



1015A Close Relationships

Family Studies and Human Development

School of Behavioural and Social Sciences

Course: 1015B
Section: 530
Term: Intercession
Year: 2020
Class Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00 – 4:00pm
Course Location: Online

Instructor Information:

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Office location: UH 352 (campus currently restricted due to Covid-19 / social distancing)

Course Description

Intimate relationships, like those found between marital or dating partners, are examined from a social science perspective, looking at love, mate selection, attachment, loneliness, conflict, relationship dissolution, and factors contributing to successful long-term relationships. Other close relationships also are considered, such as those between friends or parents and children.

Course Pre-requisites: none

Required Course Materials

De Becker, G. (1998). *The Gift of Fear: Survival Signals that Protect Us from Violence*, Dell Publishing Company, ISBN 9780440508830 (available for free as a pdf copy, using google search)

AND

Miller, R. (2015). *Intimate Relationships*, 8th Edition. McGraw Hill Ryerson.

Available as an e-book through UWO bookstore at:

<https://bookstore.uwo.ca/product/cebcodeid25074>

Learning Outcomes: by the end of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of terminology, concepts, and theories associated with studying intimate relationships.
2. Identify and explain how relationships form and are maintained.
3. Recognize dysfunctional communication patterns and be able to describe corrective measures.
4. Identify and discuss communication methods and patterns that affect relationships.
5. Discuss the impact of interdependency and reflect upon one's own attitudes and values regarding relationships.
6. Explain the nature of friendship across the adult life cycle.
7. Summarize the role of sexuality, including attitudes and behaviours as they relate to intimate relationships across the adult life cycle.
8. Recognize and distinguish between the various types of stressors and strains within intimate and close relationships.
9. Identify the nature, course and outcomes of conflict in close relationships.
10. Develop skills in synthesizing Family Studies knowledge & present coherently.

Brescia Competencies

Communication: the ability to exchange information and meaning across cultures, space, and time appropriately and correctly. This competency includes oral, written, and interpersonal communication, and the ability to use current or innovative media.

Inquiry and Analysis: the ability to ask questions, examine issues, and reach informed conclusions by breaking down complex issues, exploring evidence, and describing relationships among persons, things or events.

Problem Solving: the ability to create and execute a strategy to answer a question or achieve a goal. Includes being able to anticipate the consequences of a potential solution, select a strategy among several alternatives, and decide when an acceptable outcome has been reached.

Self-Awareness & Development: the ability to draw meaning, knowledge, and value from honest and fair reflection and self-evaluation. Students are able to recognize their emotions and patterns of thinking, their impact on others, and make a commitment to personal growth.

Expectations of Students:

Expectations of students regarding use of OWL:

All course information (power point slides, syllabus, announcements) will be posted to OWL. It is your responsibility to be using / checking the OWL course site on a regular basis. This is a survey class and a large amount of material is covered in the textbook, plus videos, and class activities, all completed online. Exams will cover all reading material and all class material.

Expectations of students regarding course work:

Students are expected to complete all course work, on time, as assigned. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have adequate and timely access to the internet and a computer in order to complete the requirements of this course. Technical issues (internet connection etc) is not an acceptable reason to miss a deadline. Therefore, it is strongly suggested that you don't leave course work and submission(s) to the last minute. If assignment is late, it is 5% per day deduction, including weekends. If you require an Academic Accommodation, please refer to this section contained in this syllabus.

Expectations of students regarding email:

Do	Do Not
Use email for addressing administrative issues: *arranging a time to meet online or by phone *reporting a class issue *reporting a missed exam or assignment	Do not use email to ask questions about course material, for example, definitions, differences between theoretical perspectives unless you are asking a specific question, including page # of material you are asking about. Do not use email to ask questions about testable exam content. (See course syllabus)
Use your UWO email account for all email correspondence	Do not use email to ask me what you missed while you were offline. Consult the course syllabus
Ensure that before you've emailed me, you've checked the course syllabus for the information you are about to request. If available on syllabus, I will re-direct you back to syllabus.	Do not use email to submit any assignments. Submission instructions for each assignment is on the syllabus.

