



**THANAT 1025A (570)**  
**Introduction to Thanatology**  
**Fall/Winter 2026 - 2027**

Instructor: Grosset, C.  
Email: [cgrosset@uwo.ca](mailto:cgrosset@uwo.ca)

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**Course Information**

**Calendar Description:** An interdisciplinary overview of major themes and attitudes regarding death, loss, grief, and bereavement. Topics include the Death System, personal death awareness, ethical issues, end of life care, supporting grieving individuals, funeral practices, and cultural issues in the field.

**Antirequisite(s):** The former Thanatology 2200.

**Prerequisite(s):** None.

**Extra Information:** 3 lecture hours.

**Course Weight:** 0.5

**Breadth:** CATEGORY A

**Subject Code:** THANAT

**Mode of Instruction:** In-person

**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.

# **COURSE SYLLABUS: THAN 1025A (570) FW26**

## **INTRODUCTION TO THANATOLOGY**

Instructor: Dr. Cara Grosset, MSW, PhD, RSW, CT/FT

E-mail: [cgrosset@uwo.ca](mailto:cgrosset@uwo.ca)

Contact me by email [cgrosset@uwo.ca](mailto:cgrosset@uwo.ca) Please include the class course number in the subject line. I will work to respond within at least 48 business hours Monday – Friday 9am-5pm.

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Thursdays, 11am to 1pm drop-in, or by appointment with virtual or phone options available. Email [cgrosset@uwo.ca](mailto:cgrosset@uwo.ca) to determine a time and date.

### **COURSE OVERVIEW**

This introductory course will provide an overview of foundational topics in the field of Thanatology, including attitudes about death, historical and sociological perspectives on death and dying, hospice/palliative care, bereavement and grief, supporting bereaved individuals, and funerals and funeral planning.

### **Course Objectives**

- 1) To identify and discuss foundational topics in Thanatology.
- 2) To describe the historical and sociological influences on current thinking about death, grief, and loss.
- 3) To identify the basic principles, practices and contexts of palliative and hospice care.
- 4) To articulate current theoretical perspectives in grief and bereavement.
- 5) To provide examples of effective support to people who are dying and/or bereaved.
- 6) To examine the purpose and role of funerals in the contemporary world.

This course begins on September 14, 2026, and continues until December 7, 2026, honouring all important dates derived from University approved guidelines and academic policies <https://kings.uwo.ca/current-students/>

### **MODE OF INSTRUCTION**

This is an in-person course where 3-hour lectures are held weekly. The lectures honour all important dates derived from University approved guidelines and academic policies <https://kings.uwo.ca/current-students/>

Throughout the course students are expected to interact regularly with other students, and with me, as the instructor.

Each student brings their own knowledge, experience, and interests to our learning community, which we will build on and use our course material (readings, discussions, lessons, etc.) to amplify learning for everyone.

We will all 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, scholarly, respectful, and ready to contribute equally to our group projects and mutual learning.

The Thanatology program at King's will uphold the UWO policy as stated in this syllabus. University credits must be earned and that includes attendance and participation in class and satisfactorily completing all assignments and exams.

**Attendance:** If 2 classes are missed, students will receive an email stating course expectations. If additional

classes are then missed, without documentation or accommodation, students may be debarred from the final exam/assessment. Professors may also consult with the Department Chair and/or Academic Dean's Office.

If students require accommodation, please ensure that the necessary documentation is submitted to Accessibility & Counselling services at King's. Also, please let instructors know, in a timely way, of the required accommodations. This ensures that students and instructors can work together throughout the term to support successful engagement in all aspects of the course.

## REQUIRED TEXTS

- 1) Northcott, H.C., & Wilson, D. (2022). *Dying and death in Canada* (4<sup>th</sup> Ed.). University of Toronto Press.
  - The textbook is available for purchase through the [UWO Bookstore](#) (\$54.05 for the book)
  - You can also access the text online for free through the Course Readings tab in OWL. I recommend purchasing the text as there is a limit to the number of chapters that can be downloaded through the library system.
  - You are encouraged to purchase the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of this book as it is substantially different from the previous versions.
- 2) Additional assigned readings available through OWL (free).

