

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine  
PATHOLOGY 4980E

Course outline for 2020-2021



Although this academic year might be different, Western University is committed to a **thriving campus**. We encourage you to check out the [Digital Student Experience](#) website to manage your academics and well-being. Additionally, the following link provides available resources to support students on and off campus: <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

1. Technical Requirements:



Stable internet connection



Laptop or computer



Working microphone



Working webcam *encouraged*

2. Course Overview and Important Dates:

Delivery Mode	Dates	Time
Virtual, synchronous <sup>1</sup>	W	10:30 am – 1:30 pm
In-person, research activities <sup>2</sup>	Varies	Varies

<sup>1</sup> Details about design and delivery of the course are listed below in Section 4.

<sup>2</sup> Research projects may require in-person participation.



Term	Classes Start	Reading Weeks	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
FALL*	September 9	November 2-8	December 9	December 10	December 11-22
WINTER	January 4	February 13-21	April 5	April 6 and 7	April 8-30

\* November 30, 2020: Last day to drop a full course and full-year half course without penalty.

3. Contact Information



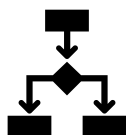
Course Coordinator	Contact Information
Zia A. Khan	<a href="mailto:zkhan5@uwo.ca">zkhan5@uwo.ca</a>

#### 4. Course Description and Design

Course includes: i) theory and practice of research techniques, laboratory safety, appropriate use of experimental models, ii) an independent research project supervised by faculty, iii) oral and written communication skills, including the preparation of a research proposal and final written research project report.

The goal of this methodology- and research-based course is to develop qualitative and quantitative skills required to pursue a career in research. Students will have the opportunity to gain familiarity with a variety of research techniques. The course will allow students to conduct an independent research project under the supervision of a faculty member.

Mode	Dates	Time	Frequency
Virtual, synchronous	W	10:30 am – 1:30 pm	weekly
In-person research activities	Varies	Varies	weekly



- Attendance at synchronous sessions is required.
- Recordings of the session will not be provided. PowerPoint or other media slides may be posted on OWL.

Remote sessions may be scheduled through [Zoom Cloud Meetings](#), [Microsoft Teams](#), [Cisco Webex](#), or other online/cloud meeting platform.

All course material will be posted to OWL: <http://owl.uwo.ca>. Any changes will be indicated on the OWL site and discussed with the class.

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

[Google Chrome](#) or [Mozilla Firefox](#) are the preferred browsers to optimally use OWL. Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click [here](#).

#### 5. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. be able to use research methods and techniques to test novel hypotheses
2. be able to synthesize and integrate new biomedical data with established ideas to generate novel hypotheses
3. have developed a basic understanding of disease, and its clinical presentation, pathogenesis, diagnosis and treatment
4. understand the responsibilities of ethics in scientific research
5. find and evaluate current information in medical and scientific literature
6. communicate scientific information clearly and concisely, both in writing and in oral presentations



7. produce written scientific works at a level appropriate to the understanding and knowledge of both technical and lay audiences

8. demonstrate critical thinking and be able to build arguments to effectively defend and critique scientific knowledge, including own work

## 6. Course Content and Schedule



Weekly schedule and topics are provided in *Supplemental PATHOL 4980E Course Outline* document.

## 7. Online Participation and Engagement



Students are expected to participate and engage with content as much as possible

## 8. Evaluation

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

Assessment <sup>1</sup>	Format	% Final	Due Date
Research Techniques	Varies (based on Supervisor's evaluation)	5%	April 2021
Written research proposal	Written assignment	10%	December 2020
Research proposal presentation	Oral presentation	10%	December 2020
Journal presentation	Oral presentation	10%	February 2021
Graphical abstract	Written assignment	5%	February 2021
Research day presentation	Oral presentation	10%	April 2021
Final written report	Written assignment	20%	April 2021
Final presentation	Oral presentation	20%	April 2021
Attendance	Attendance at virtual session	10%	N/A

<sup>1</sup> Details on assignments and presentations is provided in Supplemental PATHOL 4980E Course Outline document.



