

Department of Biochemistry Course Syllabus for Fall 2026

3383F Introduction to Biochemical Research, 0.5 credits

This course takes place at Western University, which is located on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton Nations, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum.

Students who are in emotional and/or mental distress should refer to <https://www.uwo.ca/health/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

The Department of Biochemistry recognizes diversity of identity and experience as a source of strength that promotes excellence, innovation, flexibility and adaptability in our discipline. We embrace, nurture, value and celebrate this diversity.

1. Technical Requirements:



Stable internet connection



Laptop or computer

2. Important Dates:

Classes Begin	Reading Week	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
September 9	October 10–18	December 9	December 10	December 11–22

September 30, 2026: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation; non-instructional day

September 17, 2026: Last day to add or drop a Fall 12-week course

November 30, 2026: Last day to withdraw from a Fall 12-week course without academic penalty

3. Contact Information

Course Coordinator	Contact Information	Office
Dr. Brian Dempsey	brian.dempsey@uwo.ca	MSB 389

Biochemistry Program Administrator	Contact Information	Office
Ms. Neiven Timothaws	neiven.timothaws@schulich.uwo.ca	MSB 342

4. Course Description and Design

Delivery Mode: In-person

Students carry out a research project under the direction of a faculty member gaining practical experience in a biochemistry research laboratory. Experimental design, critical thinking, and scientific communication will be emphasized, and students will develop skills at reading and reviewing primary scientific literature.

The objective of the course is to have students gain practical experience in a research laboratory with evaluations that emphasize writing and critical thinking skills. The major component of the course will involve 5 hours per week of independent research. The laboratory project should be a well-defined sub-project of a larger effort in the lab, feasible within a 12-week time frame. The course will involve reading selected manuscripts relevant to the project. This will provide an opportunity for the student to critically assess experimental approaches and outcomes, develop their writing ability, and recognize how specific research projects contribute to a larger body of understanding.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Prerequisite: Permission of the department.

Pre- or Corequisite(s): Biochemistry 3381A and Biochemistry 3382A.

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.

Timetabled Sessions

Component	Date(s)	Time
Lab work on project goals	M/T/W/Th/F	Scheduled with project lab personnel
Final lab presentation	Before end of term	As scheduled with supervisor

- Students should come ready to complete lab work by reading and researching methods. This requires pre-work to complete readings and calculations as required.
- Attendance at scheduled sessions is required (as arranged with lab mentor). Students should contact lab members to confirm and arrange supervision for lab activities.
- Students must be supervised during lab work, schedule times with your supervisor and lab personnel.

All course material will be posted to OWL Brightspace: <https://westernu.brightspace.com/d2l/login>. Any changes will be indicated on the OWL Brightspace site and discussed with the class.

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the [OWL Brightspace Help](#). Alternatively, they can contact the [Western Technology Services Helpdesk](#). They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

Current versions of all popular browsers (e.g., Safari, Chrome, Edge, Firefox) are supported with OWL Brightspace; what is most important is that you update your browser frequently to ensure it is current. All JavaScript and cookies should be enabled.

5. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Perform biochemical, molecular or bioinformatics experiments independently and follow safety guidelines.
- Conduct literature review in a topic in biochemistry.
- Prepare a scientific manuscript.
- Prepare and present a scientific talk.
- Critically analyze scientific data and defend conclusions that are made from the data.

6. Course Content and Schedule

September 9 to 15

- Students arrange to meet with their faculty project supervisor and discuss the topic for their projects and 2-3 research articles that introduce the key aspects of the project (background and/or methods).
- Meet with any lab mentors that will supervise undergraduate student lab activities
- Complete WHMIS training, Lab Safety training, Biosafety training, and any additional safety training as required by your supervisor. See website for access - <https://www.uwo.ca/hr/learning/required/index.html>
- Contact Boun Thai (boun.thai@schulich.uwo.ca) for questions on safety training.

September to end of November

- Students conduct project research to collect data with the support of the faculty supervisor and any designated lab mentors.
- Students are expected to spend a **minimum** of 5 hours per week in the lab working on their projects and should **be proactive in arranging supervision** to make research progress.

