

Marketing for Management and Organizational Studies

Course Number: MOS2320a - Section 002

The course outline and schedule are subject to change at the discretion of the course instructor.

Course Information

Course Name:	Marketing for Management and Organizational Studies
Course Number:	2320a (Fall 2011)
Section, Class	Section 002, Class 15897 F.A. Rick Burjaw, SSC2206, rburjaw@uwo.ca, Ext. 87273.
Location, Time:	Mondays 2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. (location: SSC 2036)

Instructor Information

Instructor:	Gail Robertson (B.ScN., M.B.A.) <i>Marketing Instructor, DAN Management and Organizational Studies</i>
Office:	SSC 2233
e-mail:	ghrobertson@sympatico.ca - please use only this email to contact me! I do not regularly use the UWO email address. This address is connected to my blackberry; UWO is not.
Course website	WEB-CT-OWL MOS2320a Section 002 (Gail Robertson) http://webct.uwo.ca/ (click location, log-in, click appropriate section)
Office Hours:	Monday: 8:30 a.m. –10:00 a.m. Monday: 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday: 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. <i>Other times by appointment (via email: ghrobertson@sympatico.ca)</i>

Required Text

Principles of Marketing, 8th Canadian Edition (Kotler, Armstrong, Cunningham, Trifts), 2011, Pearson Canada, ISBN: 978-0-13-508457-1.

Course Description & Objectives

Course Description:

An introduction to the role of marketing in the organization including information systems, corporate strategy, opportunities assessment, product differentiation, pricing strategies, distribution, communication and advertising. (0.5 course and 3 lecture hours weekly)

Antirequisite(s): [MOS 3320A/B](#).

Pre-or Corequisite(s): [MOS 1020A/B](#) or both [MOS 1021A/B](#) and [1023A/B](#) and enrolment in BMOS or MAS.

Extra Information: Note: Students interested in pursuing an HBA Degree at the Richard Ivey School of Business should not take this course in second year as Ivey does not recognize this course as part of the HBA degree.

Enrolment in DAN Management and Organizational Studies.

"Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you will 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."

Course Objectives:

Welcome to Marketing for MOS in DAN Management! This course is designed to introduce the field of marketing to the program student. The course takes a global perspective and focuses on the role of marketing in society and on its relevance to the firm, organization, and individual. The course lectures, class discussions, classroom activities, reading assignments, video presentations, and the group marketing project will provide the student with the opportunity to learn the concepts and theories of the subject area and to apply this knowledge in a systematic and logical manner. The concepts learned are applied to realistic marketing problems in a host of business settings, including for-profit and not-for-profit firms, as well as small business organizations and institutions, within domestic and international contexts. The video presentations and guest speakers will further expose the student to a variety of contemporary marketing dilemmas faced by real-life organizations, while the group term project paper will foster teamwork, enhance the realism of the learning experience, and sharpen decision-making skills.

Class sessions will be devoted to applying and extending the material in the assigned readings. It the responsibility of each student to be prepared for each session as detailed in the course outline.

Mid-Term & Final Exam

There will be a mid-term test and a final exam in the course, representing 25 and 35 percent of your final grade for this course, respectively. Both can include multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, cases, and/or short essay questions. Questions can pertain to any of the material covered during the course with respect to the relevant topic areas, including those topics contained in the text, video and guest presentations, and class discussions/activities. The mid-term and final exams are closed-book. Although the final exam is not cumulative (i.e., will not have questions directly based on pre-midterm materials), knowledge in marketing theory is cumulative; therefore students are expected to have a detailed understanding the importance and relevance of terms/concepts, etc. covered in the first half of the course.

