

**HEALTH, AGING AND SOCIETY 1AA3:
INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH AND SOCIETY
Fall 2020**

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Learning content: Asynchronous learning content organized into three Modules (except for scheduled [test dates](#) and assignments and optional synchronous [drop-in chats and office hours](#)) (Module 1: September 8-October 26; Module 2: October 27-November 26; and Module 3: November 27-December

9). Please see [class format](#) below for more details.

Office Hours: Please see [description](#) below for more details about online office hours. Dr. Clancy's office hours will be posted on Avenue to Learn closer to the course start date and office hours for course TA's will be posted in September.

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Course Description

This course will critically examine social, political, cultural, economic, and professional/institutional factors that impact both our perceptions of and actual states of health, wellness, well-being, illness, and health care. In order to explore the diverse field of health studies, the course is divided in three parts. In the first part of the course, we will learn about the field of health studies, as well as what critical health studies is; examine how health, illness, wellness and well-being are socially constructed; and finally, discuss the social determinants of health. The second part of the course will examine health care systems; health care policies; the use of technology; and, health consumerism. The third part of the course explores globalization and ethics in health and health care. Students will have the opportunity for hands-on exploratory learning in the areas of health social movements, as well as alternative and complementary approaches to health and health care through the completion of an individual or group-written assignment.

Course Objectives

- Gain a critical understanding of the field of health studies
- Understand how definitions and states of health, wellness, well-being, and illness are constructed
- Explore how the social determinants of health impact our states of health, illness, wellness and well-being
- Examine different health care systems and policies to determine how systems of health impact individual and population health
- Learn about different health advocacy groups and their role in the construction of health and illness
- Explore the role of technology and health consumerism in health and illness
- Understand the diversity of ethical issues in health and health care
- Improve critical reflection skills, as well as research and writing skills through completion of assignments and in-class/tutorial discussions
- Engage in scholarly debate with classroom colleagues through in-class/in-tutorial participation and in tutorial activities

Required Materials and Texts

Required Text

- Gillett, James, Andrews, Gavin J., and Savelli, Mat. 2016. *Health and Society: Critical Perspectives*. Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford University Press.

Recommended Text

- Haig, J., MacMillan, V., Raikes, G. (2020). *Cites & sources, An APA documentation guide*, (6th ed.). Toronto: Nelson.

Both course textbooks are available for purchase through the McMaster University's bookstore website in both hard and e-copy formats.

Class Format

This is an online course that is held asynchronously – meaning that other than scheduled [test dates](#), assignment dates, and optional synchronous [drop-in chats](#) and [office hours](#), students will self-direct their learning of the three modules at their own pace within the given time frame set aside for each module. The class is organized in this way to ensure equitable access to course materials without needing to be online at a given time or date (other than scheduled test/assignment dates or optional office hours). The class is organized into three modules: Module 1 runs from September 8-October 26, 2020 (introduction to the course and Module 1, Parts 1-4, with an assignment and Test 1 due during this Module); Module 2 runs from October 27-November 26, 2020 (Module 2, Parts 1-4, with Test 2 due during this Module); and finally, Module 3 (Part 1, with the online mini-quiz due during this Module) runs from November 27-December 9, 2020. Please review the [course schedule](#) below for more information.

Each Module will be made available at 9am on the first day in which it begins in the content section of Avenue. For example, Module 1 will be available at 9am on Tuesday September 8, 2020, while Module 2 will be available at 9am on October 27, 2020, with Module 3 available at 9am on November 27, 2020. Each part of each Module (not including the Introduction) will contain: (1) PowerPoint slides, along with an identical PDF document, containing self-directed learning content; (2) a Word (and identical PDF document) containing additional notes to compliment the content in the self-directed learning PowerPoint (and PDF) slides; (3) A brief lecture auto-recording that summarizes the content under discussion in each part of each respective Module (*this is subject to change*). Audio files will be closed-captioned, and a transcript will be provided for those who cannot access the file. In addition to the course content for each Module, students are required to read the assigned textbook readings. Please review the [course schedule](#) below for more information on the assigned readings.