### *Recommended*

- *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* 7<sup>th</sup> ed.

## STRUCTURE:

Weekly lecture material may include PowerPoint presentations, film/YouTube clips, case studies, podcasts, or lecture notes and will include material not contained the text. Supplementary reading material will also be assigned and will be placed on reserve in the library or posted on OWL. *All material contained in the assigned readings will not be covered in lectures or in online discussions. Students are responsible for reading and understanding the assigned portions of the textbook and supplementary reading list, even if this material is not explicitly covered in lectures or online discussions.*

## METHODS OF EVALUATION

- Attendance, participation & engagement in class 20%
- Midterm Exam 25%
- Public Thanatology Essay 25%
- Final Exam 30%

### Participation (20%)

Class attendance and participation are an integral part of this course. Your participation will be evaluated by 1) weekly class attendance, and 2) participation and engagement in small-group and individual work during class time.

Students are expected to attend class prepared to discuss the readings of the week and actively participate in class discussions. To be fully prepared to participate, you must complete the week's readings prior to attending class. To track attendance, a sign-up sheet will be circulated during class time, and students will be responsible for making sure that they have signed the attendance sheet each week. Students who miss two (2) or more classes are at risk for debarment from the final exam (see 'Debarment of Students' on page 4).

We all contribute to the integrity of our learning environment and therefore it is important to arrive on time and to be fully present for the entire class time. Although it is understandable that occasionally circumstances can result in a few minutes' delay, it is unacceptable to habitually arrive late or leave earlier than the class is dismissed by the professor. Students with extenuating circumstances that necessitate frequent absences may

advise the professor in advance of these circumstances to request occasional accommodation if necessary. Any accommodations requested will be granted based on fairness to all students in the class.

If you are ill or otherwise are unable to attend class, you may post in the OWL Forum board 2 times in lieu of class attendance. Additional absences will receive a '0' grade for the day unless you have an approved academic accommodation or consideration from the Academic Dean's Office. Please contact your professor if you have approved accommodations or an academic consideration request from the ADO that may impact your participation.

### **Midterm Exam (25%), October 26. In-class.**

The midterm exam will cover all course content that has been presented up to the date of the exam, including readings, lectures, and in-class discussions. The exam will consist of short answer questions.

The Make-Up Midterm Exam has been scheduled for November 5, 2026 at 9 AM.

### **Public Thanatology Essay (25%), due Monday, November 16, 11:59 pm.**

This participatory assignment requires you to 'find death in your immediate environment' (Joralemon, 2016, p. 109) and apply what you've learned in class to analyze the significance of public and private memorials in your community. The assignment is intended to be both experiential (you will go out in search of memorials) and scholarly (you will connect your observations with what we are learning in class and in the textbook). Please review the assignment instructions for more information. Your completed essay will be uploaded to the Assignments tab in OWL.

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

The final exam will be scheduled during the exam period in December. This exam will cover material presented from the previous exam forward. It is not cumulative. The date and time of the exam will be posted as soon as it is released. The exam will consist of short answer questions.

### **Bonus Marks (2%)**

During this course, we will be practicing the basics of scholarly writing, which will help prepare you for your academic career and other writing intensive courses in Thanatology. All students who book and attend an appointment with The Write Place for feedback on a written assignment will receive a 2% bonus mark, which will be applied to your final grade. You are responsible for emailing me a confirmation of your appointment in order to receive bonus marks. For more information on The Write Place and for making an appointment, please visit: <https://kings.mywconline.com/>

- **Please note, Friday Make-Up Exams may only be written with the instructor's consent.**
- **As of September 1, 2026, students will incur a fee of \$45.00 per make-up assessment booked with the Exam Office.**
- **As of September 1, 2026, for any Special Exams booked outside of the designated special exam days, students will incur a fee of \$75.00. The designated Special Exam Days for 2026-2027 are January 8 and 9, 2027 and May 7 and 12, 2027.**

### **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 **6 hours each week** completing the readings, attending class, and completing the assignments. **You are expected to have completed all course readings before class on Monday so you can actively participate in the discussion.**

## Office Hours and Contacting the Professor

I have set office hours each week for drop in at my office and will also 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 until it is your turn or make an appointment). You can find details about office hours above.