Expectations of students regarding "classroom" online etiquette:

Please note that given the nature of this course and possible disclosure of personal information and/or issues, please no screen shots or sharing of information outside of this class group.

We will cover sensitive topics with class materials. Although we may not always agree with each other, we will treat each other with respect, consideration and warmth.

Expectations of students regarding missed exams:

Students, who fail to appear for an examination as indicated in the class schedule, will **NOT** be allowed to write a make-up examination unless the steps under academic accommodation have been followed.

If you are absent for an examination and intend to seek academic accommodation, **I require that you send me an email notification the same day that you miss the test**, barring an exceptional extenuating circumstance.

Similarly, missed assignments or participation marks may not be made up later and will result in the reduction of marks unless you receive academic accommodation through an Academic Advisor.

Copyright and Intellectual Property

PowerPoint lecture slides and notes, lists of readings, in-class activities, assignment guidelines, and other components of the course materials are typically the intellectual property of the instructor. Unauthorized reproduction through audio-recording, video-recording, photographing, sharing on social media, or posting on course-sharing websites is an infringement of copyright and is prohibited. Such action may be considered a Code of Conduct violation and lead to sanctions.

Academic Accommodation:

For course components worth 10% or more of the total course grade, please see the Academic Policies and Regulations section at the end of this course outline or consult the Academic Calendar.

For course components worth less than 10% of the total course grade, documentation will be required. Medical or other supporting documentation should be submitted to your Academic Advisor.

Evaluation: important information

Completing all assigned work (readings, films, activities) in full is the expectation for examination purposes. Do not rely only on power point slides.

There will not be any make-up examinations or extra work for purpose of improving grades.

Evaluation Breakdown:

Component	Weight	Date/ Deadline	Learning Outcome	Brescia Competencies
Exam 1	20%	May 26	1, 2, 3	Critical thinking, problem solving level 1
Exam 2	25%	June 18	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9	Critical Thinking, Problem solving level 1

7 Discussion Posts (see OWL for details plus class schedule section of this syllabus)	20% total	May 12 th , 14, 19, 21, 28 June 9 th , 16	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	Critical Thinking, Communication, Inquiry & Analysis, Self-Awareness & Development; level 1
Final Exam	35%	June 30	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9	Critical Thinking, Problem Solving level 1

Course Content:

Sequence of course: Topics will be covered in the order listed and dates listed are meant as a guideline.

Important to note: while the course content is representative of many topics impacting close relationships, it is not an exhaustive nor a comprehensive representation of all subject matters pertaining to close relationships. The primary text, Miller, while written from a heteronormative perspective, is not representative of all perspectives and this course endeavours to demonstrate a more balanced perspective while respecting the limitations of an introductory, broad topic course.

Weekly Class Organizer:

Class/Topic	Date	Description	Assignments and/or Readings Due
1	May 12	Review Syllabus The Building Blocks of Relationships	“About me” discussion post # 1 –OWL (2%) Miller Chapter 1
2	May 14	Attraction In the Presence of Danger	Miller Chapter 3 DeBecker Chapter 1 Discussion post # 2 – OWL (3%)
3	May 19	Communication Survival Signals	Miller Chapter 5 DeBecker Chapter 4

			Discussion post # 3 – OWL (3%)
4	May 21	Interdependency Imperfect Strangers	Miller Chapter 6 DeBecker Chapter 5 Discussion post # 4 – OWL (3%)
5	May 26	Exam Assignment # 1 (31%) Friendship	Due May 26th by 6pm Miller Chapter 7
6	May 28	Love Sexuality Polyamory in Canada: Research on an Emerging Family Structure	Miller Chapter 8 (p.246-263 only) Miller Chapter 9 https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b6db734b1059890c89e8172/t/5ba5490ac830254f6ffa960a/1537558795903/Boyd_Polyamorous-Families-1.pdf “Sexual Double Standard” Discussion Post # 5 – OWL (3%)
7	June 2 & 4	No classes this week	
8	June 9	Stresses & Strains Persistence, Persistence	Miller Chapter 10 DeBecker Chapter 8 Discussion Post # 6 – OWL (3%)
9	June 11	Conflict	Miller Chapter 11
10	June 16	Power & Violence Intimate Enemies	Miller Chapter 12 DeBecker Chapter 10 Discussion Post # 7 – OWL (3%)