Wednesday, September 16, by 5:00 pm

- All safety training must be completed with proof submitted to the project supervisor or their designate.
- Research experiments may begin after this safety training is completed. 3383F/G students must be supervised whenever working in laboratories.

Friday, September 25, by 11:59 pm

- Submit your "Introduction of research topic" (Assignment 1) by emailing a pdf file to brian.dempsey@uwo.ca and copying it to your faculty supervisor.

Friday, October 23, by 11:59 pm

- Submit your "Description of research methods" (Assignment 2) by emailing a pdf file to brian.dempsey@uwo.ca and copying it to your supervisor.

Friday, November 6, by 11:59 pm

- Submit your "Preparation of scientific figure" (Assignment 3) by emailing a pdf file to brian.dempsey@uwo.ca and copying it to your supervisor.

Friday, November 20, by 11:59 pm

- Submit your "Detailed outline of scientific report" (Assignment 4) by emailing a pdf file to brian.dempsey@uwo.ca and copying it to your supervisor.

Any day Before December 9 (last day of classes)

- Give a 20-minute presentation to your research group members on the background, goals and accomplishments of your project.
- Answer questions from the audience for up to a total of 5 minutes.

- Have at least 4 lab members (including your supervisor) completing the evaluation forms provided. Ask your **supervisor to collect the completed forms** and email them to brian.dempsey@uwo.ca.

Wednesday, December 9, by 11:59 pm

- Submit your “Final report” (Assignment 5) by emailing a pdf file to your supervisor and copying the email to brian.dempsey@uwo.ca.

NOTE: At the end of each assessment that a student submits they must **indicate in writing how AI was used** to complete any part of the assessment. Students should clearly and comprehensively indicate what AI platform was used and the specific way it was used.

7. Participation and Engagement

- Students are expected to participate and engage with their lab work at a high level to fulfil their project goals.
- Students should engage with their project supervisors and any lab personnel that the supervisor designates to train them in order to receive training and guidance on their project.

8. Assessment and Evaluation

Below is the evaluation breakdown for the course. Any deviations will be communicated.

Assessment	Weighting	Due Date	Flexibility
Intro to research topic	5%	Fri, Sep. 25, by 11:59 pm	72-hour no late penalty
Description of methods	5%	Fri, Oct. 23, by 11:59 pm	72-hour no late penalty
Preparation of figure	5%	Fri, Nov 6, by 11:59 pm	72-hour no late penalty
Detailed outline	10%	Fri, Nov 20, by 11:59 pm	72-hour no late penalty
Oral Presentation	10%	Before the end of classes	Designated
Final Report	35%	Wed, Dec 9, by 11:59 pm	72-hour no late penalty
Supervisor assessment	30%	End of term + midterm check-in	N/A

Designated Assessment: Instructors are permitted to designate one assessment per course per term as requiring supporting documentation to receive academic consideration. See below for information on academic consideration policy and missed course work. For this course the following assessment has been designated as requiring supporting documentation:

- Oral Presentation

Additional Information

- You are permitted and encouraged to share drafts of all your assignments with your colleagues and lab-mates for editing purposes. To allow time for suggested edits and revision, you need to finish your assignment well in advance of the due date so that your draft can be reviewed by members of your lab. Make sure you plan ahead for this time when preparing your assignments.
- Email submission of reports must be sent from your “@uwo.ca” account.
- A brief description of each assessment is provided below. On OWL additional instructions and/or a marking rubric will be provided for these assessments.

Assignment 1: Introduction of research topic (350-word limit)

Provide a descriptive title for your project. Provide a summary introducing your area of research, defining your research objective and any relevant hypothesis, and stating the significance of your project. Be concise and specific. Specify the word count at the end of document. Inclusion of literature citations outside of the word limit is required. A rubric and additional instructions will be posted to OWL.

Assignment 2: Description of research methods (no word/page limit)

Provide a written description of one or two principal methods you are using in your project. The method should be written out in full as it would appear in a published scientific manuscript. If it is adapted from an existing source, that source should be clearly indicated. Include literature citations when applicable. A rubric and additional instructions will be posted to OWL.

