



Thanatology 2225A (670)

Fall 2025

Topical Issues in Thanatology

Course Information:

Calendar Description: An interdisciplinary overview of current trends, practices, and issues in the field of Thanatology. Topics include the children's responses to loss and grief, death in popular culture, sexuality in Thanatology-related contexts, diversity in Thanatology, suicide, and professional issues.

Prerequisite(s):

Antirequisite(s): The former Thanatology 2200.

Extra Information: 3 lecture hours.

Course Weight: 0.50 **Breadth:** A

Subject Code: THANAT

Notice: Unless you have either the requisites for this course (fulfilment of pre-requisites, no antirequisite conflicts), or special permission from your Dean to enroll 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.



Thanatology 2225A/670
Topical Issues in Thanatology
Fall 2025

Professor: Dr. Lisa McLean (she/her)

Email: lmclea43@uwo.ca - Please include the course name in your email subject line.

Office hours: Mondays, 3-4pm on Zoom (link available in the OWL Calendar)

Class Time & Location: Online asynchronous

This is a fully online course that will use King's/Western's learning platform, OWL Brightspace, and other educational resources based on the needs of the course. This class is designed to be asynchronous, meaning we will not have a regular, mandatory time when the entire class must be online. However, there will/may be some synchronous activities that you will sign up for based on your own schedule, including office hours, and optional synchronous discussions (see Participation – page 2).

The course begins on **Monday, September 8** and continues until **Monday, December 1**, honouring all [important dates](#) derived from university approved guidelines and academic policies.

Throughout the course you are expected to interact regularly with other students, and with me, as your instructor. The course is designed to structure and guide some self-paced elements as well as offer interactive opportunities for community learning. This work may happen online through the OWL forum, or through opportunities to meet as a class. Each student brings their own knowledge, experience, and interests to our learning community, we will build on that and use our course material (readings, discussions, lessons, etc.) to amplify learning for everyone. We will each be responsible for our own learning progress and also for contributing to the growth of our learning community through our participation in all course activities and assessments. We will be ready to engage and connect meaningfully. We will be present, professional, respectful and ready to contribute to our group.

This course will require the following:

- Stable high-speed internet connection
- Webcam
- Microphone
- A quiet space to take part in synchronous learning (optional weekly discussions and required final exam)

Course Overview

This course will provide an interdisciplinary overview of current trends, practices, and issues in the field of Thanatology. Topics include socio-political dynamics of death and grief, death in popular culture, sexuality in Thanatology-related contexts, diversity and social justice in Thanatology, and professional issues.

Course Objectives

- 1) Discuss current political perspectives related to Thanatology.
- 2) Describe the intersection of social justice principles with topics in Thanatology.
- 3) Explicate current theories related to death, grief, bereavement, mourning, and memorialization.
- 4) Examine historic and current trends in memorialization practices and attitudes towards death and grief.

Required Course Materials

All weekly readings are available in OWL under the Course Readings tab.

Course Requirements and Evaluation of Grades

Participation	20%
GriefTok Assignment	20%
Spectacular Death Essay	30%
Final Exam	30%

Note:

- All assessments and/or examinations will take place **online**.
- All assessments and examinations done online are expected to be done by the student registered in this course, without the assistance of others or generative AI (see Academic Integrity and AI Policy on page 5-6).

Participation (20%)

Participation is critical for maximizing learning experiences in any distance education course. For this course, you can choose your method of weekly participation. You may switch methods week to week, you do not have to inform your professor in advance, you simply need to participate once per week. Students who fail to participate in three (3) or more weeks of class are at risk for debarment from the final exam (see 'Debarment of Students' on page 4).

Participation Options:

- 1) *Weekly Zoom Meetings* – You may attend a 45-minute Zoom meeting with your professor/course TA, and classmates. The professor will not repeat lecture material during this meeting but will facilitate a discussion among students. Discussion questions will be posted with the lecture slides on Monday. To receive participation credit, you must actively participate in the discussion. It is not sufficient to attend with camera off and without speaking. **These discussions will be held every Thursday, from 4-4:45pm.** The Zoom link can be found in the Calendar in OWL.
- 2) *Weekly Forum Posts and/or Video Check-ins* – If you do not attend the Thursday Zoom meeting, you will be expected to upload a written post or a video check-in to the OWL forum board as assigned by your professor (ie. your professor will indicate whether a video or written post is required each week). You may be required to write a response to a discussion prompt or record a short video where you explain a concept or topic discussed in the readings. Please see the discussion board rubric under the Assignments tab in OWL for further details.