To contact me, email [cgrosset@uwo.ca](mailto:cgrosset@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

**Introduction to Thanatology** is an academic, university-level course. Students should note that the themes and personal sharing that may be required for integration of the subject matter in this course may reawaken their personal grief process 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. If you have experienced recent bereavement or another significant loss, you might consider not taking this course at this time. Please see the professor privately if you have any questions or concerns about the topics covered in this course. When required, students should seek professional support. Your professor can 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 may be assigned and 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 portions of the textbook and additional readings, even if this material is not covered in the class lectures.*

## 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. 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 seek approval from the Academic Dean's Office (ADO) for academic consideration (see the policy section).

If you think you will not be able to attend the mid-term exam due to an illness or other extenuating circumstance, you must receive academic consideration from the ADO (see policy section) as soon as possible. You will then be required to write a make-up exam at the next possible Friday make-up session (October 31). Absences from final examinations will follow the policy described in Appendix A.

### **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 course professor.

**Within this course, use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools (such as ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, co-pilot, translation tools, and grammar-checking tools) is not permitted for written work submitted for evaluation. Unauthorized use of AI will be subject to academic discipline.** If you are unsure about the the policy surrounding AI use in this class, please consult with your professor.

Reasons for this policy include\*:

- This introductory course is intended for you to learn Thanatological theory and concepts, to integrate these ideas, and to practice scholarly writing. If you are not intellectually engaging with the course, 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.

### Assignment Style Guide

All graded assignments should be written using APA 7th Edition. Students should make use of these guidelines provided by King's University College with regards to style: APA Quick Guide [https://kings.uwo.libguides.com/ld.php?content\\_id=34216649](https://kings.uwo.libguides.com/ld.php?content_id=34216649)

### DROP DATE

Final date to drop a first-term half course without academic penalty is November 30, 2026.

### Weekly Course Schedule:

| Week   | Date               | Topic                                                             | Required Readings                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Assignments |
|--------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Week 1 | September 14, 2026 | Course Introduction and assignment review<br>What is Thanatology? | Northcott & Wilson: Preface & Chapter 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |             |
| Week 2 | September 21, 2026 | Death and the Canadian Social Institution                         | Northcott & Wilson: Chapter 3, Chapter 1, pp. 18-26<br>Supplementary: (We will listen to excerpts in class)<br><br><i>Supplementary:</i> we will watch part of this lecture: Dr. Blair Bingham, author of <i>Death interrupted: How modern medicine is complicating the way we die</i> (2022)<br><a href="https://www.youtube.com/live/4i8rJntjOuM?si=dsaTOUAeZUvgFaWi">https://www.youtube.com/live/4i8rJntjOuM?si=dsaTOUAeZUvgFaWi</a> |             |
| Week 3 | September 28, 2026 | Individual Perspectives on Dying & Death                          | Northcott & Wilson: Chapter 5<br><br>Cadell, S. (2020), April 20). Grief in the time of COVID-19. Medium.<br><a href="https://medium.com/@scadell/grief-in-the-time-of-covid-19-8d414307e17d">https://medium.com/@scadell/grief-in-the-time-of-covid-19-8d414307e17d</a>                                                                                                                                                                 |             |
| Week 4 | October 5, 2026    | Colonialism & Loss in Canada                                      | 1) Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. (2015). Canada's residential schools: The history, part 1: Origins to 1939. In <i>The final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada</i> . McGill-Queen's University Press.<br>• Statement from the Chair, Justice                                                                                                                                                  |             |