Assignment 3: Preparation of scientific figure

Provide one important figure from your work that is likely to appear in your final report. In most cases, this is a graph, chart, or image derived from data, but it can also be a molecular model or schematic. Multipaneled figures are permitted. Provide a detailed figure legend below the figure. The figure legend should also be included to identify all the components and brief experimental detail necessary to understand the figure. This figure should follow the format of an appropriate scientific journal. A rubric and additional instructions will be posted to OWL.

Assignment 4: Detailed outline of scientific report (2-page limit, single-spaced)

Provide a detailed outline that you will use to write your final report. Divide into the major headings: Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results and Discussion. Provide bullet points on the content under each heading, and the name of the figures or tables will be inserted. Do not insert the actual figures/tables or any literature citations. A rubric and additional instructions will be posted to OWL.

Assignment 5: Final Report (2000-word limit; not including: abstract, references, figures)

The final report should be written as a manuscript format for a scientific paper. You are encouraged to have your lab-mates and colleagues to proof-read your final report.

It is recommended that you review published scientific literature for a reference on how to prepare your final report. It is expected that you will need to read scientific literature for your 3383 project and these papers that you read should help you get an idea of how an experimental paper is composed. You can also consult with your project supervisor and any mentors in the lab. A rubric and additional instructions will be posted to OWL. The planning you do for your outline (Assignment 4) should help you prepare for writing this report.

The following sections should be included:

Abstract (recommended to be 250 words or less)

The abstract serves as a summary of all sections of your report. You should describe the research problem that you are tackling, and the main results and conclusion of your work.

Introduction (an extended, revised and updated version of Assignment 1)

Provide background information sufficient for your audience to understand the project. This should start with the general big picture problem and end with to the specific problem you are addressing. It should define the research question, describe in brief the experimental approaches used in your work and summarize the key results obtained.

Materials and Methods (an extended and updated version of Assignment 2) You should describe the experimental procedures in sufficient details that other researchers can repeat your experiments.

Results

Results of your experiments should be presented in a logical order, and in a clear and objective manner. Use tables and figures to better organize your data in addition to text. In fact, it is recommended to frame your results section around the figures. Figures included in your report should be of high quality. Make sure the figure legends convey enough information for the reader to understand the data without referring to the main text in this section. You will revise and include your Assignment 3 figure and legend in this section.

Discussion

This section should include your interpretation of the results. Discuss whether the results obtained answer the research question you are trying to address. If not, suggest possible ways to improve the current experiments. Discuss your work in the context of other literature.

References

The references listed should follow the format of one of the journals in the Biochemistry field (e.g., Journal of Biological Chemistry, Biochemistry, Journal of Molecular Biology).

Figures/tables

Provide figures (with caption and legends) and tables (with titles) as required.

Evaluation Criteria (rubrics will be posted to the 3383F/G OWL-Brightspace site)

Assignments 1, 2 and 4 will be evaluated on: (a) format and style, (b) organization of materials, (c) quality of writing, and (d) citation to literature where appropriate.

Assignment 3 will be evaluated on: (a) format and style, (b) clarity of the information, and (c) quality of illustration.

Assignment 5, final report, will be graded based upon the following criteria:

- (a) Writing quality including logic and clarity of writing, spelling, grammar, and organization
- (b) Background: sufficient and appropriate to understand the research aims, appropriate reference to the literature
- (c) Clear exposition of hypothesis and research goals
- (d) Methods: sufficient detail for a knowledgeable worker to repeat the experiments, with appropriate reference to the literature
- (e) Results: clear and logical description of results/trends in the data obtained
- (f) Proper interpretation and discussion of results
- (g) Level of scientific accomplishment

Assignments 1-4 will be graded by **the 3383F/G coordinator**, and Assignment 5 will be graded by **the faculty project supervisor**.

The **oral presentation** will be graded by **those attending your talk** using the following criteria: (a) background, (b) organization, (c) objective, (d) presentation skills, and (e) responses to questions.

Information about flexibility in assessment

- Flexibility in assessment has been applied to this course; therefore, academic consideration requests may be denied on the assessments where flexibility is included
- This course employs flexible deadlines for assignments. The assignment deadlines can be found above in the course outline. For each assignment, students are expected to submit the assignment by the deadline listed. Should illness or extenuating circumstances arise, students are permitted to submit their assignment up to 72 hours past the deadline without a late penalty. Should students submit their assessment beyond 72 hours past the deadline, a late penalty of 50% per day will be subtracted from the assessed grade. Requests for academic consideration supported by documentation must be submitted within 48 hours of the original deadline. The instructor reserves the right to deny such academic considerations, given the deadline flexibility provided. If you have a long- term academic consideration or an accommodation for disability that allows greater flexibility than provided here, please reach out to your instructor at least one week prior to the posted deadline.

