



Religious Studies 2267F/G (570)
Spiritual but Not Religious?
Fall/ Winter 2025-2026

Instructor: J. Kato

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Course Information

Calendar Description:

An investigation of spirituality and the role that it plays in fostering human flourishing. A special emphasis will be put on understanding how spiritualities change in the different stages of life.

Extra Information: 3 lecture hours.

Course Weight: 0.50

Breadth: Category B

Subject Code: RELSTUD

Notice: Unless you have either the requisites for this course (fulfilment of pre-requisites, no anti-requisite conflicts), or special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may 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.



Department of Religious Studies
RS 2267G - Spiritual but not Religious?
Course Outline – January 2026 version 1

Class Time: Mondays, 2:30~5:30
Instructor: Julius-Kei Kato
E-mail: jkato@uwo.ca
I highly encourage communicating with me using text messages at our MS Team site
Office Hours: Email: jkato@uwo.ca

Facebook: I also encourage students to like my public FB page '**JK Kato-Studying the Quest for Depth and Transcendence**' where I occasionally post things relevant to the study of religion and spirituality. If there is any post directly relevant to this course, it will be labeled #kingsrs2267

Detailed Course Description

Many people describe their religiosity today as “Spiritual but not Religious.” Other expressions often used to describe this increasing group of people are: “NONES,” referring to the fact that they do not identify with any established religious institution; or “DONES” (They’re “done” with institutional religion). What is interesting though is that many still consider themselves “spiritual” in significant ways.

This course aims to be an investigation of spirituality in general and the role that it plays in fostering human flourishing. It will also explore the different phenomena described above and ask questions such as: What is the nature of religion? What is spirituality? Can the two be separated from each other? How can one link them in a wholesome way? A special emphasis will be put on understanding how one’s spirituality (and even faith) can grow and develop in the different stages of life.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, the students will:

1. Be able to describe, compare, and differentiate between “religion” and “spirituality.”
2. Be familiar with the main components and areas—suggested by some contemporary spirituality teachers—that comprise a more holistic (integral) spirituality.
3. Know some important practices that could enhance a contemporary spirituality and also be able to describe their theoretical underpinnings.
4. Have experienced journal writing as an important practice to enhance one’s spirituality or “quest for meaning”

5. Be able to articulate the different elements of what would comprise one's own personal spirituality based on principles from the academic study of spirituality.

Prerequisite(s) and Antirequisite(s)

There are no prerequisites or antirequisites for this course. What are required are: a willingness to explore the themes and questions expressed above and the diligence to perform the course requirements. *No religious affiliation or faith is presupposed or needed.*

Texts to be Used

(Required) Wilber, Ken. *The Integral Vision*. Boston: Shambhala, 2018. \$15.00

(Required) Sheldrake, Philip. *Spirituality: A Very Short Introduction*. 2012. \$13.50

The Bible. The New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) with Apocrypha (or the Catholic edition) is the preferred translation for this course. If you wish to use a different translation, please consult the instructor. Available online <<http://bible.oremus.org/>>.

Other materials will be available either online or in the resources section at OWL for this course.

Other Important Reference Materials

- Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church (through King's library): https://ocul-uwo.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/fulldisplay?docid=alma991045434963205163&context=L&vid=01OCUL_UWO:UWO_DEFAULT&lang=en&search_scope=OCULDiscoveryNetwork&adaptor=Local%20Search%20Engine&tab=OCULDiscoveryNetwork&query=any,contains,oxford%20dictionary%20of%20the%20christian%20church
- Faith & Religion in Canada from the Angus Reid Institute (2015): < <http://angusreid.org/faith-in-canada/> >
- Summary of James Fowler's Stages of Faith <<http://jkato.kingsfaculty.ca/jkato/assets/File/Summary%20of%20Stages%20of%20Faith.pdf>>
- Electronic New Testament Educational Resources site < <http://catholic-resources.org/Bible/Links.htm> >
- Beliefnet < <http://www.beliefnet.com/> >
- Spirituality and Practice < <http://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/> >
- Patheos < <http://www.patheos.com/Spirituality.html> >

