



# Critical and Anti- Oppressive Methodologies

3006F

Fall 2022



## Your professor

Dr. Lucas Savino  
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## Class meetings

This class meets once a week, every **Thursday** from 9:30am to 12:30pm in room **W103**.

## Office Hours

My office is in room **A208**.

**Wednesdays** 12:30 - 1:30pm  
*or by appointment (incl. Zoom)*

*In the event of unexpected class cancellations, the instructor will post such notice on OWL. Please check regularly.*

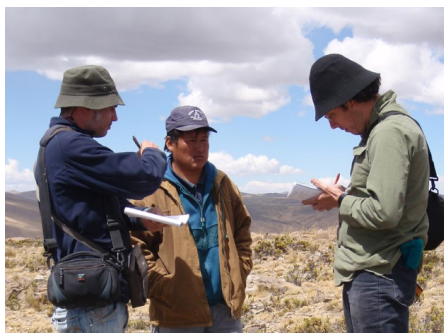
## Course description and objectives

This course addresses collective and community-based approaches to knowledge production through research in the service of protecting and promoting cultural, political, and territorial integrity and self-determination. The main objective of this course is to engage with empirical research methodologies based on emancipatory goals.

A common theme running through this course is the nature of knowledge and the power relationships that exist in research. The course addresses how notions of anti-oppression, social justice, and Indigenous cosmovisions are mobilized in all stages of research. Specific methods at the services of critical, anti-oppressive research are presented and discussed.

**Antirequisite(s):** the former Centre for Global Studies 3002A/B. **Prerequisite(s):** 0.5 course from Centre for Global Studies 2002F/G - 2004F/G, or permission of the Centre for Global Studies.

# Required Readings



There is no required book for purchase.

Links to all required readings are posted in the OWL's course site.

For some modules (OWL), you will also find a list of Additional Readings. These readings are not mandatory but I recommend you take a look if you want to learn more about the topic or to conduct further research for your own work.

Classes will be conducted under the assumption that you have completed and studied the readings before class.

Classes are often structured in such a way that we begin with class work on study guides and class discussions of readings. A short lecture on the research process follows. The class ends with workshops on research design, where you will have the chance to prepare your own project.

Please note that the course calendar is subject to change. Appropriate notice will be given in class and OWL if this the case.

Weekly Topics (Class Meetings)	Readings
<b>Introduction</b> (Sep. 8)	
<b>Week 1</b> (Sep. 15) Anti-oppressive Research	Potts & Brown (2015) Cannella & Lincoln (2009)
<b>Week 2</b> (Sep. 22) Research <i>as</i> social justice <i>Research as process</i>	Freire (1968) hooks (2003) Humphries et al (2005)
<b>Week 3</b> (Sep. 29) Power relations <i>Ethical challenges</i>	Banks et al (2013) Wilson et al (2018)
<b>Week 4</b> (Oct. 6) Community-based participatory research <i>The research question</i>	Ochocka & Janzen (2014) Rappoport (2017)
<b>Week 5</b> (Oct. 13) Community-based participatory research <i>The literature review</i>	Koster et al (2012) Tobias et al (2013)
<b>Week 6</b> (Oct. 20) Ethnography: the global fieldwork. <i>Research methods</i>	Marcus (1995) Rajak (2011)
<b>Week 7</b> (Oct. 27) Ethnography: decolonizing the "fieldwork." <i>Sampling</i>	Alonso Bejarano et al (2019) Bhattacharya (2013)
Fall Reading Week (Oct. 31 - Nov. 4)	
<b>Week 8</b> (Nov. 10) Decolonizing Methodologies. <i>Data gathering</i>	Denzin & Lincoln (2008) Smith, L. T. (2006)
<b>Week 9</b> (Nov. 17) Indigenous Research. <i>Data analysis</i>	Smith, L. T. (2012) Gaudry (2018) Kennemore & Postero (2020)
<b>Week 10</b> (Nov. 24) Feminist Research <i>Research outcomes</i>	Lavie (2011) Cornwall & Sardenberg (2014)
<b>Week 11</b> (Dec. 1) Anti-racist Research <i>Research for social change</i>	Da Silva (2015) Harper et al (2009)
<b>Week 12</b> (Dec. 8) <i>Poster Presentations</i>	



# Assignments

*This course requires an average time commitment of approximately eight hours per week*

## Research Proposal

A major goal of this course is to prepare you and give you the confidence to design a research project that envisions a form of collaboration with community partners (i.e., co-researchers) for the co-creation of knowledge that aims at social justice outcomes. Such project must deploy a critical, anti-oppressive methodological research framework.

*This assignment has three parts: a Literature Review, a Poster Presentation and a Final Proposal. See below for deadlines.*

### Literature Review

The main goal of the literature review is to identify and develop a research question based on a review of the literature on the topic and the community you will be working with.

In a literature review, the topic is delimited and the boundaries of your research area are defined. This assignment includes a cover page, a literature overview and research question, a minimum of 10 scholarly sources consulted, and an annotation of 5 sources.

**Handout 2** provides guidelines for this assignment (see OWL).

### Poster Presentation

One specific skill this course will help you acquire is the ability to present your research to a wider audience.

Each student will have the opportunity to share with the rest of the class her or his research project with the design of a poster.

This assignment has two elements: the clarity in presenting the different components of the project (introduction, justification, methodological design, ethical implications, etc.) and the overall visual design (clarity, coherence, impact).

Further guidelines for poster presentations will be provided in class.