Dates of Mid-Term Exam , and Final Exam	
Mid-Term Exam	Thursday, October 13 th - 5 pm to 7 pm (HSB 236 and HSB 240)
Final Exam	Date/Time/Place: _____/_____/_____ (3 hours) <i>To take place sometime during final exam period December, 2011</i>

Group Project: Creating a Marketing Plan (groups of 5 members)

- The objective of the term project (worth 35% of your total grade for this course) is to provide you with experience in applying the concepts and methods of marketing to a real-world marketing opportunity, in the form of a marketing plan. According to the text, a marketing plan “...serves to document how the organization’s strategic objectives will be achieved through specific marketing strategies and tactics, with the customer as the starting point” (Kotler et al, 2011 p. A12). The project is to be done in teams (5 members per team). Following a thorough analysis of the marketing situation, each team will create a marketing plan for a ‘new’ product or service, in an existing product/service category. For your product or service, you may choose one of the following options:

Option 1 (Market development option): Find an existing product or service that is successful in a foreign country, which is **not** currently available in Canada. Your task would be to introduce this product/service to the Canadian market.

Option 2 (Entrepreneurial option): Develop a new product or service, in an existing product/service category. Please note that existing brand names cannot be used.

Option 3 (Real life option) : Find an existing company or not-for-profit organization in need of a new marketing plan or significant revision to an existing marketing plan and create a real-life plan that they can use to move their product/organization forward.

Project Deadlines: There are three deadlines, so please mark them down in your agendas.

1. Your first task is to form 5 member groups. By the beginning of **Week 3 (Deadline: on or before Monday, September 26th, 2011)**, one member from each group must send the professor (ghrobertson@sympatico.ca) an email containing the names and valid email addresses of each group member. Students not being a member of a group by September 26th will be arbitrarily grouped by the professor. Group members are responsible for exchanging relevant contact information with one another (e.g., telephone numbers, email addresses, availabilities, etc.).
2. Each team must submit a 1-page proposal (consisting of a description of, and rationale for choosing the product/service) on **Week 4 (Deadline: Monday, October 3rd, 2011)**, in order to obtain the professor’s approval and feedback. The more information that you provide, the more feedback I can offer. During the course of the semester, groups **must** meet with the professor *at least* once for feedback. **NOTE: Any changes to product/service must be completed and a new one page proposal submitted prior to Monday, October 17th, 2011. No proposals will be approved after October 17th** resulting in a grade of "0" being assigned to this portion of the course if the final proposal has not been submitted by this date.
3. The complete project is due on **Week 11 (Deadline: Monday November 21st, 2011)** at the **beginning** of class. Each group must hand in one paper copy and 1 electronic copy (on disc or submitted electronically in a PDF file), of the complete project. There are no exceptions to this requirement, and **no late submissions will be accepted.** In class presentations of marketing plans will take place **Week 12 (Monday November 28th, 2011)**.

Evaluation: In grading your written marketing plans (25% of final grade) and marketing plan presentations (10% of final grade), I will pay close attention to the realism, clarity, thoroughness, and originality of the written marketing plan. All team members should participate equally; you will have the opportunity to confidentially evaluate the contributions made (or lack thereof) of fellow team members, with a formal peer-evaluation form (see template included in this syllabus). Note that the professor will incorporate this

feedback in assigning the grade for each student in the group. In other words, the grade assigned to the group as a whole may be adjusted downwards for any team member(s) deemed by their fellow group members as making an insufficient contribution. Note that the team member deemed by the group to have made insufficient contribution to the project will have the opportunity to refute this claim.

Special Instructions:

