

*The University of Western Ontario*  
*Faculty of Health Sciences*

**Health Sciences 3090B**  
**Special Topics in Rural Health**

**Course Professor:** Dr. Beverly Leipert, PhD, RN                      **Term:** Winter 2012  
**Time:** Mondays 2:30-5:30 pm    **Location:** Sommerville House Room 3317  
**Office:** Health Sciences Addition Room H029                              **Email:** bleipert@uwo.ca  
**Office hours:** email for an appointment                                      **TA:** TBD

**Requirement:** Students must be enrolled in 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year of a BHSc degree.

**Note:** Unless you are a third or fourth year student (ie. not in second year) or have written permission from your Dean or the course professor to enroll in this course, 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 meet this requirement.

***1 - Course Description***

This course provides an overview of health issues for various groups in rural areas. It will focus on Ontario, Canadian, and some international examples using a social determinants of health perspective. Other factors that affect rural health, such as policy and politics, culture, human resources, and health services, will also be addressed.

***2 - Course Objectives***

Students will come to:

identify and discuss health issues of particular groups in rural areas  
recognize and assess barriers and supports to health services in rural areas  
analyze environmental, social/cultural, political and policy, and demographic factors that influence rural health and

**5 - Course Evaluation**

**MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION:**

The Stanfords are a family considering moving to a rural area based on a job transfer. As they find out information on the challenges facing rural communities, they are will discover that

A) rural areas within commuting distances are decreasing in population.

### Assignment 2: Class Presentation

#### **Due Date: To Be Determined in Class**

Each group of 4 students is to critically analyze one topic important to the health of rural people and present this analysis in class. Each presentation will be a half hour in length ie. 20 minutes for presenting and 10 minutes for class discussion. Be creative and original - for example, use dramatic representations, art work, role playing, music or teaching aids. Whatever you choose to do, the presentation must contribute to a *scholarly analysis* of an important rural health topic. Thus, considered critique of relevant literature and research must be a part of your presentation. **You must provide to the professor on the day of the presentation a page with the presentation title and names of the group members and/or a copy of the powerpoint presentation if this is used. All members of the group must present equally.** *It is advisable to consult with the course professor to ensure that your presentation suitably explores a relevant topic in a scholarly manner. It is also advisable that you review the documents included in the syllabus and on-line that provide useful advice for making effective presentations and developing appropriate powerpoint presentations.* Presentations will occur at times designated in the syllabus and discussed in class. Evaluation will be conducted according to: a) Content and Literature b) Analysis and Critique, and c) Presentation Skills and Methods

**Due Date for submission of names and email addresses of the members in each group: January 30, 2012. You must also submit your preferred date to present in class.**

**This information must be typed, not hand written.**

### Assignment 3: Scholarly Paper

**Due Dates: February 13 and April 9, 2012**

**This assignment consists of two parts. In the first part, you will submit a 2 page document** that outlines the issue you will address in the paper, answer the question “What 3 questions do I need to know more about regarding my issue”?, and provide 3 references key to your issue, cited according to APA. This 2 page document is due in class **February 13**, and is worth 10%.

In the second part of the assignment you will submit a scholarly paper of 10 double-spaced pages (exclusive of the Reference list, Type font Times New Roman 12, 1” margins) that articulates a critical analysis of an issue relevant to rural health. It is expected that you will extensively **review relevant literature as part of your paper. In addition, you should address: the magnitude and nature of the issue, why it is significant, factors that affect the issue positively and negatively, and how the issue could be effectively addressed through policy, research, practice, or education endeavors.** You may wish to consult with the professor regarding the issue selected and the approach you intend to take. Please follow writing requirements and processes discussed in class and included in the syllabus. *The Writing Tips, Checklist, and Steps for Improving Writing documents included in the syllabus and on line*

*provide important useful information - please review these documents before and as you write your paper*

## Grading of scholarly paper

Scholarly papers will be graded using the following criteria:

### 1. Content

- a. Overall analysis – synthesis of material rather than mere re-presentation
- b. Integration of source material – sources integrated into a coherent whole rather than presented as isolated facts
- c. Sources are properly acknowledged
- d. Good use of a variety of secondary materials – books, journals, websites, etc.
- e. In-depth coverage and analysis of topic

### 2. Style

- a. Good sentence structure and fluent writing
- b. Correct spelling and grammar
- c. Proper length
- d. Clear, easy to follow the analysis
- e. Correct use of APA reference style

### 3. Organization

- a. Paragraph structure is coherent and logical
- b.