General information about assessments

- All assignments are due at the EST/EDT times stated in the table above.
- Students are responsible for ensuring that the correct file version is submitted; incorrect submissions including corrupt files could be subject to late penalties (see below) or a 0
- After an assessment is returned, students should wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting their evaluator; to ensure a timely response, reach out within 7 days
- Any grade appeals on marked assessments must be received within 2 weeks of the grade being posted.
- After an assessment is returned, students should wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting their evaluator; to ensure a timely response, reach out within 7 days
- Assessment re-grading could result in the mark increasing, decreasing, or remaining the same
- Prior to the filing of a written request for relief, students must attempt to resolve the concern regarding a mark or grade through informal consultation with the instructor. If the student is dissatisfied with the decision of the instructor or does not receive a decision from the instructor, a written request for relief must be submitted to the Department Chair within three (3) weeks from the date that the mark was issued.

Click [here](#) for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning examinations and grading. The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

Information about late or missed assessments:

- Late assessments without academic consideration will be subject to a late penalty 50%/day
- All course assessments must be completed in order to pass this course. If a student has an approved and documented reason to not submit an assessment they will be required to complete a similar assessment in a time frame that is approved by their project supervisor and the course coordinator, this may be the following year, or the next time the course is offered. Until all assessments are completed the student will receive a grade of INC.

INC (Incomplete Standing): If a student has been approved by the Academic Advising Office (in consultation with the instructor/department) to complete term work at a later date, an INC will be assigned, which could impact program progression. Students with INC will have their course load in subsequent terms reduced to allow them to complete outstanding course work. Students may request permission from Academic Advising to carry a full course load for the term the incomplete course work is scheduled.

9. Communication

- Students should check the OWL Brightspace site every 24–48 hours
- Students should email their supervisor and the course coordinator using their uwo account
- Students should ask their lab mentor and supervisor for their preferred method of communication and use it as required.
- This course will use Brightspace for distribution of course materials

10. Office Hours

- Meetings with Dr. Dempsey can be arranged by email or drop-in
- Students should contact their supervisor and any lab mentors to discuss their preference for arranging meetings

11. Course Materials

Students should discuss with their supervisor and other lab personnel regarding scientific papers and other resources that are appropriate to their project. Typically scientific papers will be available through Western Libraries.

12. Professionalism & Privacy

Western students are expected to follow the [Student Code of Conduct](#). Additionally, the following expectations and professional conduct apply to this course:

- ☒ All course materials created by the instructor(s) are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared/upload (e.g., Must Knows Facebook group, Course Hero, Chegg, ChatGPT, etc.)
- ☒ Recordings are not permitted (audio or video) without explicit permission
- ☒ Permitted recordings are not to be distributed

Western is committed to providing a learning and working environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. All **students**, staff, and faculty have a role in this commitment and have a responsibility to ensure and promote a safe and respectful learning and working environment. Relevant policies include Western's [Non-Discrimination/Harassment Policy](#) (M.A.P.P. 1.35) and [Non-Discrimination/Harassment Policy – Administrative Procedures](#) (M.A.P.P. 1.35). Any **student**, staff, or faculty member who experiences or witnesses' behaviour that may be harassment or discrimination **must report the behaviour** to the Western's [Human Rights Office](#). Harassment and discrimination can be human rights-based, which is also known as EDI-based, (sexism, racism, transphobia, homophobia, islamophobia, xenophobia, antisemitism, and ableism) or non-human rights-based (personal harassment or workplace harassment).

13. How to Be Successful in this Class

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.

