

**FAMILY STUDIES 1015B, SECTION 530  
WINTER 2015**

**BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**

**Instructor:** Bridget DeMarchi  
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**Office hours:** Wednesday 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM or by appointment  
**Class time/room:** **Wednesday 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM / BR 19**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Informed by Relationship Science, this half credit course introduces students to the various influences related to Intimate Relationships. Topics include coverage of issues such as Facebook, culture, biology, boredom, speed dating, self-control, lie detection, marital equality, dissatisfaction, gay marriage, responsiveness, compassionate love, and affectionate communication as they relate to Intimate relationships.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

By the end of this course you will be able to:

1. Identify different factors that influence relationships.
2. Define the elements of attraction as they relate to intimate relationships.
3. Recognize dysfunctional communication patterns and be able to describe corrective measures.
4. Outline various communication methods and patterns by reflecting on your own communication patterns in relationships.
5. Discuss the impact of interdependency and how our relationship perceptions affect intimate and close relationships.
6. Explain the nature of friendship across the adult life cycle.
7. Identify and explain the similarities and differences between various types of love.
8. Summarize the role of sexuality, including attitudes and behaviours as they relate to intimate relationships across the adult life cycle.
9. Recognize and distinguish between the various types of stressors and strains within intimate and close relationships.
10. Identify the nature, course and outcomes of conflict in close relationships.
11. Recognize and describe the differences between conflict and power & violence.
12. Identify and describe factors that contribute to the dissolution and loss of intimate relationships, as well as identify the factors that maintain and enhance intimate relationships.

## **REQUIRED TEXT**

Miller, R. (2015). *Intimate Relationships*, Seventh Edition. McGraw Hill Ryerson. ISBN 9780077861803

Additional readings and resources **will** be assigned in class and/or posted electronically for many topics in this course. These readings and resources are to be accessed by the students independently (online or in the library).

## **E-MAIL**

I will not be answering questions regarding course material (e.g., definitions of concepts, differences between theoretical perspectives, etc.) via e-mail. I find that these types of questions are best answered by meeting in person. Please use e-mail for addressing administrative issues about the course and arranging to meet with me. I will do my best to respond to e-mail messages within 24 hours. Please use your UWO email account.

## **OFFICE HOURS**

Please do not hesitate to come to see me during my office hours. I am here to help with any questions you might have. This time not only serves as a great way to clarify understandings of the course material, but I also enjoy talking with students about sociology and family studies in general; educational pursuits; and career aspirations. If you are unable to make it to my office hours please contact me so that we can arrange a mutually agreed upon time.

## **CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE**

Please respect your classmates and your instructor during our time together. To help and encourage everyone to stay focussed and on-track, please keep cell phones turned off and put away, avoid whispering with your neighbours, and please use computers only for class related activities. If there is a problem with classroom conduct you may be asked to leave for the duration of the lecture.

Please note that given the nature of this course and possible disclosure of personal information and/or issues, recording devices will not be allowed for any portion of the lectures. Please refrain from sharing others personal information when outside of the classroom forum. This will be discussed further during the first day of the course.

This class will allow many opportunities for class interaction and discussions. I encourage and welcome your active participation.

## **LEARNING RESOURCES**

Taking a vested interest in ones learning is a key to academic success. Some of the specific things that you can do to help with learning in this course and others include:

(1) Regularly attending class; (2) Staying on top of your readings; (3) Keeping good lecture and reading notes; (4) Participating in the applied learning exercises; (5) Meeting with your professor during office hours when you need extra help or would like to discuss the course material on a more sustained basis; and, (6) Staying organized and on top of your assignment(s), and developing and executing good study habits (e.g., reviewing your material on a regular basis).

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING STRUCTURE**

<u>Course Requirements</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Mid-Term Exam	February 11	35%
Reflection Paper	March 11	25%
Final exam	April 11-30 Date set by Registrar	40%

### **Mid-Term Exam (35%)**

The format of the in-class mid-term exam will be short answer and multiple choice questions based on all course-related material including assigned readings, class lecture material, class discussions, guest presentations and videos.

### **Reflection Paper (25%)**

Double spaced, 12pt font, minimum 1250 words to maximum 1500 words (5-6 pages). Answer **ONE** question from the list of question options provided on OWL. Grading rubric and additional information provided in class and will be posted on OWL. **Paper to be handing in at 8:30AM on March 11, 2015 at the start of class.**

### **Exam (40%)**

The **cumulative** final exam will include multiple choice, short answer questions and one short essay question. Although the exam is cumulative, the multiple-choice questions will have a greater emphasis on the material covered from February 25<sup>th</sup> up to and including April 8<sup>th</sup>.

**NOTE:** All supplementary course material (e.g. guest speakers, videos, class discussions) is subject to testing on midterm and/or final exam.

## **COURSE POLICIES**

### **Materials on OWL**

OWL will be used in this course. Lecture material will be posted on OWL before class. This material is intended only as a guide to the class/course content and should not be considered as a substitute for class attendance.

### **Missed Assignments / Exams**

Students, who fail to appear for an examination as indicated in the class schedule, will not be allowed to write a make-up examination unless the steps detailed below for academic accommodation have been followed.

Similarly, missed assignments may not be made up later and will result in the reduction of marks unless you receive academic accommodation through an Academic Advisor. Without academic accommodation, the penalty for late assignments is 5% per day.

There will **not** be any make-up examinations or extra work for the purpose of improving grades.

## CLASS SCHEDULE

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>
Jan. 7	Course Introduction The Building Blocks of Relationships	Chapter 1
Jan. 14	Attraction	Chapter 3
Jan. 21	Communication	Chapter 5
Jan. 28	Interdependency	Chapter 6
Feb 4	Friendship	Chapter 7
<b>Feb. 11</b>	<b>Mid-Term Exam (35%)</b>	
Feb. 16-22	Family Day and Reading Week – No Class	
Feb. 25	Love	Chapter 8
Mar. 4	Sexuality Guest Speaker 8:30AM	Chapter 9 plus Library Course Reserve
<b>Mar. 11</b>	Stresses & Strains <b>Reflection Paper (25%) due today at 8:30AM in class</b>	Chapter 10
Mar. 18	Conflict Guest Speaker 8:30AM	Chapter 11
Mar. 25	Power & Violence	Chapter 12
Apr. 1	The Dissolution & Loss of Relationships	Chapter 13
Apr. 8	Maintaining & Repairing Relationships Final Exam Review	Chapter 14
<b>Apr.11- 30</b>	<b>Final Exam (40%)</b> Written during the final exam period. Date and location set by the Office of the Registrar	

## BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

### 1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation on medical grounds will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. The Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s) will determine appropriate academic accommodation. Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) that conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>. If it is not possible to have an SMC completed by the attending physician/nurse practitioner, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation. All documentation is to be submitted to an Academic Advisor.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full statement of University policy regarding extensions of deadlines or makeup exams can be found at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg117.html>

### 2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, [www.registrar.uwo.ca](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca), for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory.

### **3. ABSENCES**

**Short Absences:** If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

**Extended Absences:** If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

### **4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

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 website:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf).

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

**Plagiarism:**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a 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 (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

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.

**Computer-marked Tests/exams:**

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. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

**5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS**

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar.

**6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES**

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the 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.

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

## **7. SUPPORT SERVICES**

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at [http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar\\_services/index.html](http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar_services/index.html) . The Western Registrar's website is at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/index.cfm> . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>. Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

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Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.