Course Requirements, Evaluation & Readings

Students will be evaluated based on the overall evidence shown that they have a broad knowledge of the subject matter and are assiduously trying to read, understand, and interpret the object of study in a critical manner. Concretely, that learning effort will be shown through the following: *class attendance and active participation, diligent performance of the readings before every class, submission of their course journal entries, successful completion of examinations and, above all, the evidence shown in all of the above-mentioned activities of the development of critical thinking and reading skills.*

Item	Value of final grade	Date assigned	Explanation
Weekly Short Quizzes	15 %	At every meeting. You have to be in attendance to take this quiz. If you are absent, you may take it remotely with the express permission of the instructor	There will be an open-book but timed multiple choice quiz on the assigned readings every week. Although it is “open-book,” <i>you have to do</i> the readings IN ADVANCE in order to do well on this <i>timed quiz</i> . More detailed instructions will be given at the beginning of the course.
Class Attendance / Active and Critical Participation throughout the semester, SHOWN ESPECIALLY THROUGH ONE’S COURSE JOURNAL	25%	Students are encouraged to submit a weekly journal piece as often as possible	I will give you several opportunities to show class participation such as <i>questions, comments, etc. in or outside the classroom or on online forums</i> . But the major way by which I will gauge this category will be through your Course Journal entries and your participation in the class whiteboard or in-person class
“Book” Report	25%	Due Date: TBA	Detailed methodology on how to write this report will be taught during the semester.
Final Exam	35%	TBA	Will cover all lecture topics and course readings of the entire semester. A study guide will be provided. This will be an open book / open notes in-person exam at the end of the semester.

Main Topics to be Covered

This is a preliminary list of some of the main topics to be covered in this course. A more detailed schedule of readings and topics can be seen below in the schedule of topics and list of study materials.

1. What is Religion? Different Theories of Religion
2. What is Spirituality? “Soul” and “Spirit”
3. The relation between Spirituality, Religion, and Religious Institutions (such as “the Church”)
4. The phenomenon of “Spiritual but not Religious” also known as “Spiritual NONES”
5. Crafting “One’s Own” Religion and Spirituality
6. Stages of Faith and Spirituality
7. The “Praxis” of Spirituality (Some fundamental practices to deepen one’s spirituality)
8. The Self and the Shadow
9. Philosopher Ken Wilber’s Integral Approach to Spirituality and many other sub-topics

Course Journal

Students are highly encouraged to submit at least 5 course journal entries in the course of the semester. *This is the minimum. You can submit more than five for extra credit(!).* A journal entry will be about any topic that was covered either in the readings or the lectures. It can have the following components: [1] ‘Points that stood out to you and why’ *accompanied by your critical reflections, comments, and even questions* (remember, if a particular point “strikes you,” it is because you need to hear that at this point in your life; [2] Regardless of whether they “stood out” to you or not, write down—what you think—are the most important objective points in the topic covered, *accompanied by some critical reflections.*

What I am particularly trying to observe in this exercise is the student’s critical reaction to material encountered either in their reading or during class. The format of the journal entry will be clear from the Microsoft form that will be made available every week.

The course journal is one of the main ways by which I will gauge PARTICIPATION. However, if you go beyond the minimum and do this project well (that means: more entries, more depth and elaboration in the individual entries), I will give you extra credit that will go toward your final grade.

IMPORTANT: You have to submit a journal entry within a week *after* a topic is covered in class. When a new topic is introduced in the next class, I will no longer accept journal entries of previous older topics. The rationale for this rule is that I would like you to work regularly on this reflective and introspective exercise and NOT CRAM at the end.

Form of Submission of Course Journal Entries

I will provide a Microsoft Form on our Team Channel for you to submit your journal entries every week. To be explained at the beginning of the semester

“Book” Report

This written assignment is valued at 25% of your final grade. Choose a **work (a book, poem, song, movie, etc.)** that *you find meaningful to you in terms of having influenced your personal “spirituality.”* A number of resources will also be suggested by the instructor. Summarize its main points and evaluate it critically. The book report must be approximately from 8-11 pages in length. By this I mean: each page (250-300 words / 12 points font, double-space on letter-size paper)

Final Examination

The final examination, valued at 35% of your final grade, might include multiple choice, definition, ‘explain’ type questions and mini-essay questions. **THIS IS A TIME-LIMITED, OPEN BOOK/OPEN NOTES exam.** As a general rule, the questions in this examination will not require memorization or rote learning unless they are questions about very important data regarding the focus of study (to be pointed out before the exams). What will be most required are: the ability to engage with what we have studied in this course and express the different notions in one’s own words, thus proving that the student has truly made the subject matter one’s own.