|              |                  |                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                       |
|--------------|------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
|              |                  |                                          | <p>Murray Sinclair. (pp. vii-ix)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction. (pp. 3-6)</li> </ul> <p>2) Joseph, B. (2018). <i>21 things you may not know about the Indian Act: Helping Canadians make reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples a reality</i>. Indigenous Relations Press.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction &amp; The Indian Act (pp. 3-12)</li> <li>• Points 10-15 (pp. 47-70)</li> </ul> <p><i>Recommended:</i> Appendix 2: Indian Residential Schools: A Chronology and Appendix 3: Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                       |
| READING WEEK |                  |                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                       |
| Week 5       | October 19, 2026 | Culture & Thanatology                    | <p>Northcott and Wilson. Chapter 4.</p> <p>Bordere, T. (2009). Culturally conscientious thanatology. <i>The Forum</i>, 35(2), pp. 1, 3-4.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                       |
| Week 6       | October 26, 2026 | Midterm exam                             | Prepare by reviewing course content thus far.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | In-class Midterm Exam |
| Week 7       | November 2, 2026 | Memory, Memorialization, & Social Change | <p>Joralemon, D. (2011). Mortal dilemmas: <i>The troubled landscape of death in America</i>. Routledge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 7: Remember (pp. 109-122)</li> </ul> <p>Waugh, E. (2017). Funeral Practices in Canada. The Canadian Encyclopedia.<br/> <a href="https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/funeral-practices">https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/funeral-practices</a></p> <p>The Current. (2020, June 8). Amid protests, funerals offer a space for collective mourning — and fighting anti-Black oppression. CBC Radio.<br/> <a href="https://www.cbc.ca/radio/thecurrent/the-current-for-june-8-2020-1.5602912/amid/protests-funerals-offer-a-space-for-collective-mourning-and-fighting-anti-black-oppression-1.5603443">https://www.cbc.ca/radio/thecurrent/the-current-for-june-8-2020-1.5602912/amid/protests-funerals-offer-a-space-for-collective-mourning-and-fighting-anti-black-oppression-1.5603443</a></p> |                       |

|         |                   |                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                |
|---------|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Week 8  | November 9, 2026  | Models of Grief           | Northcott & Wilson: Chapter 6                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                |
| Week 9  | November 16, 2026 | Non-death Loss & Grief    | <p>Harris, D. (2021). Living losses: Nonfinite loss, ambiguous loss, and chronic sorrow. In D. Harris &amp; H. Winokuer (Eds.), <i>Principles and practice of grief counselling</i>. (3rd Ed.; pp. 121-137). Springer.</p> <p>Davies, E., Kassiotis, E., &amp; Quinn, K. (2019). Supporting the Families of Missing People: More than an Investigation. In D. Harris (Ed.), <i>Non-death loss and grief: Context and clinical implications</i> (pp. 128-138). Routledge</p> | Public<br>Thanatology<br>Essay due<br>November 16,<br>11:59 pm |
| Week 10 | November 23, 2026 | Grieving pets and animals | <p>Spain, B., O'Dwyer, L., &amp; Moston, S. (2019). Pet loss: Understanding disenfranchised grief, memorial use, and posttraumatic growth, <i>Anthrozoös</i>, 32(4), 555-568. DOI: 10.1080/08927936.2019.1621545</p> <p>Meyers, B. Disenfranchised grief and the loss of an animal companion (2001). In K. J. Doka (Ed.), <i>Disenfranchised grief: New directions, challenges, and strategies for practice</i> (251-264). Research Press.</p>                              |                                                                |
| Week 11 | November 30, 2026 | Popular Culture & Death   | <p>Penfold-Mounce, R. (2018). <i>Death, the dead and popular culture</i>. Emerald Publishing Limited.</p> <p>• Chapter 2. Posthumous Careers of Celebrities (pp. 9-39)</p> <p>Haley, E. (n/d). Death in Disney Movies: Making the Most of Teachable Movie Moments. What's Your Grief?<br/> <a href="https://whatsyourgrief.com/death-in-disney-movies/">https://whatsyourgrief.com/death-in-disney-movies/</a></p>                                                          |                                                                |
| Week 12 | December 7, 2026  | Exam Review Class & Film  | Course overview, exam prep, and film screening (time permitting).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                |

**The final exam will take place during the exam period (Dec 11 - 22). Date TBD**

## 1. Academic Accommodations (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](#).

## 2. Academic Consideration for Student Absences

Students must be approved to write a makeup exam or for an extension of the assignment deadline. If you need to miss an exam or the deadline for the assignment, please follow these instructions.

