1. **Course Information**

1.1. Classroom Location:

Lecture:
Mondays: 10:30am-12:30pm, SSC 2028

Tutorials:
Wednesdays, Section 002, 11:30am-12:30pm, **P&AB 148**
Wednesdays, Section 003, 12:30pm-1:30pm, **UC 1225**

1.2. **Contact Information:**

Instructor: Isaac Luginaah
Office: SSC 1409
Office Hours: Mondays, 1-3 pm of by appointment
Phone: 661-2111 x86944
Email: iluginaa@uwo.ca

Teaching Assistants: Bianca Ziegler (bziegle2@uwo.ca) and Gabrielle Bruser (gbruser@uwo.ca)
Office: SSC 1424
Office Hours: TBA

Teaching Assistants: Email and/or office hours are the best ways to contact your instructor and TAs

2. **Calendar Description**

2.1. Course Description

This course introduces students to current issues in health geography. Through case studies, students will learn the important role of geography in disease ecology and its role in explaining patterns of infectious, communicable, chronic diseases and mental health. The linkages between population, environment and health will also be introduced.

**Prerequisite(s):** 1.0 course from Geography 1100, 1300A/B, 1400F/G, 1500F/G, 2131A/B, 2153A/; Health Sciences 1001A/B and Health Sciences 1002A/B; Sociology 1020, 1021E, 1025A/B, 1026F/G, 1027A/B or enrollment in the Major in Ecosystem Health or in any of the Global Development Studies modules, or permission of the instructor.
Prerequisite checking is the student’s responsibility

2.2. Senate Regulations

Senate Regulations state, “unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this 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 prerequisites.”

3. Textbook

Required text: Geographies of Health – An Introduction, 3rd Ed., by Anthony Gatrell and Susan Elliott (available at the Western bookstore)

In addition to the course text you will be asked to read various articles distributed in class/via Owl.

Check the lecture schedule for readings to be read prior to each class (i.e., the readings are the basis for lecture and tutorial discussion).

4. Course Objectives

By the end of this course, you should be able to:
(1) Identify and define the main geographical concepts related to the study of environment and health;
(2) Select the appropriate concepts and methodologies for the study of the geography of health;
(3) Communicate your ideas clearly and concisely in both verbal and written form

5. Course Structure

- History/concepts of (health) geography
- Health Transition
- Epidemiology: understanding the literature
- Health research methods
- Indigenous health
- Urban health
- People on the Move – Migration and Health
- Health Impacts Environmental Global Climate Change
- Emerging, Re-emerging, and Neglected Infectious Diseases
- Knowledge translation and health care
6. Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation Components</th>
<th>Percentage of Course Grade</th>
<th>Assignment Schedule*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 1</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Due Oct 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 2</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Due Dec 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Oct 21†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutorials/Participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>tba‡</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*For late assignments 10% will be deducted per day
†Please see Mid-term exams make-up dates at the end of the course outline
‡Please see Final exams make-up dates at the end of the course outline

Students are responsible for material covered in the lectures as well as the assigned chapters/sections in the text.

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

Grades will not be adjusted on the basis of need. It is important to monitor your performance in the course. Remember: You are responsible for your grades in this course.

7. Requesting Academic Consideration

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

(i) Submitting a Self-Reported Absence form provided that the conditions for submission are met;

(ii) For medical absences, submitting a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner in order to be eligible for Academic Consideration; or

(iii) For non-medical absences, submitting appropriate documentation (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration in order to be eligible for academic consideration. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Counselling unit to clarify what documentation is appropriate.

Students seeking academic consideration:
are advised to consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying handing in work;

- are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances, recognizing that minor ailments (upset stomach) or upsets (argument with a friend) are not normally an appropriate basis for a self-reported absence;
- **must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by either the self-reported absence or SMC, or immediately upon their return following a documented absence.

Academic consideration is not normally intended for the following circumstances:

- **Students who require academic accommodation based on an ongoing physical or mental illness (recurring or chronic) or an existing disability.** Students with an ongoing physical illness or mental disorder (recurring or chronic) or an existing disability are responsible, in consultation with their doctors or other health professionals, to determine if they are capable of pursuing their studies and, if so, with what accommodations. Students are expected to seek and arrange reasonable accommodations with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible in accordance with the Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disability. Students with pre-existing accessibility plans arranged through SAS may not need to provide additional documentation when seeking academic consideration where such request for consideration relates to their disability and where their accessibility plans allow for coursework deferral or deadline extensions.

- **Students who experience high levels of stress related to academic performance (including completing assignments, taking part in presentations, or writing tests or examinations).** Students with academic or exam stress should access supports through Student Health and Wellness and Learning Skills Services in order to deal with this stress in a proactive and constructive manner.