GriefTok Assignment (20%), due Monday, October 6, 11:59pm

This assignment engages with Michael Hviid Jacobsen's (2016) concept of 'spectacular death,' highlighting one of the core elements of this concept: the mediatization of death. Rather than being entirely taboo, our experience and knowledge of death is increasingly mediated through screens via news, entertainment, and social media. In many cases, these forms of media contribute to the framing of death

as a spectacle. For this assignment, you will utilize short-form video (like what might be used for Instagram reels or TikTok) with the aim of educating your audience about concepts discussed in this course. You will choose from a list of provided concepts and will craft a short video explaining the concept so it could be understood by the general public. Your video will be a maximum of 2-minutes long. Additional details are available in OWL under the Assignments tab.

‘Spectacular’ Death Essay (30%), due Monday, November 10, 11:59pm

For this essay, you will explore major themes covered during the semester, and discuss these relate to Michael Hviid Jacobsen’s (2016) concept of ‘spectacular death.’ Your essay will respond to one of a series of prompts provided by your professor. The essay will also include a ‘creative’ element. In total, your paper will be 8-10 written pages, not including title and reference pages. Further details including essay prompts can be found in OWL under the Assignments tab.

Final Exam (30%), scheduled during exam period (December 11-22)

The final exam will consist of separate 2 parts: i) a 10-minute oral exam to be scheduled individually with the professor during the last week of class; and 2) a multiple-choice exam to be scheduled during the exam period in December. The oral exam will be held on Zoom individually with the professor and will be **recorded** for the purpose of upholding academic integrity and in case of appeal. The multiple-choice exam will also take place on Zoom and OWL.

This exam is cumulative. Students are responsible for studying material presented in the lectures, course readings, class discussions, and documentaries. **Each part of the exam (oral and multiple-choice) is worth 50% of the final exam grade.**

Bonus Marks (2%)

All students who book and attend an appointment with The Write Place for feedback on a completed written assignment will receive a 2% bonus mark, which will be applied to your overall grade in the course. **You are responsible for emailing me a confirmation** of your appointment. All requests for bonus marks must be submitted to the professor by the last day of class. For more information on The Write Place and for making an appointment, please visit: <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/academic-resources/the-write-place/appointments-and-drop-ins/>.

Grade Descriptors

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level.
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average.
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory.
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements.
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable.
F	below 50	Fail

Important Information

A Note on Workload

Students should expect to spend approximately **7-8 hours** each week completing the readings, attending class, and completing graded and ungraded assignments. **You are expected to have completed all course readings before class so you can actively participate in the discussion.**

Office Hours and Contacting the Professor

I have set online office hours each week for drop in (Zoom) and will be available for meetings by appointment to discuss your progress, assignments, and any questions you may have. The weekly drop-in office hours will be available on a first come, first serve basis and I will only speak with one

student at a time (meaning you may need to wait in the Zoom waiting room until it is your turn or make an appointment). The schedule and Zoom link are available in our course OWL page.

To contact me, email lmclea43@uwo.ca and **include the course name** and number in the subject line. I will try to respond within 48 hours, Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

Boundaries & Confidentiality

Topical Issues in Thanatology is an academic, university-level course. Students should note that the themes discussed in this course may reawaken personal grief and feelings of vulnerability. While this course will be made richer by the sharing of personal narratives, it is NOT the purpose of this forum to resolve emotions related to student life losses and experiences. Please review the course topics and themes early in the semester and reach out to the professor if you are concerned or have sensitivities about a particular topic. Your professor can also provide more information about support available through King's.