Rather than tutorials, your teaching assistants (TAs) will be **available via email** and will **host weekly office hours in the chat in Avenue to Learn**. Please note, these are not private discussions. Furthermore, there will also be **one additional scheduled optional** synchronous virtual tutorial drop-in session with your teaching assistants in the **Avenue to Learn chat in each of these weeks (listed below) before an upcoming course evaluation component for any questions you may have**: the written assignment (Week of September 21), Test 1 (Week of October 19), and Test 2 (Week of November 16) – these are in addition to the weekly office hours in the Avenue chat. Your TAs will also have one **by appointment only Zoom** office hour during the week. You must contact your TA the evening prior to the office hour (by 4:30pm) to make an appointment with your TA, who will send you a Zoom link for the virtual office hour. Requests received after 4:30pm will be moved to the following week of office hours;

additionally, if all time slots fill up in one week, you may be asked to join the office hours in the following week. Appointments are taken on a first come, first-served basis. **Please note, these are not private discussions.** Information on TA office hours and times for the additional optional scheduled virtual drop-ins will be provided on Avenue to Learn in early-to-mid September. Please allow up to 48 hours for a response from your TA, excluding weekends and holidays.

It is strictly prohibited to post, distribute, transmit, copy, etc., lecture material/notes/recordings in any shape or form (electronically, audio, etc.,) outside of Avenue to Learn and the SAS notetaking program. This includes but is not limited to: online note sharing sites, Facebook, YouTube, Google documents, etc.,.

McMaster University is committed to an inclusive and respectful community. These principles and expectations extend to online activities including email communication, electronic chat groups, video calls and other learning platforms. It is the expectation of this course that all members of the HLTH AGE 1AA3 community (students, faculty and staff) are respectful, inclusive, considerate and professional in all course related activities and communication with one another. Please see [here](#) for the full policy.

Course Evaluation – Overview

1. Individually or group written paper - 25%, due on Friday October 2, 2020 by 11:59pm to your TA's dropbox on Avenue to Learn
2. Test 1 - 33%, on October 26, 2020
3. Test 2 - 38%, on November 26, 2020
4. Online mini-quiz on Avenue to Learn - 4%, available from 9am-5pm on Friday December 4, 2020 on Avenue to Learn

Course Evaluation – Details

Individually or Group Written Paper - 25%, due on Friday October 2, 2020 by 11:59pm to your TA's dropbox on Avenue to Learn

As part of the continued commitment to accessible learning in the class, all students will have the option of working in a small group (2-3 students) or working on the task individually. In this assignment, you will look more deeply at health social movements and other health and healing practices known as complementary and alternative health. The assignment requires that you define and provide an example of each of the required concepts. If you choose to write the assignment as a group of 2 or 3, all students must contribute equally to the assignment; both individuals will receive the same grade. You also must cite properly using APA format throughout the assignment. You cannot use examples that are discussed in the textbook; this assignment requires that you do research to learn more about health social movements and complementary and alternative health providers. Please refer to Avenue to Learn for the assignment handout, assignment template, as well as a marking rubric that will be used to mark the assignment fairly and consistently. The written portion of the assignment, not including title page and

references, should be no more than 3 pages in length. More information, including assignment guidelines, will be posted on Avenue to Learn during the first week of class.

Test 1 - 33%, on October 26, 2020: 65 minute timed-test with two different times to choose from to write the test (Access from 10-10:30am or 5pm-5:30pm)

This test may consist of the following style of questions, such as but not limited to: multiple choice & multiple selection questions, true and false questions, matching questions, and application/conceptual questions that will test your knowledge of both self-directed course lecture material and assigned readings. This test will be written online on Avenue to Learn and will be a **timed test of 65 minutes** in length.

For equity and accessibility, there are 2 test times offered on October 26. Students will only write the test at one of the times – it is up to each student to choose which time to write the test on October 26, 2020 – ***you do not need to notify Dr. Clancy about what test time you are choosing – access will be granted for either test writing time:***

- 10am-10:30am on October 26, 2020: Test will be accessible from 10-10:30am, with 65 minutes to complete the test from when you log in
- 5pm-5:30pm on October 26, 2020: Test will be accessible from 5pm-5:30pm, with 65 minutes to complete the test from when you log in

This test is open-book, meaning that you can use your lecture notes and text as resources while writing the test. However, you are not allowed to collaborate with peers nor are you able to take screen shots, post photos, post questions online, access webpages for answers, or any similar behaviour/activity etc., as doing so is a form of academic dishonesty. Please see the policy [here](#) for more information. Additionally, your actions while writing the test in Avenue will be restricted as you will not be able to right-click, go back to a previous page once you have left it in the test, or access other features within Avenue. Strategies are therefore in place to prevent academic dishonesty when writing the online test. Please remember that an open book testing format does not mean you do not need to keep up with class learning content or study for the tests.

