

INSPIRE 3EL3 – Experiential Learning Opportunities
CO2 – Being in Relationship:
An Introduction to Social Justice and Community Engagement
Spring 2020

Instructors:

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Class Times:

- Classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursday evenings from 6:00pm – 8:00pm
- Please note that the Spring 2020 Session is from May 4th to June 19th

Class Location: Virtual classroom through Zoom

Course Description:

This introductory course will engage students in the active promotion and understanding of social justice and community engagement principles. Through the lens of an intersectional framework, students will learn about the concepts and language associated with anti-oppression and have the opportunity to critically self-reflect on their own privilege. Through this interdisciplinary course, students will be exposed to virtual experiential learning opportunities including workshops and guest speakers that will increase their awareness of issues that shape relationships – locally and globally. Context and issues connected to the current COVID-19 global pandemic will be woven into this course.

Course Objectives:

1. To become familiar with concepts and language associated with social justice including anti-oppression.
2. To understand and practice McMaster's Principles of Community Engagement.
3. To learn from community activists involved in social change in Hamilton and beyond.
4. To recognize and further encourage a student's involvement in their communities. Students will reflect on their personal and social responsibility to their communities.
5. To develop and improve effective communication and presentation skills.

Required Texts:

There is no required text for this course. All required readings and course materials are available on Avenue to Learn and the websites will be indicated in the weekly outline.

Course Communication:

1. Avenue to Learn: Announcements, lecture content, and grades will be posted to Avenue to Learn. Our course page will be our primary method of contact, please check our course page regularly to ensure you don't miss out on important information or announcements.

2. Email: Feel free to email us if you have any questions or concerns. If there are any specific supports that may be useful to your learning, please also let us know. Please ensure that all communication for this course is through your mcmaster.ca email. We will do our best to respond within 2 business days, however, if you don't hear back from us within 3 working days, feel free to re-send your email with a friendly reminder. In addition, whenever you need to email one of us regarding anything with the course please ensure that you address the email to both of us.

3. Zoom: Classes will take place online in a virtual classroom through Zoom. Instructions regarding this platform will be posted in Avenue to Learn.

Class Schedule

Date	Time	Topic
Week 1		
Tuesday May 5 th	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introductions ● Group Intentions
Thursday May 7 th	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Principles of Community Engagement
Week 2		
Tuesday May 12 th	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Anti-Oppression (AOP)
Thursday May 14 th	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Language and the Power of Words
Week 3		
Tuesday May 19 th	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Resistance, Allyship and Resilience
Thursday May 21 st	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Basic Income
Week 4		
Tuesday May 26 th	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Panel – Community Members
Thursday May 28 th	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indigeneity
Week 5		
Tuesday June 2 nd	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fat Liberation
Thursday June 4 th	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Final Presentations and Celebration

Ramadan:

A portion of this course runs during Ramadan and some students may be fasting. The classes are running from 6:00pm - 8:00pm which should not interfere with breaking fast. Please connect with the instructors directly to discuss further accommodations or for any questions.

Assessment and Course Deliverables:

Please note that INSPIRE 3EL3 – CO2 is a graded 3-unit course.

This course will be composed of the following assessment components:

- 1) Participation/Attendance: **20%**
 - Each class: 2% - Active Engagement
- 2) Reflections: **35%**
 - Reflection #1: Due May 10, 2020 - 10%
 - Reflection #2: Due May 24, 2020 - 10%
 - Reflection #3: Due June 1, 2020 - 15%
- 3) Discussion: **25%**
 - Starting discussion thread: May 19, 2020 – 15%
 - Responding to a discussion thread: June 4, 2020 – 10%
- 4) Presentation: **20%**
 - Final Presentation (Oral): Due in Class June 4, 2020

Please note the further details on these deliverables will be communicated in class and on our Avenue course page.