There are two ways to seek academic consideration:

### (i) Academic consideration based on medical or compassionate grounds

If a student is unable to meet a course requirement due to substantial but temporary extenuating circumstances (medical or compassionate grounds), they should contact the Academic Advising Office. As a rule, documentation is required for academic consideration.

For academic consideration requests on medical grounds, the Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is the appropriate documentation. The SMC is available at <https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/pdfs/student-medical-certificate.pdf>

- King's students: The Academic Advising Office website is located in DLH 104. The Academic Advising website is <https://mykings.ca/intranet/app/#/academics/academic-advising>.
- If your home faculty is Huron or at Western, please submit your documentation to your faculty's academic counselling office.
- Requests must be made as soon as possible, and no later than 48 hours after the missed assessment.

You may submit requests for academic consideration through the **Student Absence Portal**, linked on this website:

<https://mykings.ca/intranet/app/#/academics/academic-advising/academic-consideration-requests-and-student-absence-portal>

### (ii) Academic consideration through an undocumented absence

Students are permitted one academic consideration request without supporting documentation per term per half-course (0.5) weight.

- Note that instructors may designate one assessment per half-course weight as requiring formal supporting documentation. Please refer to the course outline to confirm this which assessment has been designated as requiring documentation for consideration (that is, exempt from undocumented absences).
- Undocumented absences can not be used as the basis for academic consideration for December or April exams.

If an instructor has built flexibility into their assessments (e.g., “complete 8 of 10 quizzes”), this flexibility will already address consideration needs and thus academic consideration may be denied.

For further information on the academic consideration policy, please see [https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/academic\\_consideration\\_Sep24.pdf](https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf)

#### c) Absences from Final Exams

If you miss the Final Exam, **contact your Academic Advising Office** 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 (i.e., you are scheduled to write 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](#)).

#### d) Religious Accommodations

Students should consult the University’s list of recognized religious holidays, and should give notice in writing to the instructor and their 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.

### 3. Support Services

Accessibility, Counselling and Student Development at King's University College:  
<https://mykings.ca/intranet/app/#/student-supports-and-services/accessibility-services>

Students experiencing emotional or mental health distress can access services at King's University

College: <https://kings.uwo.ca/campus-life/student-supports/>

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

MentalHealth@Western provides a complete list of options on how to obtain help: <https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental-health/index.html>

Academic Support Services at King's University College:  
<https://kings.uwo.ca/academics/academic-supports/>

### 4. Statement on Gender-Based Sexual Violence

King's and Western are committed to reducing incidents of gender-based sexual violence (GBSV) and providing compassionate support to anyone who is going through or has gone through these traumatic events. If you are experiencing or have experienced GBSV (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at the following website: [Mental Health and Wellness at King's](#).

You can reach supports at King's by emailing [care@kings.uwo.ca](mailto: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 ([health@uwo.ca](mailto:health@uwo.ca)) or by calling 519-661-3568. Additional support services can be found <https://www.uwo.ca/health/gbsv/support/index.html>

## 5. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

**Use of Electronic Devices:** Unless explicitly stated otherwise, you are not allowed to have a cellphone, 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://kings.uwo.ca/sites/2025/assets/files/campus/Kings\\_Code\\_of\\_Student\\_Conduct.pdf](https://kings.uwo.ca/sites/2025/assets/files/campus/Kings_Code_of_Student_Conduct.pdf)

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.

## 6. 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 [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_offences.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_offences.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 you instructor to check which tools, including generative AI (ChatGPT, translation tools, grammar-checking tools) are permitted in each course.** Note that although some courses may permit the use of such tools, it does not mean use of such tools 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.

## 7. 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.

## 8. 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.

## 9. 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.