- All assignments are due at 11:55 pm EST unless otherwise specified
- Written assignments may be submitted to Turnitin (statement in policies below)
- Rubrics will be used to evaluate assessments and will be posted with the instructions
- After an assessment is returned, students may schedule a meeting with the course coordinator to receive further feedback.

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 evaluations:

- Late assessments without self-reported absences will be subject to a late penalty 10% per each full or partial day for up to 2 days. After 2 days, a mark of 0% will be assigned.
- Late assessments with self-reported absences should be submitted within 24 hours of the end of the 48-hour period.
- Missed assessments will be assigned a mark of 0%, unless accommodation has been requested and alternate arrangement have been made prior to the deadline.

## 9. Communication:



- Students should check the OWL site regularly
- Students should email their course coordinator using email
- Emails will be monitored daily; students will receive a response in 24 - 48 hours
- Students should submit all course-related content to the course coordinator. This material will be posted on OWL so that everyone can access the material

## 10. Office Hours:



- Students will be able to schedule an appointment with the course coordinator using email

## 11. Resources



- All resources will be posted in OWL

## 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
- Recordings are not permitted (audio or video) without explicit permission
- Permitted recordings are not to be distributed
- Students will be expected to take an academic integrity pledge before some assessments

## 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 of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the start of each week to get organized and manage your time.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
3. Take notes as you go through the lesson material and presentations. Treat this course as you would a face-to-face course. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading/ watching the videos/ reviewing the slides.
4. Connect with others. Try forming an online study group and try meeting on a weekly basis for study and peer support.
5. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, connect with the course coordinator often and regularly

- 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

### Absence from Course Commitments

#### [Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences](#)

If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to illness or other serious circumstances, you must seek approval for the absence as soon as possible. Approval can be granted either through a **self-reported absence** or via the **Academic Counselling** unit. Students have two self-reports to use throughout the academic year; absence from course commitments including tests, quizzes, presentations, labs, and assignments that are worth 30% or less can be self-reported. Self-reported absences cover a student for 48 hours (yesterday + today or today + tomorrow). Your instructor will receive notification of your consideration; however, you should contact your instructor immediately regarding your absence. Students are expected to submit missed work within 24 hours of the end of the 48-hour period. Please review details of the [university's policy on academic consideration for student absences](#).

If you have used both their self-reported absences or will miss more than 48 hours of course requirements, a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) should be signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner and you should contact academic counselling. Academic Counselling will be operating virtually this year and can be contacted at [scibmsac@uwo.ca](mailto:scibmsac@uwo.ca).

### Accommodation for Religious Holidays

The policy on Accommodation for Religious Holidays can be viewed [here](#).

### 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. These dates as well as other important information about examinations and academic standing can be found [here](#).

### Academic Offences

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed [here](#) to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence.

### 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 or review [The policy on Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

### 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. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts [here](#).

### **Turnitin and other similarity review software**

All assignments will be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. Students will be able to view their results before the final submission. 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](http://Turnitin.com).

## **15. BMSUE Academic Policies and Statements**

### **Copyright and Audio/Video Recording Statement**

Course material produced by faculty is 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.

### **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** on this course, irrespective of the number of decimal places used in marking individual assignments and tests, will be calculated to one decimal place and rounded to the nearest integer, e.g., 74.4 becomes 74, and 74.5 becomes 75. Marks WILL NOT be bumped to the next grade or GPA, e.g. a 79 will NOT be bumped up to an 80, an 84 WILL NOT be bumped up to an 85, etc. The mark attained is the mark you achieved, and the mark assigned; requests for mark "bumping" will be denied.

## **16. Support Services**

The following links provide information about support services at Western University.

[Academic Counselling \(Science and Basic Medical Sciences\)](#)

[Appeal Procedures](#)

[Registrarial Services](#)

[Student Development Services](#)

[Student Health Services](#)