

**INSPIRE 3EL3 – Experiential Learning Opportunities**  
**CO2 – Being in Relationship:**  
**An Introduction to Social Justice**  
**Fall 2020**

**Instructors:**

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Office: University Hall – 104

Office Hours: By Appointment

**Class Times:**

- Classes will be held on Wednesdays from 6:00pm – 8:00pm

**Class Location:** Virtual classroom through Zoom

**Course Description:**

This introductory course will engage students in the active promotion and understanding of social justice. 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. 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 learn from community activists involved in social change in Hamilton and beyond.
3. 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 me if you have any questions or concerns. If there are any specific supports that may be useful to your learning, please also let me know. Please ensure that all communication for this course is through your mcmaster.ca email. I will do my best to respond within 2 business days, however, if you don't hear back from me within 3 working days, feel free to re-send your email with a friendly reminder.

**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
<b>Week 1</b>		
Wednesday, September 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Introductions</li> <li>● Group Intentions</li> </ul>
<b>Week 2</b>		
Wednesday, September 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Anti-Oppression (AOP)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 3</b>		
Wednesday, September 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Community Engagement</li> </ul>
<b>Week 4</b>		
Wednesday, October 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Language and the Power of Words</li> </ul>
<b>Week 5</b>		
Wednesday, October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Resistance, Allyship and Resilience</li> </ul>
<b>Week 6</b>		
Wednesday, November 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Anti-Black Racism</li> </ul>
<b>Week 7</b>		
Wednesday, November 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Panel – Community Members</li> </ul>
<b>Week 8</b>		
Wednesday, November 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Decolonization</li> </ul>
<b>Week 9</b>		
Wednesday, November 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Review</li> </ul>

<b>Week 10</b>		
Wednesday, December 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2020	6:00pm – 8:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Presentations</li> </ul>

### 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: **50%**
  - Reflection #1: Due November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 - 25%
  - Reflection #2: Due November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 - 25%
- 3) Presentation: **30%**
  - Final Presentation (Oral): Due in Class December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

Please note the further details on these deliverables will be communicated in class and on the 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](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](mailto: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 me if you require any accommodation, I am 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 [rakiek@mcmaster.ca](mailto:rakiek@mcmaster.ca) . You must then contact your instructor immediately (normally within 2 working days) by email at [rakiek@mcmaster.ca](mailto:rakiek@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. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty.

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. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at <https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-guidelines/>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

- plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained;
- improper collaboration in group work;
- copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

#### 6. Authenticity / Plagiarism Detection

Some courses may use a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. For courses using such software, students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly to Turnitin.com or via an online learning platform (e.g. A2L, etc.) using plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

Students who do not wish their work to be submitted through the plagiarism detection software must inform the Instructor before the assignment is due. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to the plagiarism detection software. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search,

other software, etc.). For more details about McMaster's use of Turnitin.com please go to [www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity](http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity).

## **7. Conduct Expectations**

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities (the "Code"). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, whether in person or online.

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students' access to these platforms.

## **8. Courses with an On-Line Element**

Some courses may use on-line elements (e.g. e-mail, Avenue to Learn (A2L), LearnLink, web pages, capa, Moodle, ThinkingCap, etc.). Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of a course using these elements, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in a course that uses on-line elements will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

## **9. Online Proctoring**

Some courses may use online proctoring software for tests and exams. This software may require students to turn on their video camera, present identification, monitor and record their computer activities, and/or lock/restrict their browser or other applications/software during tests or exams. This software may be required to be installed before the test/exam begins.

## **10. Copyright and recording**

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, including lectures by University instructors.

The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

### **11. 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 – CO1 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).

### **12. 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.