While the course may contribute to the student's personal growth, grades will be assigned on the basis of academic achievement and mastery over the material covered. All participants are expected to complete the course requirements to a high standard in order to receive credit. While there may be opportunities to present personal experiences and feelings to the class, appropriate limits to self-disclosure or to the time allotted to individuals will be upheld when personal narratives are shared. All participants must agree to treat one another with respect and hold each other's contributions as *strictly confidential*.

Classes and Readings

Classes may include lectures, films, case study discussion, interactive exercises, etc. and will include material not contained in the text. Supplementary reading material will also be assigned and will be posted on OWL. *No attempt will be made to cover all the assigned readings in class time. Students are responsible for reading and understanding the assigned readings, even if this material is not covered in the class lectures.*

Online Behaviour Statement

All students are expected to engage online in a professional and respectful manner. This includes all interactions with peers, as well as communication between TAs or your Professor. Failure to do so will result in academic discipline and/or discipline under the Student Code of Conduct.

Intellectual Property Statement

Recording of lectures or tutorials without the explicit consent of the Professor or TA is grounds for academic discipline. Course content created by a faculty member is considered the faculty member's intellectual property. Distribution of this material outside of the course (shared online or in any public domain, sold by a student or other third party without prior written consent of the faculty member) is explicitly forbidden and is grounds for academic discipline.

Late Submissions/Extensions/Missed Exams

Students must endeavor to submit assignments by the due date listed in the Syllabus and OWL. All assignments (not including exams) will be subject to a **3-day grace period**. Students may submit assignments up to 3 days after the listed due date without penalty. Assignments submitted after the grace period will be **penalized at a rate of 2% per day** unless prior arrangements have been made with the professor.

If you cannot submit an assignment within the 3-day grace period, you must submit medical or other supporting documentation to the ADO to receive academic consideration (see the policy section). Absences from final examinations will follow the policy described in Appendix A.

Debarment of Students from Writing the Final Examination

A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the academic year.

Any student who, in the opinion of the professor, is absent too frequently from class in any course will be reported to the Chair of the Department of Thanatology (after due warning has been given*). On the recommendation of the department chair, and with the permission of the Academic Dean, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.

*Due warning means that the instructor has advised the student in writing/email of the nature of the unsatisfactory performance (i.e. absent too frequently from class), and the consequence of continued unsatisfactory performance (i.e. if another class is missed, the instructor will advise the department and request the student be debarred from writing the final exam).

Academic Integrity, Plagiarism and AI Policy

King's is committed to fostering a culture of professionalism, honesty, and academic integrity, and all members of our community—faculty, staff, and students—have a role to play in promoting an ethical learning environment. Furthermore, through the work they submit for academic evaluation, students develop important habits of critical thinking, independent inquiry, and creativity. Thus, 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 professor.

Within this course, use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools (such as Chat GPT) is not permitted to generate ideas or written content (not including spelling/grammar check) for work submitted for evaluation. Unauthorized use of AI will be subject to academic discipline. If you are unsure of the policy surrounding AI use in this class, please consult with your professor.

Reasons for this policy include*:

- This course is intended to provide an overview of Thanatological theory and concepts as well as opportunities to integrate these ideas and practice scholarly writing. If you are not engaging with the class, including the assignments, you are not learning.
- AI raises a number of questions regarding academic integrity, ethics, and plagiarism. These questions include whether work submitted using AI can be considered 'your' own work, and AI firms' use of [uncredited and uncompensated materials](#) from writers, journalists, and artists.
- Work produced with AI often contains errors and fabrications, while also reproducing and reinforcing negative stereotypes and bias.
- There have been serious questions raised about the [environmental impacts](#) of AI databases and [labour exploitation](#) on the part of their parent companies among a plethora of other ethical concerns.

These issues represent just some of ethical dilemmas that have been posed by the introduction of AI in academic spaces as well as the business practices of AI companies. For these reasons, the use of AI, including ChatGPT and similar generative AI tools, is **not permitted** in this course.

*Adapted with permission from [Olivia Stowell](#), @oliviastowell on X, June 16, 2024.