1. Marketing Plans should represent a professional effort, in content, structure, and presentation. A good way to think about this project is to imagine that your team will actually be implementing this plan for real; alternatively you might imagine that your team has been hired as consultants, in order to develop a marketing plan (Consider this to be a real world assignment...the report will be scored in large part on the professor's perception of the usefulness and acceptability of the report to a real client).
2. Include a cover page, and ensure that each team member's name, and student ID, are on the handed-in project. Each team must hand in one paper copy of the project, along with an electronic copy (disc or emailed PDF file).
3. You are encouraged to refer to the handouts distributed in class (and/or posted on the course WEB-CT website) as well as materials in the text, for hints on analytical methods and formatting.
4. You are expected to do outside secondary research for this project. This would include, for example, finding and analyzing demographic information that is related to the size/location of the target markets for this product or service, information on the competition, distribution channels, promotional options and costs, etc. This may also include relevant academic and/or trade journal sources. You must provide proper citations for all sources.
5. Assume current (2011) dollars throughout. Clearly state the rationale (and/or source) behind any other assumptions that you may make. Cite all sources of information (i.e., provide references): ALL facts in the report must be substantiated except those that are obviously common knowledge. Use footnotes/endnotes where necessary, and include a bibliography. Ensure that all material included is relevant and appropriate for the situation at hand. Citations must be in a format accepted by The UWO.
6. Total length of the project (not including Appendices, Exhibits, References, and Cover Page) is not to exceed 20 typed, double-spaced pages (note that 'bulleted items' do not require double spacing). Use 'Arial' or 'Times New Roman' non-condensed size-12 fonts, with 1-inch margins. Paragraph and/or point form is acceptable for the written marketing plan.
7. Presentation format is open to the group – multimedia presentations can be used and creativity is encouraged. Presentations will be timed and will end after time allotted (approximately 10 minutes based on number of presentations).

Detailed Outline and Format for the Marketing Plan – all double spaced:

- **(in order) Cover page, Executive summary (1 page), Table of Contents (1 page).** The executive summary, which precedes the table of contents, presents a brief summary of the main goals and recommendations of the plan for management review, helping top management to find the plan's major points quickly.
- **Introduction (approximately 2 pages).** All projects must have some sort of introduction that explains the nature, focus, and objectives of the report to the reader. In addition, if following the market development option, you should include a brief description of the company and product/service that you are focusing on (e.g., history/background, mission statement, major products/divisions, etc.) With respect to the 'new' product or service, state the main marketing objectives that your team would like to attain during the term of the marketing plan, and mention any key issues (i.e., major constraints) that will affect their attainment. Irrespective of the option chosen, you must concisely make a compelling case for proposing this marketing opportunity.
- **Analysis of the Marketing Situation (approximately 5-6 pages, excluding any associated appendices).** The use of point-form is appropriate here, so long as each point listed is clearly phrased *and* interpreted. Please use appropriate subheadings to organize your assessment of the following:
 - *Relevant factors and trends* of the demographic environment, cultural and social environment, the economic environment, the technological environment, the political and legal environment (if applicable), natural and ecological environments (if applicable), etc.

- *Competitor analysis*, such as defining direct and indirect competitors, what is the likelihood of new competition, what is the intensity of competition, what are specific competitors' advantages and disadvantages, competitive barriers that need to be overcome, areas of potential competitive advantage, etc.
- *Customer analysis* (organizational and/or final consumer), including evaluating possible segmenting dimensions (customer needs, consumer behaviors, and other characteristics that form the bases for segmentation), identifying and profiling possible target market(s) as relating to the specific product-category under consideration (operational characteristics, potential size, and likely growth).
- *Company analysis*, including company objectives and overall marketing activities, company resources (e.g., management skills and competencies, finances, human resources, and other resources, etc.).
- *SWOT analyses*: identification of the major strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (based on the above analyses of company resources, customers, competitors, and other aspects of the external marketing environment).
- *Market Research (primary and secondary)*, including the implementation of at least one primary and one secondary market research initiative that will be used to provide direction for strategy and recommendations and making recommendations for other market research. Market research recommendations must be appropriate in cost and scope to the business/product.

