

Huron Brief Course Outlines

Fall/Winter 2023-2024

Course Title: The History of Scientific Thought

Course Number and Section

HISTORY OF SCIENCE

2200E - 550

Instructor Name(s): Emerson Doyle

Instructor Email(s): edoyle9@uwo.ca

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

This course is a survey of the physical and biological sciences from pre-history to the 20th century. Our focus will be an understanding of the landmark theories in these sciences as informing issues in the foundations and philosophy of science. We will engage questions of scientific methodology, the sources/reliability of scientific knowledge, the prevalence of various goals for, and attitudes toward, science, and the relationships between science, religion, culture, society, and the individual.

Learning Outcomes:

Students should finish the course with an understanding of what science is, its methods, and why it has been important to the development of civilization.

Students should also gain an understanding of multiple scientific theories, both historical and contemporary.

Successful students will improve their writing and general communication skills, especially with regard to writing from various perspectives and evaluating arguments and ideas in their relevant contexts.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Lindberg, David C. (2007) The Beginnings of Western Science, 2nd Ed. UC Press.

Various individual readings to be made available on OWL.

Methods of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Guided Essay	October 18th	10%
Essay the Second Outline	November 20th	
Essay the Second	December 6th	10%
Mid-Year Exam	Exam Period	15%
Active Learning Activities	In-Class, Various Dates	20%

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Research Essay	Second Semester, Various Dates	30%
Final Exam	Exam Period	15%

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.