Plagiarism involves the unacknowledged use of others' words and ideas. Whenever you use another person's ideas or words, you must cite your source according to APA guidelines (**APA Manuel, 7th Edition**). Plagiarism is a major offense and is taken seriously by the professor and the College. 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>).

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offense range from refusal of a passing grade on the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the university to expulsion from the university. **Plagiarism is a major academic offence.** Please refer to Western's scholastic discipline policy, which can be found [here](#).

Assignment Style Guide

All graded assignments should be written using APA 7th Edition. This does not include any forum discussions (if applicable). Students should make use of these guidelines provided by King's University College with regards to style: [APA 7th Ed. Quick Guide](#).

Drop Date

The final date to drop a half course without academic penalty is **December 1, 2025**.

Course Schedule

September 8 Week 1—Introduction. The Age of ‘Spectacular’ Death

- 1) Jacobsen, M. H. (2016). ‘Spectacular Death’—Proposing a new fifth phase to Philippe Ariès’s admirable history of death. *Humanities* 5(19), 1-20. doi:10.3390/h5020019
- 2) Jacobsen, M. H., Clement, L., & Petersen, A. (2020). Spectacular grief: On three main trends in the way we deal with loss in contemporary society. In M. H. Jacobsen (Ed.), *The age of spectacular death* (pp. 161-183). Routledge.

September 15 Week 2—Grief Literacy

- 1) Breen, L. J., Kawashima, D., Joy, K., Cadell, S., Roth, D., Chow, A., & Macdonald M. E. (2022). Grief literacy: A call to action for compassionate communities. *Death Studies* 46(2), 425-433. DOI: 10.1080/07481187.2020.1739780
- 2) Cooke, A., Benham, C., Butt, N., & Dean, J. (2024). Ecological grief literacy: Approaches for responding to environmental loss. *Conservation Letters*. 1-9. DOI: 10.1111/conl.13018

September 22 Week 3— Terror Management Theory

- 1) Pyszczynski, T., Lockett, M., Greenberg, J., & Solomon, S. (2021). Terror management theory and the COVID-19 pandemic. *Journal of Humanistic Psychology*, 61(2), 173–189. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022167820959488>
- 2) Osterhold, H. M. (2021). Cultural complex, death anxiety and individuation during times of populism: A dialogue between Jungian psychology and social psychology. *Journal of Analytical Psychology*, 66(4), 926-948. DOI: 10.1111/1468-5922.12710

September 29 Week 4— Grief and Technology

- 1) Kasket, E. (2020). If death is the spectacle, big tech is the lens: How social media frame an age of ‘spectacular death.’ In M. H. Jacobsen (Ed.), *The age of spectacular death* (pp. 20-35). Routledge.
- 2) Eriksson Krutrök, M. (2024). Algorithmic closeness in mourning: Vernaculars of the hashtag #grief on TikTok. *Social Media + Society*. 1-12. DOI: [10.1177/20563051211042396](https://doi.org/10.1177/20563051211042396)

October 6 Week 5— Changing Geographies of Grief & Mourning

GriefTok Assignment due Monday, October 6, 11:59pm

- 1) Hamscher, A. N. (2017). The American cemetery. In C. M. Moreman (Ed.), *The Routledge Companion to Death and Dying* (pp. 277-286), Routledge.
- 1) Hoy, W. G., Becker, C. B., & Holloway, M. L. (2021). Memorialization and death-related rituals. In H. L. Servaty-Seib & H. S. Chapple (Eds.), *Handbook of Thanatology*. (3rd ed.). (pp. 207-234). Association for Death Education and Counseling.
Documentary: *Alternate Endings: Six New Ways to Die in America* (2019) on Kanopy/Crave.

October 14 (Tuesday) Week 6— Obituaries and Online Memorials

- 1) Graham, P. (2017). Crowdsourcing obituaries in the digital age: ABC Open’s *In Memory Of. Media International Australia*, 165(1), 51-62. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1329878X17725916>
- 2) Brouwer, R. C. (2025). “[L]ike a page from history”? A half-century of death notices in *The Globe and Mail*. *Journal of Canadian Studies*, 59(1), 80-108.