• **Strategy and Recommendations (approximately 6-7 pages, excluding any associated appendices).** On the basis of your situational analysis, generate a marketing strategy (give your strategy a descriptive label). This should include the following components (noting that the emphasis should be placed on marketing strategy):

- *Mission Statement, goals and objectives* – critique of existing mission, goals and objectives - development of proposed new mission statement, goals and objectives where appropriate.
- *Marketing Strategy*. Clearly state the marketing objectives of your strategy, the generic and narrow product-market(s) that you will be targeting (include a profile of your intended target market[s]), positioning statement, and most importantly, the marketing mix(es) of your strategy. In crafting your marketing mix(es), provide a detailed description and (if necessary, justification) for each element (point form is OK here):
 - Product (decisions about everything the target group receives)
 - Price (decisions about everything the target group gives up to receive it)
 - Place (decisions about everything that is done to get the product to the target group)
 - Promotion (decisions about everything that is done to communicate the other three elements to the target group)
- *Financial Assessment and Budget*. Estimate the market potential for your product/service, in the short-, and medium-terms. What is the impact on the 'bottom line' of your strategy? That is, briefly discuss key figures, including projected revenues, expenses, profits (losses), breakeven analysis, market share, etc. Show details and calculations in the appendix section but extract and discuss key figures in the main part of your project. You may also want to assess trends and/or make forecasts over the long-term. Where real financial data is not available, students will be expected to make realistic estimates and provide rationale for these estimates.
- *Pros and Cons*. Briefly reiterate the qualities and shortcomings of your proposed strategy (for example, on the basis of such aspects as impact on the bottom-line, match to core competencies of the firm, viability [given resources, skills, etc.], potential competitors' responses, etc.).

• **Implementation and Control (approximately 3 pages).** Implementation consists of your action plan—it spells out, according to a detailed time frame, how the marketing strategy will be launched into the marketplace (i.e., what has to be done, when, how, how much, who is responsible for doing it, additional resources required, obstacles to overcome, etc.). Are there any special implementation problems that need to be overcome? Finally, briefly outline the controls that will be used to monitor progress of the strategy and allow management to review and/or readjust the strategy.

- **Appendices.** Put all supporting calculations, graphs, tables and charts, in this section. It is critical that you extract and discuss key the findings from your calculations into the main body of your project. Similarly, in the main body of your project, clearly direct the reader towards the supporting calculations, where appropriate. There is no page limit on the number of Appendices, but they must all be relevant to the marketing plan.
- **References.** List all sources of information.

Group Project Peer Evaluation: Just to give you an idea how this works, below is a sample peer evaluation form (I will hand out separate paper forms during the course of the semester).

PEER REVIEW FORM: GROUP TERM PROJECT
 MOS 2320a/b (Marketing for MOS), Gail Robertson

Name of Evaluator (**Print** Your Name): _____

Name of Evaluator (**Sign** Your Name): _____

Date: _____ Section number: _____

The purpose of this peer review process is to allow each individual student within each group to communicate the contributions made by each group member (i.e., in terms of attitude and cooperation, attendance at group meetings, ability to meet deadlines, idea contribution, contribution to planning and organization, actual work done, etc.) to the professor. This information is strictly confidential—it will not be shared with anyone else. Based on this feedback from each group member, the professor **may adjust** the grade of those group members who were negligent in making a substantial contribution after consultation with that group member.

For example on how the grades may be adjusted, consider a hypothetical group of 4 members (“A” through “D”), of which 1 individual (“D”) was viewed by his/her peers as not contributing, as per group standards. The group received a mark of 80% on the case. In combining the peer review evaluations from all 4 group members, the average evaluations were as follows:

“A”	“B”	“C”	“D”
100%	100%	100%	60%

Members A through C were collectively evaluated as making a full contribution, and hence, each will receive the achieved grade of 80% for the project. Individual “D” however, will have his/her grade adjusted— to perhaps as low as 48% (.60 x .80 = .48). In calculating the adjustment, I will take into account the degree to which (i.e., the number of) individuals in the group that assigned a below-par grade.

NOTE: IN ORDER FOR GRADES TO BE ADJUSTED DOWNWARD, THE PROFESSOR MUST BE NOTIFIED OF POTENTIAL PROBLEMS PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 14TH.

