

Course delivery with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic

Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, the changing COVID-19 landscape may necessitate some or all of the course to be delivered online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will not change. Any assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.



War and Peace

Global Great Books 1200G 550

Dr. Sara MacDonald

**In Person: Tuesday 10:30-11:30 and Thursday
9:30-11:30**

Global Great Books: War and Peace

Dr. Sara MacDonald

Office: H115

Office Hours: By Appointment

sara.macdonald@huron.uwo.ca

Course Description

While life at Huron University is luxuriously peaceful, communities around the world live in a state of strife. While the number of absolute wars has declined since World War II, violence has not declined. Territorial disputes, conflict involving non-state actors, civil wars, international and domestic terrorism, and gender and race motivated violence result in instability, strife and fear for hundreds of thousands of people everyday. When involved in conflict, even one that is relatively minor, it is often difficult to think of anything else. When caught in conflict it is easy to lose sight that this is not the end or purpose of life. By the same token, when life is peaceful, we don't always appreciate its beauty. In this course, by reading some of the greatest works of literature and philosophy both ancient and contemporary, we will think about the root causes of war and possible paths to peace.

This course will be extensively discussion based. That means that we will all have read the assigned text for class and be ready to discuss it in an informed and thoughtful way.

Important Note: While we are on-line, to help alleviate “zoom fatigue” we will meet twice a week, Tuesday and Thursday from 10:30-11:30. I expect that you use the additional hour of class time to come to these meetings prepared to discuss the material at hand. I will post weekly videos or audio recordings that will provide you with context of the readings, background information or other material that would normally be given in a “lecture”. Our time together will be wholly for conversation. I will ask questions that you will respond to with either insights or even other questions.

I also ask that when possible you turn your video on for our class meetings. I understand that there are various circumstances that will from time to time make this impossible and will leave it for you to determine when you need to leave your video off.

When we return to in-person meetings, our class times will be as scheduled: Tues: 10:30-11:30 and Thursday 9:30-11:30.

Course Objectives:

1. Students learn to read and think critically about the nature of war and peace, particularly the root causes of war, the types of war that can exist, why peace is preferable and possible avenues to more peaceful existences.
2. Students gain the ability to analyze ideas and situations, make considered decisions and form coherent, reasoned and fact-based judgements.
3. Students become familiar with a selection of the writings of the world's influential writers, and acquire an understanding of the key components of various cultural traditions.
4. Students learn how to be clear and concise writers.
5. This course will prepare students for further courses in Global Great Books.

Required Texts:

All of these texts are available from the campus book store who will ship them to your home. You may also order them from Amazon or wherever you buy your books. Please get these exact editions so we can refer to specific pages and all be, literally, on the same page.

Homer, *The Iliad* translators, Alexander, Ecco: ISBN 9780062046284

Shakespeare, *The Tempest*, Penguin Classics ISBN: 9780198325000

Benaron, *Running the Rift*, Harper Collins ISBN: 9781443409728

Okot Bitek, *100 Days*, University of Alberta, ISBN: 9781772121216

Arudpragasam, *My Passage North*, Hogarth, ISBN: 9780593230725

Davidson, *Damnation Springs*, Simon and Schuster, ISBN: 9781982144401

Evaluation

Creative Assignment 15%

2 Essays (5-6 pages) 20% each

Class Participation 15%

Podcast (Group) 15%

Oral Exam (To be held in the second last week of classes) 15%

About the assignments

Podcast

Within a group of 4-5 students, you will create a podcast. These will be assigned throughout the term and I will give each group a specific assignment. These will be posted on the OWL page for the other students to listen to. (10-15 minutes)

Creative Assignment

You will create something (a poem, story, a piece of visual art, a piece of music, a video, etc.) that responds directly to one of the texts we are reading. Your project should take up the major themes or ideas of the text and reimagine those in relationship to a contemporary world conflict. You will be graded not on your talent, but rather on your understanding of the philosophic or literary position you are responding to and your intention with respect to the piece of “artwork” you create. A rubric will be provided.

Essays

You will write 2, 4-6 page essays based on a given prompt or set of prompts.

Essay format. A clear introductory paragraph stating the issue or question to be addressed, and the conclusion you reach. This is called a **thesis statement**. In the body of the essay you must clearly explain the author’s position(s) with respect to the essay prompt, employing quotations where appropriate as evidence. An excellent essay will demonstrate that you have closely read and analysed the text and are able to clearly and logically lay out an argument. A brief concluding paragraph summarizing your interpretation, principal arguments, and conclusions.

What makes a good essay? A clearly stated thesis. A solid grasp of the theory/ideas under consideration. Appropriate use of quotations, illustrations, and arguments. Quotations should be integrated into sentences so that the whole sentence reads grammatically. A thoughtful analysis of the theory/ideas. The essay should be well structured with a smooth transition between points/paragraphs, and it should be well-written (properly structured sentences, with appropriate terminology, grammar and punctuation).

Endnotes or Footnotes. Footnotes/endnotes are needed for all quotations and for ideas that are borrowed or paraphrased from texts. The first footnote/endnote citation of a text must include the full name of the author, complete title of the work, place and date of publication, and the page number quoted or referred to. Succeeding citations to the same text should be rendered in short form.

Bibliography. Essays must conclude with a bibliography of all sources used in the writing of the essay, including the full name of the author, complete title of the work, place and date of publication, and the page number quoted or referred to.