If this test is missed, only Faculty-approved absences will be offered consideration for a re-write. As the test is worth 33%, students must visit their respective Faculty office with appropriate documentation for the Faculty to review as the test is not eligible for an online MSAF. If Faculty approval is obtained, the make-up date for the test is **Monday November 9, 2020 at 10am**. No other date or time will be offered. It is your responsibility to attend scheduled test dates. In the event of any [extreme circumstances \(see policy\)](#) that prevent the test from being held online on the scheduled test date of October 26, the test will be rescheduled to launch online on Avenue to Learn the following day (October 27) with the same two access times (10am-10:30am and 5pm-5:30pm). While it is extremely unlikely that our test will not be held as scheduled online on October 26, it is

important to have a contingency plan in place so that the test can be completed as soon as possible without disruption to your student schedule and so each student can plan in advance, accordingly.

Test 2 - 38%, on November 26, 2020: 65 minute timed-test with two different times to choose from to write the test (Access from 10-10:30am or 5pm-5:30pm)

This test may consist of the following style of questions, such as but not limited to: multiple choice & multiple selection questions, true and false questions, matching questions, and application/conceptual questions that will test your knowledge of both self-directed course lecture material and assigned readings. This test will be written online on Avenue to Learn and will be a **timed test of 65 minutes** in length.

For equity and accessibility, there are 2 test times offered on November 26. Students will only write the test at one of the times – it is up to each student to choose which time to write the test on November 26, 2020 - ***you do not need to notify Dr. Clancy about what test time you are choosing – access will be granted for either test writing time:***

- 10am-10:30am on November 26, 2020: Test will be accessible from 10-10:30am, with 65 minutes to complete the test from when you log in
- 5pm-5:30pm on November 26, 2020: Test will be accessible from 5pm-5:30pm, with 65 minutes to complete the test from when you log in

This test is open-book, meaning that you can use your lecture notes and text as resources while writing the test. However, you are not allowed to collaborate with peers nor are you able to take screen shots, post photos, post questions online, access webpages for answers, or any similar behaviour/activity etc., as doing so is a form of academic dishonesty. Please see the policy [here](#) for more information. Additionally, your actions while writing the test in Avenue will be restricted as you will not be able to right-click, go back to a previous page once you have left it in the test, or access other features within Avenue. Strategies are therefore in place to prevent academic dishonesty when writing the online test. Please remember that an open book testing format does not mean you do not need to keep up with class learning content or study for the tests.

If this test is missed, only Faculty-approved absences will be offered consideration for a re-write. As the test is worth 38%, students must visit their respective Faculty office with appropriate documentation for the Faculty to review as the test is not eligible for an online MSAF. If Faculty approval is obtained, the make-up date for the test is **Wednesday December 2 at 10am**. No other date or time will be offered. It is your responsibility to attend scheduled test dates. In the event of any [extreme circumstances \(see policy\)](#) that prevent the test from being held online on the scheduled test date of November 26, the test will be rescheduled to launch online on Avenue to Learn the following day (November 27) with the same two access times (10am-10:30am and 5pm-5:30pm). While it is

extremely unlikely that our test will not be held as scheduled online on November 26, it is important to have a contingency plan in place so that the test can be completed as soon as possible without disruption.

Mini-quiz on globalization and ethics issues in health and health care - 4%, available from 9am to 5pm on Friday December 4, 2020 on Avenue to Learn
There will be an online mini-quiz available from 9am-5pm on Friday December 4, 2020, based on our module on globalization and ethical issues in health and health care. This mini-quiz contains 4 questions and is worth 4% of your final grade. **This is a timed quiz of 10 minutes. If the quiz is missed, there is no opportunity to write the mini-quiz at a later date. Please plan accordingly to write the quiz during the available timeframe.**

Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings

Module 1: September 8 to October 26, 2020

Introduction to the course

Readings:

- No assigned readings

Self-direct learning lecture content:

- PowerPoint slides (identical PDF document)
- Audio recording and transcript

Part 1 - Introduction To Critical Health Studies and Disciplinarity in Health Studies

Readings:

- Text: Chapters 1 and 2

Self-direct learning lecture content:

- PowerPoint slides (identical PDF document)
- Additional detailed lecture notes (Word and PDF document)
- Audio recording and transcript

Part 2 - Social Construction of Health

Readings:

- Text: Chapter 3 and 8

Self-direct learning lecture content:

- PowerPoint slides (identical PDF document)
- Additional detailed lecture notes (Word and PDF document)
- Audio recording and transcript

Part 3 - Social Determinants of Health - Part 1 - Concepts and Frameworks

Readings:

- Text: Chapter 10

Self-direct learning lecture content:

- PowerPoint slides (identical PDF document)
- Additional detailed lecture notes (Word and PDF document)
- Audio recording and transcript

Part 4 - Social Determinants of Health - Part 2 - Culture and Identity (Social Class)

Readings:

- Text: Chapters 4 and Chapter 5 (pages 82-86)

Self-direct learning lecture content:

- PowerPoint slides (identical PDF document)
- Additional detailed lecture notes (Word and PDF document)
- Audio recording and transcript

Notes for Module 1:

- **OCTOBER 12 – NO EMAILS – UNIVERSITY IS CLOSED**
- **NO CLASSES & NO OFFICE HOURS OVER FALL BREAK (OCTOBER 12-OCTOBER 18, 2020 INCLUSIVE)**
- **TEST 1 ON MONDAY OCTOBER 26, 2020, 33% OF FINAL GRADE (TESTING LECTURE AND ASSIGNED READING MATERIAL FROM MODULE 1, PARTS 1, 2, 3 AND 4)**
 - For equity and accessibility, there are 2 test times offered on October 26. Students will only write the test at one of the times – it is up to each student to choose which time to write the test on October 26, 2020 - ***you do not need to notify Dr. Clancy about what test time you are choosing – access will be granted for either test writing time:***
 - 10am-10:30am on October 26, 2020: Test will be accessible from 10m-10:30am, with 65 minutes to complete the test from when you log in
 - 5pm-5:30pm on October 26, 2020: Test will be accessible from 5pm-5:30pm, with 65 minutes to complete the test from when you log in

Module 2: October 27-November 26, 2020

Part 1 - Social Determinants of Health - Part 3 - Social Identity

Readings:

- Text: Chapter 5, p.87-98

Self-direct learning lecture content:

- PowerPoint slides (identical PDF document)
- Additional detailed lecture notes (Word and PDF document)
- Audio recording and transcript

Part 2 - Health Care Systems

Readings:

- Text: Chapter 9

Self-direct learning lecture content:

- PowerPoint slides (identical PDF document)
- Additional detailed lecture notes (Word and PDF document)
- Audio recording and transcript

Part 3 - Health Care Consumerism

Readings:

- Text: Chapter 12

Self-direct learning lecture content:

- PowerPoint slides (identical PDF document)
- Additional detailed lecture notes (Word and PDF document)
- Audio recording and transcript

Part 4 - Health Care Technology

Readings:

- Text: Chapter 13

Self-direct learning lecture content:

- PowerPoint slides (identical PDF document)
- Additional detailed lecture notes (Word and PDF document)
- Audio recording and transcript

Notes for Module 2:

- **TEST 2 ON THURSDAY NOVEMBER 26, 38% OF FINAL GRADE (TESTING LECTURE AND ASSIGNED READING MATERIAL FROM MODULE 2, PARTS 1, 2, 3 AND 4)**
 - For equity and accessibility, there are 2 test times offered on November 26. Students will only write the test at one of the times – it is up to each student to choose which time to write the test on November 26, 2020 - ***you do not need to notify Dr. Clancy about what test time you are choosing – access will be granted for either test writing time:***

- 10am-10:30am on November 26, 2020: Test will be accessible from 10am-10:30 am, with 65 minutes to complete the test from when you log in
- 5pm-5:30pm on November 26, 2020: Test will be accessible from 5pm-5:30pm, with 65 minutes to complete the test from when you log in

Module 3: November 27-December 9, 2020

Part 1 - Globalization and Ethical Issues in Health and Health Care and course wrap-up

Readings:

- Text: Chapters 7 and 14

Self-direct learning lecture content:

- PowerPoint slides (identical PDF document)
- Additional detailed lecture notes (Word and PDF document)
- Audio recording and transcript

Notes:

- **MINI-QUIZ ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 4, 2020, AVAILABLE FROM 9AM-5PM, 4% OF FINAL GRADE (TESTING LECTURE AND ASSIGNED READING MATERIAL FROM MODULE 3, PART 1)**
- **Thanks for a great term! Good luck on your exams and term papers. Have a great Winter break!**

Course Policies

Submission of Written Assignments

Your assignments should be typed and double-spaced in either 10- or 12-point Times New Roman or Arial font. Please submit your assignments to the drop-box on Avenue to Learn on the day that they are due. Emailed assignments will NOT be accepted. Please refer to assignment handouts for information on how, when and where to submit your assignments.

