

For course components worth 10% or more of the total course grade, please see the Academic Policies and Regulations section at the end of this course outline or consult the Academic Calendar.

For course components worth less than 10% of the total course grade, documentation will be required. Medical or other supporting documentation should be submitted to your Academic Advisor.

Course Content

Weekly Organizer: (TENTATIVE – Dates are subject to change)

Week	Date	Description	Assignments and/or Readings Due
1	Jan. 10 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OWL site; Course outline, content, format: and Assignments • Communities of Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OWL Resources • Article: Wenger & Trayner (2015) • DUE: Research Overview Paper - Team Names
2	Jan. 17 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Research • Critical Research Literacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 1 • OWL Resources • DUE: Research Overview Paper - Topic
3	Jan. 24 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Foundations: Concepts & Methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 2 & 3 • OWL Resources
4	Jan. 31 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Ethics: Policy, Practice & People • Orienting & Supportive Elements of Research • Peer-Reviewed Journals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 4 & 5 • OWL Resources
5	Feb. 7 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Justifications: Questions • Literature Reviews • Research Design & Methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 6, 7 & 8 • OWL Resources
6	Feb. 14 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative Research Methods • Position Papers & Discussion Essays • Conceptual & Theoretical Papers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 9, 17 & 18 • OWL Resources • DUE: Literature Review
	Feb. 21 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • READING WEEK 	
7	Feb. 28 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantitative Methods • Mixed Method Approaches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 10 • OWL Resources
8	Mar. 7 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistical Literacy • Descriptive & Inferential Statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 11 & 12 • OWL Resources
9	Mar. 14 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting Results & Findings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 13 • OWL Resources

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DUE: Research Evaluation Assignment
10	Mar. 21 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion • Conclusions • Recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 14, 15 & 16 • OWL Resources
11	Mar. 28 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INDIVIDUAL TEAM MEETINGS WITH INSTRUCTOR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See schedule posted to OWL
11	Apr. 4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RESEARCH OVERVIEW PRESENTATIONS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DUE: Research Overview Paper & Presentation • DUE: Research Community of Practice

2022-23 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

The complete policy regarding Accommodation for Illness - Undergraduate Students can be found at https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_135

Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions which may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities should seek Academic Accommodation through Student Accessibility Services (https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10).

Personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

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

1. For medical absences, submitting a **Student Medical Certificate (SMC)** signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner;
2. For non-medical absences, submitting **appropriate documentation** (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to their Academic Advisor. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Advisor to clarify what documentation is acceptable.

Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation.

Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to

complete their academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated.

The following conditions apply for students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds:

1. Students must submit their Student Medical Certificate (SMC) along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. An SMC can be downloaded from https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf;
2. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period;
3. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, scheduled tests or examinations, and other academic requirements;
4. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by the SMC to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence;
5. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the course instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements, arranging Special Exams (make-ups), re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawal without academic penalty.

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds are not normally considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor (https://brescia.uwo.ca/enrolment_services/academic_advising/book_an_appointment.php). If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines; please contact your Academic Advisor or see the list of sessional dates in the Academic Calendar (<https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>).

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 eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Please note that for asynchronous online courses, attendance or participation requirements maybe different than for synchronous or in-person courses.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work, and arrange academic accommodations if appropriate and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too

frequent absence from the class or laboratory

(https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_64).

4. 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:

https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20.

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse. The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

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.

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.

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. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, they may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, they may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal and if the matter falls within the jurisdiction of the SRBA. For information on academic appeals consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar

https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14.

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

6. PREREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written Special Permission from the Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the 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 prerequisite(s).

7. SUPPORT

Support Services

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/>. Students can access supports through Brescia's Student Life Centre (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/>) and Learning Development & Success at Western (<https://www.uwo.ca/sdc/learning/>).

Mental Health and Wellness

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can obtain information about how to obtain help for yourself or others through **Health & Wellness at Brescia**, https://brescia.uwo.ca/student_life/health_and_wellness/index.php

and **Health and Wellness at Western**, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html.

Sexual Violence

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at https://brescia.uwo.ca/safe_campus/sexual_violence/index.php.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy, and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.