OTHER MATTERS

Academic Honesty & 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

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or 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.

By the time you submit your essays, I will be familiar enough with your style of writing because you will have submitted several critical reaction notes already. Plagiarism will then be sufficiently easy to detect and so it is highly inadvisable.

Nevertheless, as per departmental policy, all required papers will 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 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

READ CAREFULLY!

Some noteworthy points on how this course will be conducted in the Winter Semester 2026

1. **[OWL and Microsoft Teams]** We will be using extensively these two platforms: OWL RS2267G and Microsoft Teams Channel for this course named RS2267 [2026]. Think of OWL as a kind of “storage cabinet” where I will put documents in the “Resources” folder. The Microsoft Teams channel is where we can interact more actively using the chat and whiteboard. I will also use the ‘Assignments’ function for quizzes and tests. All Western students have access to Microsoft products so you have to login to Microsoft using your Western account first.
2. **[Link to Microsoft Teams]** PLEASE JOIN OUR MS TEAMS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. If you join late, you might miss things I post before you joined. To become a member of a team, you can use this code: **000** / The link to our MS Teams RS2267 [2026] is: 000
Here is a tutorial on how to join an MS Team with a code (view from 1:00 onwards):
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TZ_eTpQSjHY
3. **[Learn the Functions to be Used at MS Teams]** IMPORTANT! Please familiarize yourself with how to use Teams, especially, [1] the chat function; [2] the General announcements section; [3] the ‘Assignments’ section where you’ll have your weekly quizzes and course journal forms. A useful online tutorial for Teams is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U-UfAvO18Uc>
4. Be familiar with this short explanation of ‘The Hero’s Journey’. Link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hhk4N9A0oCA&list=PLV7Diz4DTv4mEO5AzalIibGZD7SP5sSYW&index=1>
5. See to it that you watch the movie, *The Matrix* (just the original movie of 1999). Link (through Western libraries): https://ocul-uwo.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/fulldisplay?docid=alma991045417319605163&context=L&vid=01OCUL_UWO:UWO_DEFAULT&lang=en&search_scope=OCULDiscoveryNetwork&ad

[aplor=Local%20Search%20Engine&tab=OCULDiscoveryNetwork&query=genre,contains,video,AND&query=any,contains,the%20matrix,AND&mode=advanced&offset=0](#)

Good luck and if you have any other concerns, know that I'm always available to discuss them personally with you.

JK Kato

RS2267 - READING TOPICS & SCHEDULE

Note Well: “IV” (refers to Ken Wilber’s *Integral Vision*) / “SPIR” (refers to Philip Shelldrake’s *Spirituality: A Very Short Introduction*) / “PR” means “Praxis” – a practical component of spirituality to be studied and practiced during class time. In the course of the semester, other more specific readings, passages & other sources might be assigned and made available in OWL-Resources.