Page numbering. The pages of the essay should be consecutively numbered.

Italicize or underline the titles of books or pamphlets. The titles of articles or chapters should not be italicized, but enclosed by quotation marks.

Secondary sources. No secondary sources are to be used.

- **Note.** Please consult Professor MacDonald if you require any further assistance with the research, formatting or organization of your essays.

Oral Exam: In the exam you will be asked to identify three out of four quotations from the reading, telling me who the author is, what the quotation signifies in light of the text as a whole, and how that quotation is important in reference to some other works or the themes of the class as a whole.

Tentative Schedule of Classes

Class Format

This will be a discussion based class, where we will together analyze and discuss books and their ideas. You are expected to have read the assigned text before each class and come to class prepared to discuss it. This can and should include asking questions, answering questions, and offering new perspectives.

Date	Reading	Assignments Due
Week 1 Jan. 11 and 13	The Syllabus The Iliad	
Week 2 Jan. 18 and 19	The Iliad	
Week 3 Jan. 25 and 27	The Iliad	
Week 4 Feb. 1 and 3	The Apology	
Week 5 Feb. 8 and 10	Running the Rift	February 11: First Essay Due
Week 6 Feb 15 and 17	Running the Rift	
Week 7 Feb. 22 and 24	Reading Week	
Week 8 Mar. 1 and 3	100 Days	March 4: Podcasts Due
Week 9 Mar. 8 and 10	My Passage North	
Week 10 Mar. 15 and 17	My Passage North	
Week 11 Mar. 22 and 24	Flex Week	March 22: Second Essay Due
Week 12 Mar. 29 and 31	Oral Exams	
Week 13 April 5 and 7	Tempest.	Creative Assignment Due: April 8

COURSE GUIDELINES

GRADING OF Written ASSIGNMENTS

All written assignments will be graded on the basis of: (1) appropriate and adequate substantive content, analysing and explaining the text in relation to the question posed in the assignment. It is crucial that you do not summarize the text. Make sure you provide a detailed argument that is an explicit response to the essay prompt. (2) Writing style, including grammar and construction of a logical argument.

PAPER SUBMISSION

Essays/Assignments must be submitted to the OWL course site.

ESSAY DOCUMENTATION

Students must use standard social science reference, footnoting and bibliographic form. **Whenever you use the words or the ideas of someone else, you must give a footnote, endnote or reference, or else you are committing an act of plagiarism** (see Plagiarism and Other Academic Offences below).

CITING INTERNET SOURCES

All information obtained through the Internet must be cited in footnotes and bibliographies.

Internet citations must include all of the same information that is provided when citing a book or article. This includes the name of the author, name of the organisation that has posted the website, the title, the date that the website was consulted, and the complete website address.

GRADE DESCRIPTORS

The University of Western Ontario Senate has adopted a set of grade descriptors which explain the meaning of grades assigned in all university courses:

- A.+ 90–100%
- A 80–89%
- B 70–79%
- C 60–69%
- D 50–59%
- F below 50%

○ **Statement on Academic Offences:**

“Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website:

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

Additionally,

A) If written work will be assigned in the course and plagiarism-checking software might be used, the following statement to this effect must be included in the course outline: “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>).”

B) If computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams will be given, and software might be used to check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating, the following statement must be added to course outlines: “ 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.”

Plagiarism is an academic offense and will be treated as such. Students who are in doubt as to the nature of this offence should consult their instructor, Department Chair, or Dean’s Office, as well as the Huron University College Statement on Plagiarism, available at the Reference Desk in the Huron University College Library and at www.huronuc.on.ca. In addition, students may seek guidance from a variety of current style manuals available at the Reference Desk in the Huron University College Library. Information about these resources can be found at <https://huronuc.libguides.com/citingsources> .

- **Support Services:** The websites for Registrarial Services (<http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>), and the same for affiliated university colleges when appropriate, and any appropriate Student Support Services (including the services provided by the USC listed here: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>) and the Student Development Services, should be provided for easy access.

“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.”

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca
Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca
Chaplaincy: gthorne@huron.uwo.ca

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/.

The Student Emergency Response Team (SERT) provides medical response to 9-1-1 calls on Main, Brescia and Huron campuses which operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week during the academic year. SERT is dispatched through the campus community Police Service (CCPS) to any medical emergency on campus at (519) 661-3300.

For more information about SERT please visit: www.sert.uwo.ca/about-sert/aboutsert/ .



Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2021 - 2022

Mandatory Use of Masks in Classrooms

Students will be expected to wear triple layer non-medical masks at all times in the classroom as per Huron policy and public health directives. Students are now permitted to drink water in class by lifting and replacing the mask each time a drink is taken. Students will be able to eat and drink outside of the classroom during scheduled breaks.

Students unwilling to wear a mask as stipulated by Huron policy and public health directives will be referred to the Dean's Office, and such actions will be considered a violation of the Huron Student Code of Conduct.

Pandemic Contingency

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, typically using a combination of synchronous instruction (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) and asynchronous material (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor. In the unlikely event that changes to the grading scheme are necessary, these changes will be clearly communicated as soon as possible.

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at:

<https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written 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.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) 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. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf. The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

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>).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional.

Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence

(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may not collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

(b) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email huronsss@uwo.ca.

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf. Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at huronsss@uwo.ca for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at huronsss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

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 and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>

Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>

Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>

Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>

Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>

Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca

Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca

Chaplaincy: gthorne@huron.uwo.ca

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.