1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track time you should be in the lab. Make sure you arrange lab times so that appropriate supervision is available.
2. Prepare for your time in the lab in advance. Read over protocols and think through the method. Make notes of questions you might have and look up details that are unclear.
3. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
4. Follow weekly checklists created on OWL or create your own to help you stay on track with your project and assignments.
5. Connect with others in the lab. There are many knowledgeable personnel in most labs. Talk with them and ask questions. They are usually happy to provide advice, but you must give them time and realize that they also have a schedule. So ask for help well in advance so that time can be found to meet.
6. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a part of your project check with others in your lab.
7. Reward yourself for successes. It seems easier to motivate ourselves knowing that there is something waiting for us at the end of the task.

14. Western Academic Policies and Statements

A. Absence from Course Commitments

Medical, Compassionate, or Extenuating Circumstances

Students missing course work for medical, compassionate, or extenuating circumstances can request academic consideration by completing a request at the [Student Absence Portal](#). Students are permitted one academic consideration request per course per term **without** supporting documentation. Note that supporting documentation is **always** required for academic consideration requests for examinations scheduled by the office of the registrar (e.g., December and April exams) and for practical laboratory and performance tests (typically scheduled during the last week of the term).

Students should also note that the instructor may **designate** one assessment per course per term that requires supporting documentation. This designated assessment is described elsewhere in this document. Academic consideration requests may be denied when flexibility in assessment has already been included. Examples of flexibility in assessment include when there are assessments not required for calculation of the final grade (e.g. 8 out of 10 quizzes) or there is flexibility in the submission timeframe (e.g. 72 hour no late penalty period).

Please note that any academic considerations granted in this course will be determined by the instructor of this course, in consultation with the academic advisors in your Faculty of Registration, in accordance with information presented in this course syllabus. Supporting documentation for academic considerations for absences due to illness should use the Student Medical Certificate or, where that is not possible, equivalent documentation by a health care practitioner.

Policy: [Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#)

Procedures: [Student Medical Certificate](#)

Religious Holidays

Students should review the policy for Accommodation for Religious Holidays (Appendix 1). Where a student will be unable to write examinations and term tests due to a conflicting religious holiday, they should inform their instructors as soon as possible but not later than two weeks prior to writing the examination/term test. In the case of conflict with a midterm test, students should inform their instructor as soon as possible but not later than one week prior to the midterm.

Policy: [Accommodation for Religious Holidays](#)

Special Examinations

A Special Examination is any examination other than the regular examination, and it may be offered only with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty in which the student is registered, in consultation with the instructor and Department Chair. Permission to write a Special Examination may be given on the basis of compassionate or medical grounds with appropriate supporting documents. To provide an opportunity for students to recover from the circumstances resulting in a Special Examination, the University has implemented Special Examinations dates.

Policy: [Definitions of Types of Examinations](#)

B. Academic Appeals and Scholastic Offenses

Students can file a **request for relief from academic decisions** if the request is based on one or more grounds listed in the policy. Requests for relief generally fall into three categories, which are also listed in the policy. All requests for relief must be supported by evidence. A request for relief from academic decisions process was formally referred to as an appeal. Refer to the policy and procedures about further details and timelines.

Policy: [Requests for Relief from Academic Decisions](#)

Procedures: [Undergraduate Student Academic Requests for Relief](#)

Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a scholastic offence.

Policy: [Scholastic Offences](#)

Procedures: [Undergraduate Scholastic Offences](#)

Students may **appeal** some academic and scholastic disciplinary decisions by a Dean or their designate, to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA).

Policy: [Senate Review Board Academic Appeals](#)

Procedures: [Senate Review Board Academic Appeals](#)

C. Accessibility Statement

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education (AE) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

Policy: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#)

D. Correspondence Statement

The centrally administered **e-mail account** provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner.

E. Discovery Credit Statement

Students are permitted to designate up to 1.0 Discovery Credit course (or equivalent) for pass/fail grading that can be counted toward the overall course credits required for their degree program.

Policy: [Undergraduate Course Credit](#)

Procedures: [Discovery Credits](#)

F. Statement on the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Within this course, students are permitted to use AI tools exclusively for information gathering and preliminary research purposes. These tools are intended to enhance the learning experience by providing access to diverse information sources. However, it is essential that students critically evaluate the obtained information, exercise independent thinking, and engage in original research to synthesize and develop their own ideas, arguments, and perspectives. The use of AI tools can serve as a starting point for exploration, with students expected to uphold academic integrity by appropriately attributing all sources and avoiding plagiarism. Assignments and/or lab reports should reflect the students' own thoughts and independent written work. By adhering to these guidelines, students contribute to a responsible and ethical learning environment that promotes critical thinking, independent inquiry and allows them to produce original written contributions. If a student submits any content for assessment that has been generated by AI they must clearly cite and identify the content.