8. **Make-up Examinations**

Makeups will be granted with approved documentation only. All documentation for missed exams must be provided the Academic Counselling Office and Instructor within 48 hours of the scheduled exam. For missed exams, you must take your documentation to Academic Counselling within 48 hours of the exam. Otherwise, the instructor will assign a grade of zero. The format and content of make-ups may differ substantially from the scheduled test or examination.

9. **Use of Electronic Devices**

No electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations. Mobile phones and any similar devices should be switched off during class. If you bring one to class, be sure to turn it off or you will be asked to leave. No electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations.
10. **Academic 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 the following web site: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf).

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 ([http://www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)).

11. **Western’s Commitment to Accessibility**

The Department of Geography strives at all times to provide accessibility to all faculty, staff, students and visitors in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519-661-2147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar’s website: [www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html)

More information about “Accessibility at Western” is available at: [http://accessibility.uwo.ca](http://accessibility.uwo.ca)

12. **Medical Issues**

The University recognizes that a student’s ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to: [https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf) to read about the University’s policy on medical accommodation. This site provides links the necessary forms. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation should be requested. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once the instructor has made a decision about whether to grant an accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for tests, assignments, and exams.

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation: [http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html](http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html)

13. **Mental Health**

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit Western’s Health and Wellness website below for more information on mental health resources: [http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/](http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/).
14. Support Services
Student Support Services can be reached at: http://westernusc.ca/services/
Student Development Services can be reached at: http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/

15. Lecture and Tutorial Schedule

15.1. Lecture Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sept 9</td>
<td>Course introduction</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>History/concepts of (health) geography</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sept 16</td>
<td>Geographical Perspectives</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sept 23</td>
<td>Epidemiologic Designs/Health research methods</td>
<td>Oleckno, 2002; Assignment #1 issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sept 30</td>
<td>Health Transition</td>
<td>Martens, 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Oct 7</td>
<td>Urban health</td>
<td>Galea and Vlahov, 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Oct 14</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday – no class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oct 21</td>
<td>Mid-term test; in class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Oct 28</td>
<td>People on the Move – Migration and Health</td>
<td>Chapter 10; Assignment #2 issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Nov 4</td>
<td>Reading Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Nov 11</td>
<td>Indigenous Health</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Nov 18</td>
<td>Health Impacts Environmental Global Climate Change</td>
<td>Chapters 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nov 25</td>
<td>Emerging, Re-emerging, and Neglected Infectious Diseases</td>
<td>Chapter 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Dec 2</td>
<td>Course review</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14.2. Tutorial Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sep 11</td>
<td>No tutorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sep 18</td>
<td>Is there a role of “place” in health research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sep 25</td>
<td>Methods debate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Oct 2</td>
<td>Assignment time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Oct 16</td>
<td>Gifts from the Elders - Movie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Oct 23</td>
<td>Remedial help</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Oct 30</td>
<td>Why are some cities sick and other not? <strong>Assignment 1 Due</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Nov 6</td>
<td>Reading Break</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Week 10
- **Date:** Nov 13
- **Lecture Topic:** Can policy address global environmental change issues? If so how?
  
  What is happening in Canada?

### Week 11
- **Date:** Nov 20
- **Lecture Topic:** How can we minimize the emergence and re-emergence infectious diseases?

### Week 12
- **Date:** Nov 27
- **Lecture Topic:** Remedial help

### Week 13
- **Date:** Dec 4
- **Lecture Topic:** Remedial help; Assignment #2 Due

### Mid-term and Final Exams Makeup Dates

**Midterm makeup dates for this term as follows:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 18, 2019</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9:00-11:00</td>
<td>SSC 1004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 25, 2019</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9:00-11:00</td>
<td>SSC 1004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1, 2019</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9:00-11:00</td>
<td>SSC 1004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 15, 2019</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9:00-11:00</td>
<td>SSC 1004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 22, 2019</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9:00-11:00</td>
<td>SSC 1004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Final exam makeup dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 13, 2019</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9:00-12:00</td>
<td>SSC 1004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 19, 2019</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>9:00-12:00</td>
<td>SSC 1004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 10, 2020</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9:00-12:00</td>
<td>SSC 1004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Important Dates

- **September 5:** Classes resume
- **September 13:** Last day to add a first term half course
- **October 14:** Thanksgiving Holiday – Department Office Closed
- **Nov 4 to Nov 10:** Fall Reading Week (No classes; Department Office open)
- **November 12:** Last day to drop a first term half course without penalty
- **November 30:** Last day to drop a full course without penalty
- **December 5:** Classes end
- **December 6 and 7:** Study days
- **December 8-19:** Examination Period