Course Assignment Information:

- Submit assignments by 11:59pm on the due date via Avenue to Learn.
- Students submitting papers after their due date without a medical or other reason will be penalized one mark for each day. Requests for extensions should be made before the day the paper is due. Students are not expected to provide disclosures of personal information when requesting an extension.
- APA style of referencing. This is a helpful guide:
 - https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html
- Assignments will be graded on clarity of communication, grammar, organization of material as well as on the content and critical analysis of the material. Rubrics will be available for some assignments.
- All assignments will have a detailed assignment outline posted on A2L – please review the assignment outline before you begin.

Course Policy Statements

1. Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities:

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. SAS can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or email sas@mcmaster.ca. If you have a disability and are registered with SAS, they will help you sort out what accommodations would be helpful to you so that you may successfully complete this course. Additionally, they will provide you with a letter for us

requesting accommodation. Please feel free to contact us about this so that we can work out a plan that will support your learning. For further information, consult McMaster University's Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities policy (<https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/2019/02/Academic-Accommodation-for-Religious-Indigenous-and-Spiritual-Observances-Policy-on.pdf>).

I also encourage you to talk to us if you require any accommodation, we are happy to discuss this virtually or via email.

2. Academic Accommodation for Religious, Indigenous, or Spiritual Observances (RISO):

It is important that any students requiring academic accommodation based on religion, indigenous, and spiritual observances know that these requests will be respected in the classroom. Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous, or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the RISO policy (<https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/2019/02/Academic-Accommodation-for-Religious-Indigenous-and-Spiritual-Observances-Policy-on.pdf>).

Students requiring a RISO accommodation should submit their request to their Faculty Office normally within 10 working days of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and/or tests.

3. Assignment Deadlines and Missed/Late Work

Assignment Deadlines & Missed/Late Work: Students are expected to hand in all assignments on the specified due dates. Late submissions will be subject to a penalty of 10% per day (including weekend days). Assignments submitted after the beginning of class on the due date will be counted as one day late. No assignments will be accepted after the last day of classes. Given that some course assignments require electronic submission, you should familiarize yourself with the Avenue to Learn Assignment in advance of the deadlines, and ask for assistance as necessary. Problems with electronic submission WILL NOT be accepted as an excuse for lateness.

4. MSAF Statement McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF):

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF) If you are absent from the university for a minor medical reason, lasting fewer than 3 days, you may report your absence, once per term, without documentation, using the McMaster Student Absence Form. Absences for a longer duration or for other reasons must be reported to your Faculty/Program office, with documentation, and relief from term work may not necessarily be granted.

When using the MSAF, report your absence to intercession@mcmaster.ca You must then contact your instructors immediately (normally within 2 working days) by email at rakiek@mcmaster.ca

and singhs37@mcmaster.ca to learn what relief may be granted for the work you have missed, and relevant details such as revised deadlines, or time and location of a make-up evaluation. Please note that the MSAF may not be used for term work worth 25% or more, nor can it be used for the final examination. Please note: students who use the MSAF, but who do not contact the instructor within the 2 working days' period, may not be granted any relief.

5. McMaster Policy on Academic Integrity

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences—e.g., the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty, please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy: (<https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/Academic-Integrity-Policy-1-1.pdf>).

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty: 1) Plagiarism—e.g., the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained. 2) Improper collaboration in group work. 3) Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

6. Acknowledgement of Course Policies

Your registration and continuous participation (e.g. on A2L, in the classroom, etc.) to the various learning activities of INSPIRE 3EL3 – CO2 will be considered to be an implicit acknowledgement of the course policies outlined above, or of any other that may be announced during lecture and/or on A2L. It is your responsibility to read this course outline, to familiarize yourself with the course policies and to act accordingly. Lack of awareness of the course policies cannot be invoked at any point during this course for failure to meet them. It is your responsibility to ask for clarification on any policies that you do not understand. The instructor reserves the right to modify elements of the course and will notify students accordingly (in class and post any changes to the course A2L).

7. Extreme Circumstances

The lecture schedule is only a guideline and may be modified during the course of the class. The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes.