

HLTH AGE 4F03: INTERSECTIONALITY IN HEALTH AND SOCIETY
Winter 2020

Instructor: Aly Bailey, PhD
Email: bailek9@mcmaster.ca
Lecture: Mondays 8:30-11:20am,
MDCL 1009

Office: KTH 233
Office Hours: Mondays 11:30-1:30pm
and by appointment

Contents

Course Description.....	3
Course Objectives.....	3
Required Readings.....	3
Class Format.....	3
Course Evaluation – Overview.....	3
Course Evaluation – Details.....	3
Test 1 (30%), held in class February 3, 2020.....	3
Test 2 (30%), held in class March 16 th , 2020.....	4
Assignment 1 (10%), Personal reflection & self-evaluation, due February 10.....	4
Assignment 2 (30%), Presentation, held in class March 30 and April 6.....	4
Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings.....	4
Week 1 (Jan 6).....	4
Week 2 (Jan 13).....	4
Week 3 (Jan 20).....	4
Week 4 (Jan 27).....	4
Week 5 (Feb 3).....	4
Week 6 (Feb 10).....	4
Week 7 (Feb 17).....	4
Week 8 (Feb 24).....	5
Week 9 (Mar 2).....	5
Week 10 (Mar 9).....	5
Week 11 (Mar 16).....	5
Week 12 (Mar 23).....	5
Week 13 (Mar 30).....	5
Week 14 (Apr 6).....	5
Course Policies.....	5

Submission of Assignments.....	5
Grades.....	5
Late Assignments	6
Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work	6
Avenue to Learn	6
Authenticity / Plagiarism Detection	6
Course Modification.....	6
University Policies	7
Academic Integrity Statement.....	7
Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities.....	7
Academic Accommodation for Religious, Indigenous or Spiritual Observances (RISO)	7
Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy	8
Extreme Circumstances.....	8

Course Description

This course will explore the concept of intersectionality, health, society, and aging from a social sciences perspective. Emphasis will be on examining the ways in which age, gender, race, culture, sexual orientation and other social factors shape health. Learning the ways in which intersectionality influence and explain health and health behaviours will be introduced.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- Identify the historical origin of the concept of intersectionality and how factors such as age, gender, race, culture, and sexual orientation play an important role in health.
- Use critical thinking to challenge the way in which intersectionality has been a term misused by researchers and/or health care providers.
- Understand that social identities and political structures are complex systems that intersect in ways influencing health.

Required Readings

- There is no required textbook.
- Any readings for the course will be made available on Avenue to Learn (see course schedule).

Class Format

Class format is lecture only. Lecture outlines will be posted on Avenue to Learn.

Course Evaluation – Overview

1. Test 1 – 30%, held in class, February 3
2. Test 2 – 30%, held in class, March 16
3. Assignment #1 Personal Reflection & Self Evaluation – 10%, due February 10
4. Assignment #2 Presentation – 30%, due according to presentation timeslot (March 2 or April 6)

Course Evaluation – Details

Test 1 (30%), held in class February 3, 2020

Material from classes from Jan 6th through Jan 27th will be assessed using multiple choice and short answer questions.

Test 2 (30%), held in class March 16th, 2020

Material from classes from Feb 10th through Mar 10th will be assessed using multiple choice and short answer questions.

Assignment 1 (10%), Personal reflection & self-evaluation, due February 10

For this assignment, students will write a 4-page essay on their lived experience of intersectionality, will self-evaluate their reflection, and provide a 1-page rationale for their assigned grade. The personal reflection will apply material from the course and students will reflect on their positionality, providing daily life examples of their experiences of privilege and oppression. Students will also reflect on how their identity will shift with age and imagine a society that structurally fosters individual differences.

Assignment 2 (30%), Presentation, held in class March 30 and April 6

For this assignment, students will work in groups of 2-4 people and provide a 10-minute presentation about intersectionality on a topic of their choice (new material not already covered in the course). Groups will be chosen during class on January 27, and students will pitch their topic for approval by the Instructor.

Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings

Week 1 (Jan 6)

Jan 6 – Introduction to the course; Introduction to Intersectionality

Reading: Syllabus

Video: Kimberlé Crenshaw - The urgency of intersectionality:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akOe5-UsQ2o>

Week 2 (Jan 13)

Jan 13 – History of Intersectionality; History of Eugenics

Week 3 (Jan 20)

Jan 20 – Intersectionality and Health

Reading: Strings, S. (2019). *Fearing the black body: The racial origins of fat phobia*. New York, NY: New York University Press. Selected chapter: "Fat, Revisited" pp. 47-65.

Week 4 (Jan 27)

Jan 27 – Intersectionality and Multiple Identities

Notes: Group presentation and topic selection during class time

Week 5 (Feb 3)

Feb 3 – Test 1

Week 6 (Feb 10)

Feb 10 – Intersectionality Frameworks and Mental Health

Notes: Assignment #1 due

Week 7 (Feb 17)

Reading Week

Week 8 (Feb 24)

Feb 24 – Intersectionality and Later Life Experiences

Week 9 (Mar 2)

Mar 3 – Indigenous Health Inequalities in Canada

Week 10 (Mar 9)

Mar 10 – Doing Justice in Intersectionality Work; The Future of Intersectionality; Course conclusion

Reading:

Rice, C., Harrison, E., & Friedman, M. (2019). Doing Justice to Intersectionality in Research. *Cultural Studies ↔ Critical Methodologies*, 409-420.

Week 11 (Mar 16)

Mar 16 – Test 2

Week 12 (Mar 23)

Mar 23 – Work Period and Make-up Test Date

Week 13 (Mar 30)

Mar 30 – Presentations

Week 14 (Apr 6)

Apr 6 – Presentations

Course Policies

Submission of Assignments

All assignments are to be submitted online via the Avenue to Learn drop-box by the deadline noted on the course outline. Assignments are to be formatted using the American Psychological Association (APA) 7th Edition guidelines. Your assignment should be typed using Microsoft Word, double-spaced in 12-point font, 1-inch margins.

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

Extensions for course assignments will only be granted under conditions of medical, family, or other extraordinary circumstances. All other late assignments will be penalized at a rate of 5% per day. Late assignments will not be accepted after 7 days beyond the original deadline without appropriate documentation from the Office of the Associate Dean of Social Sciences. There will be no redistribution of grade breakdown for missed assignments.

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”. Please note, according to this policy, MSAF requests can only be used for evaluations less than 25%.

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.

Authenticity / Plagiarism Detection

In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly to Turnitin.com or via Avenue to Learn (A2L) plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

Students who do not wish to submit their work through A2L and/or Turnitin.com must still submit an electronic and/or hardcopy to the instructor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com or A2L. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, other software, etc.). To see the Turnitin.com Policy, please go to www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

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 his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

University Policies

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.

Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities

Students who require academic accommodation must contact [Student Accessibility Services \(SAS\)](#) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. [Student Accessibility Services](#) can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail sas@mcmaster.ca. For further information, consult McMaster University’s [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#) policy.

If you require this course outline in an alternate/accessible format, please contact the Department of Health, Aging & Society (ext. 27227 | e-mail: hasdept@mcmaster.ca).

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 requiring a RISO accommodation 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 his or her 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.