October 20 Week 7— Gender, Sexuality, and Death

- 1) Weaver, K. K. (2018). Paying your respects: Transgender women and detransitioning after death. *Death Studies*, 44(1), 58-64. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07481187.2018.1521886>

- 2) Wheat, L. S. & Thacker, N. E. (2019). LGBTQ+ loss experiences and the use of meaning reconstruction with clients. *Journal of LGBT Issues in Counseling* 13(3), 232-251. DOI: 10.1080/15538605.2019.1627973

October 27 Week 8— Femicide and Public Mourning as Protest

- 1) Fuentes, M. (2019). #NiUnaMenos (#NotOneWomanLess): Hashtag performativity, memory, and direct action against gender violence in Argentina. In A. G. Altınay, M. J. Contreras, M. Hirsch, J. Howard, B. Karaca & A. Solomon (Eds.), *Women mobilizing memory* (pp. 172-191). Columbia University Press.
- 2) Harjo, L., Navarro, J., & Robertson, K. (2018). Leading with our hearts: Anti-violence action and beadwork circles as colonial resistance. In K. Anderson, M. Campbell & C. Belcourt (Eds.), *Keetsahnak: Our missing and murdered Indigenous sisters*. (pp. 279-303). University of Alberta Press.

November 3-9 READING WEEK

November 10 Week 9— Ethics

'Spectacular' Death Essay due on Monday, November 10, 11:59pm

- 1) Akdeniz, M., Yardımcı, B., & Kavukcu, E. (2021). Ethical considerations at the end-of-life care. *SAGE Open Medicine*, 9, 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1177/20503121211000918>
- 2) Gupta, M., & Blouin, S. (2021). Ethical judgment in assessing requests for medical assistance in dying in Canada and Quebec: What can we learn from other jurisdictions? *Death Studies*, 46(7), 1608-1620. 10.1080/07481187.2021.1926636
- 3) Jecker, N.S. (2017). Doing what we shouldn't: Medical futility and moral distress. *The American Journal of Bioethics*, 17(2), 41-43.

November 17 Week 10— Coping with Death, Care for the Dying

- 1) Corr, C.A., Corr, D.M., & Doka, K.J. (2019). *Death & Dying, Life & Living*. (8th ed.). Cengage.
 - Chapter 6, pp. 131-152;
 - Chapter 7, pp. 153-180.Option 1: *End Game* (2018) documentary film. On Netflix.
Option 2: *Dying at Grace* (2000) documentary film. On YouTube.

November 24 Week 11— Professional Issues

- 2) Breen, L. J. & Arnold, C. (2021). Professional practice: The importance of self. In H. L. Servaty-Seib & H. S. Chapple (Eds.), *Handbook of Thanatology*. (3rd ed.). (pp. 493-519). Association for Death Education and Counseling.
- 3) Kearney, M. K. Weininger R. B., Vachon, M. L. S., Harrison, R. L., & Mount, B. M. (2009). Self-care of physicians caring for patients at the end of life: 'Being connected... a key to my survival.' *JAMA* 301(11), 1155-1164.

NOTE: Last drop deadline is December 1, 2025

December 1 Week 12— Final Exam Part 1

Students will select a 10-minute timeslot during the final week of class to complete an online oral assessment via Zoom with the Professor. This assessment will be worth 50% of your final exam grade.

The **Final Exam Part 2 (multiple choice)** will take place during the exam period (Dec 11 - 22).

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 Considerations for Absence/Missed Assessments

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.

Requests for academic consideration should be directed to the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration using the extranet portal (www.extranet.uwo.ca). 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.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.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.

In some cases, where instructors have built flexibility into their assessments, this flexibility will already address consideration needs and further consideration may be denied. Please refer to the course outline for each course.

Academic consideration for examinations scheduled by the Office of the Registrar always requires documentation.

The policy on academic consideration is found here:

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

Absences from Final Examinations

If you miss the final examination, 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 examination).

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.

For policy on accommodation for religious holidays, see:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_religious.pdf

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/>

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/>

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 are permitted in the course, including generative AI (e.g. ChatGPT, translation tools, grammar-checking tools). 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/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 of 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.