## ***Course Policies***

**Email:** Your Teaching Assistant and I will reply to email during regular business hours (Monday to Friday 9:00 am-4:30 pm). Emails sent after Friday at 4:30 pm will be responded to on Monday morning. During the work week you can usually expect a reply within 48 hours. Please note that for many concerns, an email is no substitute for a face-to-face meeting.

### **English Proficiency for the Assignment of Grades**

Students must demonstrate the ability to write clearly and correctly in English. Work presented which shows a lack of proficiency in English and is, therefore, unacceptable for academic credit, will either be failed or, at the discretion of the instructor, returned to the student for revision to a literate level.

Visit the website <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/exam/english.pdf>.

### **Accommodation for Medical Illness or Non-Medical Absences**

Please see [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf)

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required where a student is seeking academic accommodation. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician or walk-in clinic. An SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>.

Documentation is required for non-medical absences where the course work missed is more than 10% of the overall grade. Students may contact their Faculty Academic Counselling Office for needed documentation.

Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner. Submit documentation as soon as possible, to the appropriate Dean's office (the Office of the Dean of the student's Faculty of regib07 Trder.0w5hh515 0 TD.0008 Tc36147 Tw

**via email** that this step has been taken as the processing of your request can take a significant amount of time.

Documentation for any request for accommodati



### **7 – Weekly schedule and required reading**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
<b>Class 1 January 9:</b>	Introduction to Course
<b>Class 2 January 16:</b>	Rural Health Status; Rural Health Determinants (2 marks)
<b>Class 3 January 23:</b>	Rural Health Human Resources and Health Services Delivery (2 marks)
<b>Class 4 January 30:</b>	The Health of Rural Women and Rural Men (2 marks) <b>Due Date for Names and Email Addresses of Co-Presenters</b>
<b>Class 5 February 6:</b>	The Health of Rural Children and Rural Youth (3 marks)
<b>Class 6 February 13:</b>	Culture and Rural Health (3 marks); <b>Paper Part 1 Due</b>
<b>Class 7 February 27:</b>	Aging in Rural Contexts; Two (2) Student Presentations (2 marks)
<b>Class 8 March 5:</b>	Rural Settings and Health Issues; Two (2) Student Presentations (2 marks)
<b>Class 9 March 12:</b>	Rural Health Policy and Research (2 marks)
<b>Class 10 March 19:</b>	Four (4)

**Class 1            January 9            Introduction**

Introduction and overview of the course outline and procedures, the organization of the course, assignments, and grading. The schedule for presentations and assignments will be reviewed.

READING: du Plessis, V., & Beshiri, R., Bollman, R., & Clemenson, H. (2001). Definitions of rural. *Rural and Small Town Canada Analysis Bulletin*, 3 (3). Ottawa: Statistics Canada Catalogue No. 21-006-XIE.  
Available at: [www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/21-006-XIE/free.htm](http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/21-006-XIE/free.htm)

Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. (2010). *Rural and Northern Health Care Report: Executive Summary*. Available at:  
[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/ruralnorthern/docs/exec\\_summary\\_rural\\_northern\\_EN.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/ruralnorthern/docs/exec_summary_rural_northern_EN.pdf)

**Class 2            January 16            Rural Health Status and Rural Health Determinants**

READINGS: Chapter 1: Health and Place in Rural Canada  
Chapter 2: Rural health status and determinants in Canada  
Leipert, B., & George, J. (2008). Determinants of rural women's health: A qualitative study in southwest Ontario. *The Journal of Rural Health*, 24(2), 210-218.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Aniko Varpalotai, Professor, Faculty of Education