G. Turnitin and other similarity review software

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 Western University and [Turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com).

15. BMSUE Academic Policies and Statements

A. Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy (for in-person tests and exams)

The Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry is committed to ensuring that testing and evaluation are undertaken fairly across all our departments and programs. For all tests and exams, it is the policy of the School that any electronic devices, e.g., cell phones, tablets, cameras, smart glasses, smart watch or iPod are strictly prohibited. These devices **MUST** be left either at home or with the student's bag/jacket at the front of the room and **MUST NOT** be at the test/exam desk or in the individual's pocket. Any student found with one of these prohibited devices will receive a grade of zero on the test or exam and this will be documented as a Scholastic Offence. Non-programmable calculators are only allowed when indicated by the instructor. The program is not responsible for stolen/lost or broken devices.

B. Copyright and Audio/Video Recording Statement

Course materials produced by faculty are copyrighted and to reproduce this material for any purposes other than your own educational use contravenes Canadian Copyright Laws. You must always ask permission to record another individual and you should never share or distribute recordings.

C. Rounding of Marks Statement

Across the Basic Medical Sciences Undergraduate Education programs, we strive to maintain high standards that reflect the effort that both students and faculty put into the teaching and learning experience during this course. All students will be treated equally and evaluated based only on their actual achievement. **Final grades** in this course are rounded to the nearest whole number based on the first decimal place. For example, a grade of 74.49 or lower will be rounded to 74, whereas 74.50 or higher will be rounded to 75.

Marks **WILL NOT** be arbitrarily increased to the next grade or GPA, e.g., a 79 will **NOT** be increased to an 80, and 84 **WILL NOT** be increased to an 85, etc. The mark attained is the mark you achieved, and the mark assigned; requests for arbitrary mark increasing will be denied. Marks will be assigned based on assessments in the syllabus and no extra work or tasks will be assigned to increase a mark.

Course grade rounding provisions, as described above, differ from cumulative and term averages. Cumulative and term averages will be calculated to two decimal places and rounded to the nearest whole number with .45 rounded up, for the purposes of admission to and progression in modules, scholarship retention, and Dean's Honour List.

Policy: [Marks/Grades; Definitions of Grades; Grading Scale for Undergraduate Students](#)

16. Support Services

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @Western <https://www.uwo.ca/health/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Statement on Gender-Based and Sexual Violence

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at the following website:

https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html

To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

Other important links:

- [Academic Advising \(Science and Basic Medical Sciences\)](#)
- [Learning Development and Success](#)
- [Office of the Registrar](#)
- [Wellness & Wellbeing](#)
- [Western USC Services](#)

Appendix 1: Western University Academic Policies and Procedures

The policies and procedures listed in this syllabus are outlined in the table below. In some cases, a policy does not include an accompanied procedures document.

Academic Policy	Name of Policy/Procedure	Links
General Policy	Marks/Grades; Definitions of Grades; Grading Scale for Undergraduate Students	Policy
General Policy	Structure of the Academic Year	Policy
Registration, Progression, Graduation	Course Numbering Policy, Essay Courses, and Hours of Instruction	Policy
Registration, Progression, Graduation	Undergraduate Course Credit	Policy • Procedures
Examinations	Definitions of Types of Examinations	Policy
Examinations	Evaluation of Academic Performance	Policy
Examinations	Examination Conflicts	Policy
Rights and Responsibilities	Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities	Policy
Rights and Responsibilities	Accommodation for Religious Holidays	Policy
Rights and Responsibilities	Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs	Policy • Procedures
Rights and Responsibilities	Requests for Relief from Academic Decisions (Undergraduate)	Policy • Procedures
Rights and Responsibilities	Requests for Relief from Academic Decisions (Graduate)	Policy • Procedures
Rights and Responsibilities	Scholastic Offences (Undergraduate)	Policy • Procedures
Rights and Responsibilities	Senate Review Board Academic Appeals	Policy • Procedures