Assignments and exams are marked fairly and carefully. However, in the event that a student disagrees with their mark, the following procedure will be followed:

1. The student must write a detailed one-page note emailed to the TA outlining the reason for the review of the mark. This note must be attached to the original assignment and emailed to the teaching assistant
2. The teaching assistant will review the request and review the original assignment and provide the student with written feedback via email
3. Students must not submit a request for review any earlier than 2 days after the papers are returned and no later than 1 week after

4. If the student is still unsatisfied with the review given by the teaching assistant, the student may go through step 1 again and submit to Dr. Clancy. Dr. Clancy will review the request and review the original assignment and provide the student with written feedback via email
5. Please note that upon re-review, there is a chance that the new grade may be lower than the original grade received

Grades

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

| MARK | GRADE |
|-------------|--------------|
| 90-100 | A+ |
| 85-90 | A |
| 80-84 | A- |
| 77-79 | B+ |
| 73-76 | B |
| 70-72 | B- |
| 67-69 | C+ |
| 63-66 | C |
| 60-62 | C- |
| 57-59 | D+ |
| 53-56 | D |
| 50-52 | D- |
| 0-49 | F |

Late Assignments

The due dates for all assignments are fixed and non-negotiable. There will be a deduction of 15% per day for all late assignments, including weekends (15% for the whole weekend). If an assignment is due on Wednesday, but handed in or after 12:00am on Thursday, the deduction will be 15% for that day and so on. Deductions are calculated per day, not per 24 hour period. No assignments will be accepted 3 days after the original due date. Please refer to assignment handouts for exact dates. Any late papers/assignments will receive a grade only; no comments.

Academic Integrity Statement

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behavior in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behavior can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the [Academic Integrity Policy](#), located at www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

- Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which credit has been obtained.
- Improper collaboration in group work.
- Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Requests For Relief For Missed Academic Term Work

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF): In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar "Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work".

A reminder: All MSAFs must go through the course instructor (Dr. Clancy) for approval; please do not submit your TA's name as the instructor for any MSAF submitted for the course. These and other incorrectly filed MSAFs will not be offered consideration for missed work.

Copyright And Recording

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, **including lectures** by University instructors

The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

Avenue to Learn

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

Course Modification

The instructor reserves the right to modify elements of the course during the term. If any modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Office Hours and Email Communication

I will be hosting 1 hour of office hours in the chat on Avenue to Learn once a week, as well as 1 hour of **by appointment only Zoom** office hours during the week. You must contact me the evening prior to the by appointment Zoom office hour (by 4:30pm) to make an appointment with your me so I can send you a Zoom link for the virtual office hour. Requests received after 4:30pm will be moved to the following week of office hours; additionally, if all time slots fill up in one week, you may be asked to join the office hours in the following week. Appointments are taken on a first come, first-served basis. **Please note: office hours will be posted on Avenue to Learn in September. Please be aware: these are not private discussion.**

Alternatively, I am also available by email (clancysj@mcmaster.ca). Please use proper email etiquette when sending an email: include the course name in your subject line; provide a salutation (Dear Dr. Clancy); and include your name and student number. **Emails will be answered Monday-Friday between 8:30am and 4:30pm. You can expect a response to your email within 48 hours, excluding weekends and holidays.**

University Policies

Conduct Expectations

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#) (the "Code"). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, **whether in person or online.**

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students' access to these platforms.

Academic Accommodation of Students With Disabilities

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or sas@mcmaster.ca to make

arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University's [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#) policy.

Academic Accommodation For Religious, Indigenous or Spiritual Observances (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the [RISO](#) policy. Students should submit their request to their Faculty Office **normally within 10 working days** of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at their discretion.

Extreme Circumstances

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.