**Class 3            January 23            Rural Health Human Resources and Health Services Delivery**

READINGS: Chapter 5: Geographical Distribution of Rural Health Human Resources  
Chapter 7: Building Capacity in Rural Health Services: The Effect of Continuing Education  
Chapter 10: Virtual Health Care Communities: The Use of Web-Based and Mobile Intelligent Technologies for Risk Assessment and Health Manageme( Availab)6.65ua(4f,1u.00/mci( )Tj-2mI

Denner, B. & Bowering, D. (no date) Comparing the Health of Rural Men in Australia and Canada. Available at <http://www.mannet.com.au/home/pdf/CompRMHealthAust-Canada.pdf>

Guest Speaker: Dr. Belinda Leach, University of Guelph

**Class 5      February 6      The Health of Rural Children and Rural Youth**

READINGS: Chapter 3: Children, youth, and young adults and the gap in health status between urban and rural Canadians

Bilinski, H., Duggleby, W., & Rennie, D. (2010). The meaning of health in rural children: A mixed methods approach. *Western Journal of Nursing Research*, 32 (7), 949-966.

Boydell, K., Pong, R. et al. (2006). Family perspectives on pathways to mental health care for children and youth in rural communities. *Journal of Rural Health*, 22 (2), 182-188

Guest Speaker: Saagar Walia, 4:00-5:00

**Class 6      February 13      Culture and Rural Health**

READINGS: Chapter 21: Access to primary health care in rural and remote Aboriginal Communities: Progress, Challenges, and Policy Directions

Browne, A., & Fiske, J. (2001). First Nations women's encounters with mainstream health care services. *Western Journal of Nursing Research*, 23 (2), 126-147.

Dabrowska, E., & Bates, J. (2010). The health beliefs of old order Mennonite women in rural Ontario, Canada. *Canadian Journal of Nursing Research*, 42 (1), 92-111.

Guest Speaker: Guy Hagar, Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre

**Reading Week      February 20-25**

**Class 7      February 20      Aging in Rural Contexts; Student Presentations**

READINGS: Chapter 23: Diversity among Older Adults in Rural Canada: Health in Context

Chapter 24: Looming Dementia Care Crisis: Are Canadian Rural and Remote Settings Ready?

Chapter 25: Health and Social Care Issues in Aging Resources Communities

**Class 8      March 5      Rural Settings and Health Issues; Student Presentations**

READINGS: Chapter 13: Rural Mental Health Services in Canada: A Model for Research and Practice

Chapter 17: Shifting the Burden: The Effects of Home-Based Palliative Care on Family Caregivers in Rural Areas

**Class 9      March 12      Rural Health Policy and Research**

READINGS: Chapter 12: Integrating Policy, Research, and Community Development: A Case Study of Developing Rural Palliative Care

Chapter 15: Potholes Along the Roads: The Ethics of Health Research in Rural and Remote Canada

Speaker: Dr. Sandra Regan, 2:30-4:00

**Class 10      March 19      Student Presentations**

**Class 11      March 26      The Practice of Rural Health Care; Student Presentations**

Readings: Chapter 14: Health Literacy in Rural Communities: Challenges and Champions

Canadian Association for Rural and Remote Nursing. (2008). *Rural and remote nursing practice parameters*. Available on line and posted on course web ct.

Leipert, B., Kloseck, M., McWilliam, C., Forbes, D., Kothari, A., & Oudshoorn, A. (2007). Fitting a round peg into a square hole: Exploring issues, challenges, and strategies for solutions in rural home care settings. *Online Journal of Rural Nursing and Health Care*, 7 (2), 5-20.

Reay, T., Patterson, E., Halma, L., & Steed, W. (2006). Introducing a nurse practitioner: Experiences in a rural Alberta family practice clinic. *Canadian Journal of Rural Medicine*, 11 (2), 101-107.

Scott, G. (1999). Physician practice in a rural setting. In W. Ramp, J. Kulig, I. Th07. nshendura-4ng issues, challe