Week (or Course Unit) Number	Date	Topics to be covered in lectures and readings	Readings and Study Materials: Finalized version will be made available at the beginning of the semester)
<p><i>BEFORE THE COURSE STARTS</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be familiar with this short explanation of ‘The Hero’s Journey’. Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hhk4N9A0oCA&list=PLV7Diz4DTv4mEO5AzalIbGZD7SP5sSYW&index=1 • See to it that you watch the movie, <i>The Matrix</i> (just the original movie of 1999). Link (through Western libraries): https://ocul-uwo.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/fulldisplay?docid=alma991045417319605163&context=L&vid=01OCUL_UWO:UWO_DEFAULT&lang=en&search_scope=OCULDiscoveryNetwork&adaptor=Local%20Search%20Engine&tab=OCULDiscoveryNetwork&query=genre,contains,video,AND&query=any,contains,the%20matrix,AND&mode=advanced&offset=0 			
1	Jan 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundamental Ideas to start this course with • What is Religion? What is Spirituality? What’s the Difference? • General Description of the Key Concepts of this Course: “Religion”, “Spirituality”, “Theology”, “Religious Studies” • The ‘Spiritual but not Religious’ SBNR Phenomenon • PR – STOP and Be Still! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • READ! link #1 • SPIR, chap 1 • REMINDER: Before the course starts, watch the movie, <i>The Matrix</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link #1 Voices that express contemporary spiritualities. https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-sh/spirituality • 			
2	Jan 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is “Spirituality”? (continued) • In-Depth Description of Spirituality • The ‘Spiritual but not Religious’ Phenomenon (cont’d) • PR – “The Breath”, Meditation, Contemplation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Quizzes begin TODAY! • Wilber: What do we mean when we say “Spirituality”? (OWL-Resources) • Benner on Spirituality (OWL Resources) • IV, chap 1
3	Jan 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What’s a Holistic/Integral Spirituality made of? Component #1: “Showing-Up” (AQUAL= ‘All Quadrants-All Levels’) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IV, chaps 2-3 • SPIR, chap 2 (re-read SPIR, chap 1 as well. It will be included in the quiz)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · SBNR angle: What’s the place of religion and what’s the place of spirituality in human life? · PR – “I am the Pond” (I am bigger than my particular emotions) · 	
4	Jan 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Religious Experience · Integral Spirituality Component #2: “Waking-Up” · The God-Question · SBNR angle: Is “God” necessary? · PR – Gratitude – David Steindl-Rast · 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · SPIR, chap 3 · JK Kato on ‘The God Question’ from <i>Reading the Bible in a Secular World</i>, chap 2 (OWL Resources).
5	Feb 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Integral Spirituality Component #3 “Growing-Up” (Part 1) · Stages of Faith · SBNR angle: Many SBNRs are in a different place compared to religious institutions · PR – “Savour, Treasure, Cherish” · 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · James Fowler: <i>Stages of Faith</i>. See Links #2 and #3 below · IV, chap 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link #2: https://jkato.kingsfaculty.ca/jkato/assets/File/Summary%20of%20Stages%20of%20Faith.pdf • Link #3: http://jkato.kingsfaculty.ca/jkato/assets/File/Fowler%20Stages%20-%20Scott%20Peck%20simplified.pdf 			
	Feb 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Research and Writing Week · 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·
6	Mar 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Integral Spirituality Component #3 “Growing-Up” (Part 2) · SBNR angle: The worldview of many contemporary Westerners and the worldview of many Christian churches · PR – Mantra / Centering Prayer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Oppelt: <i>Integral Spirituality / The Problem with Religion</i> (OWL Resources) · SPIR, chap 4
7	Mar 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Integral Spirituality Component #4: “Cleaning Up” · Shadow Work · SBNR angle: The shadows of religion and how it has turned many people off from religion · PR: Taize Exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Wilber: Dealing with the Shadow (OWL-Resources) · Diamond S –the Shadow. (OWL-Resources) · IV, chap 5 · (not included in quiz) Linns – Focusing Prayer
8	Mar 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The Ethical Dimension of Spirituality · A Global Ethic · Charter of Compassion · SBNR angle: Ethics and going “beyond religion” · PR – Discernment-Consolation and Desolation · 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · SPIR, chap 5 · A Global Ethic See Links #4 & #5 / Watch the short video on ‘a Global Ethic’ (link below) · Charter of Compassion. See Link #6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link #4: https://jkato.kingsfaculty.ca/jkato/assets/File/Global%20Ethic%20-a%20brief%20summary.pdf • Link #5: https://parliamentofreligions.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Global-Ethic-PDF-2020-Update.pdf • Link #6: https://charterforcompassion.org/sign-the-charter.html • A Global Ethic (in 2 minutes): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qZZDsKyOEUo 			