11	June 18	Written Exam Assignment (25%)	“Killing Us Softly# 4” - OWL
12	June 23	Dissolution & Loss of Relationships	Miller Chapter 13
13	June 25	Maintaining & Repairing Relationship *LAST CLASS*	Miller Chapter 14

June 30th Final Exam (35%)		Cumulative – Miller & DeBecker	
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2019-20 Brescia University College Academic Policies and Regulations

1. Policy Regarding Academic Accommodation

The complete policy regarding [Accommodation for Illness - Undergraduate Students](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12) can be found at http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12.

Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions which may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities should seek Academic Accommodation through Student Accessibility Services (http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&Command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10).

Personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

Students who experience an illness or extenuating circumstance sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

1. Submitting a **Self-Reported Absence** form provided that the conditions for submission are met;
2. For medical absences, submitting a **Student Medical Certificate (SMC)** signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner;
3. For non-medical absences, submitting **appropriate documentation** (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to their Academic Advisor. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Advisor to clarify what documentation is acceptable.

Requests for Academic Consideration Using the Self-Reported Absence Portal

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance of 48 hours or less that is sufficiently severe to render them unable to meet academic requirements should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours. Note that the excused absence includes all courses and academic requirements within the up to 48 hours, it is not intended to provide an excused absence from a single course while students fulfill their academic responsibilities in other courses during that time.

The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

1. Students will be allowed a **maximum of two self-reported absences** between September and April and one self-reported absence between May and August;

2. The duration of the absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30 am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30 pm;
3. The excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period if the student undertakes significant academic responsibilities (writes a test, submits a paper) during that time;
4. Self-reported absences will **not** be allowed for scheduled final examinations; midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations scheduled during the final week of term;
5. Self-report absences may **not** be used for assessments worth more than 30% of any course;
6. Any absences in excess of 48 hours will require students to present a Student Medical Certificate (SMC), or appropriate documentation;
7. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24** hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence.

Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation.

Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete their academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated.

The following conditions apply for students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds:

1. Students must submit their Student Medical Certificate (SMC) along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. An SMC can be downloaded from http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf ;
2. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period;
3. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, scheduled tests or examinations, and other academic requirements;
4. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by the SMC to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence;

5. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the course instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements, arranging Special Exams (make-ups), re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawal without academic penalty.

The [full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12) can be viewed at:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12

2. Academic Concerns

If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds are not normally considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines; please refer to the [Registrar's website](http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/), <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> or the list of official sessional dates in the Academic Calendar (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>).

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

3. Absences

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work, and arrange academic accommodations if appropriate and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory

(http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_68).

4. Scholastic 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:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20.

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

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 The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. Procedures for Appealing Academic Evaluations

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, they may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, they may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal and if the matter falls within the jurisdiction of the SRBA. For information on academic appeals consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14.

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

6. Prerequisites

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from the Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the 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 prerequisite(s).

7. Support

Support Services

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/>. Students can access supports through Brescia's Student Life Centre (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/>) and Learning Skills Services at Western (<https://www.uwo.ca/sdc/learning/>)

Mental Health and Wellness

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can obtain information about how to obtain help for yourself or others through **Mental Health & Wellness at Brescia** (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/mental-health-wellness/>) and **Health and Wellness at Western**, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html.

Sexual Violence

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/sexual-violence/>.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.