### Final Proposal

The final research proposal details what you propose to do and how you plan to do it. This is a step-by-step guide of what you anticipate doing in collaboration with your research partners.

**Handout 3** provides additional guidelines for this assignment, including the specific set of questions and sections that need to be addressed (see OWL).

## GRADES DESCRIPTION

Exceptional = above 90 (A+)

Went beyond expectations in all categories. One could expect little more from a student at this level.

Strong = 80-89 (A)

Superior work which is clearly above average.

Average = 70-79 (B)

Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory.

Average/Weaker = 60-69 (C)

Displayed average capability in some categories but no particular strengths. Meets basic requirements.

Not acceptable = below 50 (F)

Failure. Work is unsatisfactory and does not meet basic requirements.

## Critical Responses

Twice this term, you will be required to write a critical response to a question posed to the class in relation to assigned readings up to that week. This is an “open book” exercise.

**Handout 1** offers additional guidelines for this assignment (see OWL).

## Workshops

The course offers you the opportunity to work on a set “workshop sheets” where you can explore ideas for your own research proposal.

Workshop sheets are aimed at supporting you and help you create a research path to document how your research is progressing and what main challenges you are encountering.

There are three workshops in total; see below for deadlines. I expect to discuss these workshop sheets with you in class.

Grades for this assignment are based on depth of answers (i.e., how much thought you actually put into them) and how they help direct your own research proposal.

## Course Requirements Summary

Critical Responses	20% (2 x 10% each)	Weeks 6 & 10
Workshop Sheets	15% (3 x 5% each)	Weeks 3, 5, 8
Research Proposal	15% Literature Review	Week 7
	15% Poster Presentation	Week 11
	35% Final Proposal	Week 12



# Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

Identify and assess the contributions critical and anti-oppressive methodologies make to social research.

Outline and demonstrate critical awareness on the ways in which critical and anti-oppressive research methodologies contribute to collective emancipatory goals.

Mobilize (i.e., apply) key elements of critical and anti-oppressive research methodologies in order to develop your own approach to critical research.

Class Meetings  
Critical Responses

Class Meetings  
Critical Responses

Workshops  
Research Proposal  
(three components)

“For apart from inquiry, apart from the praxis, individuals cannot be truly human. Knowledge emerges only through invention and re-invention, through the restless, impatient, continuing, hopeful inquiry human beings pursue in the world, with the world, and with each other.”

Paulo Freire (1968)



# Contact information

## Email policy

The best way to reach me is via email: [lsavino2@uwo.ca](mailto:lsavino2@uwo.ca)

I will do my best to reply as soon as possible. If you do not get an immediate reply, please allow at least 48 hours if you need to send me a reminder. I usually do not check my emails after 5pm or on weekends.

**Important!** Please use the course number as part of the subject line for your emails. This will ensure a faster reply as my electronic correspondence gets sorted automatically.

Due to privacy guidelines, you must use your university email account for contacting me.

## Make an appointment

If you are unable to meet me in person during my office hours, please contact me to make an appointment. A meeting over Zoom can be arranged.

“The ways in which scientific research is implicated in the worst excesses of colonialism remains a powerful remembered history for many of the world’s colonized peoples.”

Linda Tuhiwai Smith, 2012

# A note on returned assignments and appeals

Frequently students wish to discuss the results of their assignments immediately upon receiving their grade and feedback. Every effort will be made to provide substantial feedback on assignments with the intention of making the grading clear, and also to help you improve regardless of the grade an assignment receives.

If you still have questions or concerns about your grade, please make an appointment to discuss further. Please wait 24 hours after receiving your assignment and grade before contacting me to discuss your results. In addition, I prefer you set up an appointment no later than 7 days after receiving your grade if you wish to discuss your grade.

You may also appeal your overall grade, or the grade of any specific assignment. These are the steps:

1. Have an informed discussion with me. Ideally, this step must be initiated (i.e. set up an appointment) within 7 days of receiving your grade.

2. If you still find the explanation of your grade unsatisfactory, you may appeal your grade in writing. This written submission must be sent to me within 14 days of receiving your grade. You are to write a formal letter indicating the ways in which you believe your assignment met the requirements – with evidence cited – as well as the grade you believe you deserve for your work.

Please keep in mind that the onus is on you to demonstrate that your work meets the requirement set out for the assignment, and not for me to defend the mark allocated.

No grade change will be considered without submitting a formal appeal in writing.



**KEEP  
CALM  
&  
FOLLOW  
THE RULES**

For more information about the University’s appeal guidelines visit:  
[uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf](http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf)

## **Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations Fall/Winter 2022**

### **Pandemic Contingency**

Huron will continue to follow the guidance of public health and government officials. It is anticipated that there will be no further disruptions to in-person instruction. This is subject to change.

### **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: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)

### **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: [Academic](#)

[Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](http://www.uwo.ca) .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](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, tablets, 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**

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, 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) Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go Directly to Academic Advising**

University Senate policy, which can be found at [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#) requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. 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. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Dean.

**c) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto: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. 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: [accommodation\\_medical.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](#). Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto: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](mailto: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>

### **Wellness and Health Supports 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. All Huron staff and faculty have received training on responding to disclosures of Gender-Based Sexual Violence (GBSV); students should know that the Community Safety Office is a resource for survivors, providing support and, if desired, guidance while referring them to the further supports that they may require. 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](mailto:huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca)

Community Safety Office: [safety@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:safety@huron.uwo.ca)

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

Western Calendar - Policy Pages -

[Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](https://www.uwo.ca/academic-calendar/)