9	Mar 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Crafting Your Own Spirituality · Creeds and their role in Religion/Spirituality · SBNR angle: Crafting one's own spirituality as a necessary skill · PR: Discernment and Death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Read Ninian Smart's 'Dimensions of Religion' See Link #7 and N. Smart document in OWL Resources · Roger Walsh. Essential Spirituality. See Link #8 · IV, chap 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link #7: https://jkato.kingsfaculty.ca/jkato/assets/File/Smart%20-The%20%20Dimensions%20of%20Religion%20-v2.pdf • Link #8: https://spiritual-notandyet-religious-jkk.blogspot.com/2020/11/the-seven-practices-that-awaken-heart.html 			
11	Mar 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Spirituality in the Postmodern World · Study: Why Religion is Crucial and Important (see reading) · SBNR angle: The religion of "life" · PR: 12 Step Spiritualities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Don Cupitt on Religion. See Link #9 · Wilber, <i>Integral Spirituality</i>, chap 9. (OWL-Resources)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link #9: http://www.philosopherkings.co.uk/doncupitt.html 			
12	Apr 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Course Recap · Most Important Aspects of the Course about Spirituality, the SBNR phenomenon, and the state of religion today 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · IV, chap 7 · SPIR, chaps 6 & 7
			·

List of Online Links

#1 Voices that express contemporary spiritualities.

Link: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-sh/spirituality>

#2 James Fowler: Stages of Faith

Link:

<https://jkato.kingsfaculty.ca/jkato/assets/File/Summary%20of%20Stages%20of%20Faith.pdf>

#3 Chart of Fowler's Stages according to Scott Peck:

<http://jkato.kingsfaculty.ca/jkato/assets/File/Fowler%20Stages%20-%20Scott%20Peck%20simplified.pdf>

#4 A Global Ethic – Short Summary

Link: <https://jkato.kingsfaculty.ca/jkato/assets/File/Global%20Ethic%20a%20brief%20summary.pdf>

#5 Toward a Global Ethic – Declaration

Link: <https://parliamentofreligions.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Global-Ethic-PDF-2020-Update.pdf>

#6 The Charter of Compassion

Link: <https://charterforcompassion.org/sign-the-charter.html>

#7 Ninian Smart’s ‘Seven Dimensions of Religion’ (Read the whole article but focus on the “Seven Dimensions of Religion”)

Link: <http://www.philosopherkings.co.uk/Smart.html>

Another description of Smart’s “Dimensions of Religion” (with an added 8th element, the “Political” Dimension)

Link: <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/df32/a42eb9d64e4588584524b415d46323357ff6.pdf>

#8 The Essential Practices of Spirituality according to Roger Walsh

Link: <https://spiritual-notandyet-religious-jkk.blogspot.com/2020/11/the-seven-practices-that-awaken-heart.html>

Youtube Video: The Essential Seven Spiritual Practices

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tf4_nNsAARA

#9 Religion according to philosopher Don Cupitt

Link: <http://www.philosopherkings.co.uk/doncupitt.html>

KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

GENERAL COURSE POLICIES

2025-2026

1. Academic Accommodations, Consideration for Absences

Academic Accommodation (Accessibility)

Accessibility Services works to ensure that academic programs are accessible to all students, and supports students who may have a condition related to, but not limited to, vision, hearing, mobility, different ways of learning, mental health, chronic illnesses, chronic pain, autism spectrum disorder, ADD/ADHD, and temporary conditions (beyond short-term academic consideration). Accessibility Services provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive assessment. The accommodation policy can be found here [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#). Information on Accessibility Services at King's can be found [here](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

If a student is unable to meet a course requirement due to substantial but temporary extenuating circumstances (medical or compassionate), they should follow the procedures below.

In some cases, where instructors have built flexibility into their assessments, this flexibility will already address consideration needs.

Requests for academic consideration should be directed to the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration. Requests must be made as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the missed assessment.

As a rule, documentation is required for academic consideration. For academic consideration requests on medical grounds, the Student Medical Certificate is available at https://www.kings.uwo.ca/kings/assets/File/currentStudents/courses_enrollment/exams_and_tests/SMC-Feb-2025.pdf.

