

Faculty of Information and Media Studies
GRADLIS 9320 Summer 2021
Consumer Health Information

Course Information

Meeting time and location: No fixed meeting date.

Instructor: Denise Smith

Virtual Office: Zoom meeting room: <https://mcmaster.zoom.us/j/4192883048>)

Office hours: Mondays 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM, or by appointment

Email: dsmit94@uwo.ca

Course Objectives

This course will be delivered asynchronously and will employ pre-recorded lectures, opportunities for students to engage in reflective dialogue in an online forum. Assignments are designed to simulate real-life consumer health information searching.

By the end of this course students will:

1. Understand the nature of health and medical information and research, particularly the hierarchy of health information and how biomedical information is produced, disseminated, and organized
2. Be able to apply the unique searching skills required for information searching and retrieval in biomedical and clinical databases using specialized language
3. Be able to identify appropriate sources for patient or consumer information documents (e.g. patient pamphlets)
4. Be able to use the reference interview to understand the information seeking of members of the general public and provide a positive outcome for a patron's consumer health information need.
5. Understand some of the major concerns related to meeting consumer health information needs and the role of librarians in guiding the consumer to high quality, reliable and appropriate information.

Methods of Evaluation

ASSIGNMENT	WEIGHT	DUE DATE(S)
Reflections (10 @ 2% each) 500 wds max	20%	Fridays at 11:59 PM
PubMed Search	20%	TBD
Trace Study from News Article	20%	TBD
Patient Scenario	30%	TBD
Wikipedia Article Appraisal	10%	TBD

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 Web site:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf

Support Services

Students who are in distress are encouraged to refer to Western's [health and wellness website](#). If you are in crisis, visit: <https://uwo.ca/health/crisis.html> for information on how to get immediate support.