Students are permitted one academic consideration request without supporting documentation per term per course.

Instructors may designate one assessment per half-course weight as requiring formal supporting documentation. Please refer to the course outline for each course.

For further information, please see:

https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf

Absences from Final Examinations

If you miss the Final Exam, contact the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration as soon as you are able to do so. They will assess your eligibility to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a “Multiple Exam Situation” (e.g., more than 2 exams in 23-hour period, or more than 3 exams in a 47-hour period).

If a student fails to write a scheduled Special Examination, the date of the next Special Examination (if granted) normally will be the scheduled date for the final exam the next time this course is offered. The maximum course load for that term will be reduced by the credit of the course(s) for which the final examination has been deferred. See the Academic Calendar for details (under [Special Examinations](#)).

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give notice in writing to the instructor and Academic Advising Office if a course requirement will be affected by a religious holiday/observance. Notice must be given as early as possible, and no later than two weeks prior to an examination, and one week prior to a midterm test date. It is the responsibility of such students to inform themselves concerning the work done in classes from which they are absent and to take appropriate action.

2. Support Services

Accessibility, Counselling and Student Development at King’s University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-services/>

Students experiencing emotional or mental health distress can access services at King’s University College: <http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/campus-services/student-support-services/personal-counselling/>

Good2talk is a good online and phone 24/7 resource for students and is available in English, Mandarin, and French: <https://good2talk.ca>, 1-866-925-5454

MentalHealth@Western provides a complete list of options about how to obtain help:

https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/

Academic Support Services at King’s University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/academic-resources/>

GBSV Support:

King’s is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

You can reach someone supports at Kings by emailing Care@kings.uwo.ca or calling 519-930-4640 to reach a social worker who can offer help.

You can also reach Western’s Gender-Based Violence & Survivor Support Case Manager by [email](#) or by calling 519-661-3568.

Further supports can be found on this website: <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

See also https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html

University Students' Council offers many valuable support services for students, including the health insurance plan: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

3. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

Use of Electronic Devices: Unless explicitly stated otherwise, you are not allowed to have a cell phone, or any other electronic device, with you during tests or examinations. Unauthorized possession of such a device during a test or examination constitutes an academic offence.

Use of Laptops, Tablets, and Smartphones in the Classroom: King's University College at Western University acknowledges the integration of new technologies and learning methods into the curriculum. The use of electronic devices such as laptop computers, tablets, or smartphones can contribute to student engagement and effective learning. At the same time, King's recognizes that instructors and students share jointly the responsibility to establish and maintain a respectful classroom environment conducive to learning.

The use of electronic devices by students during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., shall be for matters related to the course at hand only. Students found to be using electronic devices for purposes not directly related to the class may be subject to sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct; see <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-affairs/code-of-student-conduct1/>

Inappropriate use of electronics (e.g., laptops, tablets, smartphones) during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., creates a significant disruption. As a consequence, instructors may choose to limit the use of electronic devices in these settings. In addition, in order to provide a safe classroom environment, students attending in-person class sessions are strongly advised to operate laptops with batteries rather than power cords.

4. Statement on Academic Offences

King's is committed to academic integrity. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, is posted at

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

It is expected that students will submit work that is truly their own, completed without external assistance (human or artificial) except as explicitly permitted by the course instructor. Check with your instructor on what tools, including generative AI (ChatGPT, translation tools, grammar-checking tools) are permitted in the course. Because a tool is permitted in one course, that does not mean it is permitted in other courses.

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; see <https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/tools/Originality Reports - TurnItIn.html>.

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.

5. Copyright of Course Material

Lectures and course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, tests, outlines, and similar materials are protected by copyright. Faculty members are the exclusive owner of copyright in those materials they create. Students may take notes and make copies for their own use. Students may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly (whether or not a fee is charged) without the express written consent of a faculty member. Unauthorized sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

Similarly, students own copyright in their own original papers and exam essays. If a faculty member wishes to post a student's answers or papers on the course website, they should ask for the student's written permission.

6. Use of Recordings

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation and/or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor. Unauthorized recording and/or sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

7. Policy on Attendance

Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course, after due warning has been given. On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.