Instructions:

- Please write the name (first, and last) of each group member, except yourself, in the spaces indicated below.
- Assign a “grade” ranging from 0% (absolutely no contribution made to the group) to 100% (full cooperation and quantity/quality of work done, relative to other group members). Note that any “grade” of less than 100% may result in a reduction of that (those) group member’s (members’) grade!
- If you wish, you may write in comments in the space provided below.
- This information is strictly confidential—DO NOT SHARE IT WITH OTHER GROUP MEMBERS!!!
- Put the completed peer review sheet into an envelope (do not put your name on the outside of the envelope!), and submit to the course lecturer on or before the last day of class.

Name of Group Member	Name of Group Member	Name of Group Member	Name of Group Member
Grade assigned	Grade assigned	Grade assigned	Grade assigned

<i>Comments?</i>

Class Participation

Coming to class is very important! Class participation is worth 5 percent of your final grade in this course. It can make a significant difference in your final grade.

Students are expected to attend all classes, and to make regular contributions to class discussions. Each student must come to class with a thorough understanding of the chapter(s) assigned for that class—the objective of the lectures and discussions will be to enhance comprehension of the material and not to merely review concepts and definitions. During the term, students are encouraged to share marketing examples that they come across, either directly or via the media, with the class. For this reason it is recommended that students keep this class in mind when reading newspapers, watching television, reading magazines, while shopping, etc., as often the most relevant learning comes from discussing actual examples of Marketing behaviour. All class members will be expected to actively contribute to these discussions, as this will have a direct impact on your overall class participation grade. The first 5-10 minutes of each class will be devoted to students bringing forward “marketing news” that is relevant to the topic of discussion for that class.

Class participation marks are awarded for active and consistent participation in class. Participation marks will not be awarded for students who attend classes without participating actively in discussions.

The material covered in these discussions may appear on any of the course testing sessions.

Grading

The following weights will be assigned for each course evaluation component:

Grading Weights for Evaluation Components	
Mid-Term Exam	25%
Final Exam	35%
Written Marketing Plan Group Project	25%
Marketing Plan Presentation	10%
Class Participation	5%
Total	100%

The following are the grade categories for the course from the *Academic Calendar*:

Grade Categories	
A+	90%+
A	80 - 89%
B	70 - 79%
C	60 - 69%
D	50 - 59%
F	Below 50% or assigned when course is dropped with academic penalty

No late submissions of any course material will be accepted, unless there are acceptable (to the course instructor) extraordinary circumstances.

Western Medical Accommodation Policy on Medical Notes: *A Western Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required where a student is seeking academic accommodation. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician or walk-in clinic. An SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>. Hard copies are available from the student's home Faculty Academic Counselling Service. Medical certificates are to be submitted to an Academic Counsellor, who will advise the course lecturer of any recommended accommodations.*

Plagiarism: *"Students must write their own 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." (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar)."*

Plagiarism Checking: *"All required papers may be subject for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted 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>)."*

Academic Cheating: *"Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating."*

Other Relevant Academic Policies/Regulations: *All students are advised to refer to the Academic Calendar and other relevant documentation for other relevant academic policies and regulations (e.g., academic cheating, attendance, etc.).*

DAN Management and Organizational Studies strives at all times to provide accessibility to all faculty, staff, students and visitors in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. 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 wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 #82147 for any specific questions regarding an accommodation. More information about "Accessibility at Western" is available at:

<http://accessibility.uwo.ca>.

Please notify the course lecturer if you have requested accommodation for examinations through SSD.

Code of Behaviour

Students are expected attend all classes, and to remain in attendance throughout the entire class. It is also expected that students will remain focussed on the activities during the class. **Disruptive talking will not be tolerated. If you bring a laptop/handheld device to class and decide to check email/chat/surf, etc., in a disruptive manner, you will be asked to leave the room.** If you, as an individual student, find it necessary to leave the classroom during a lecture and/or presentation, do so quietly (i.e., for an emergency that cannot wait until the end of the class). If you return to a class that is still in progress, do so quietly. Groups of students leaving (and/or returning) together while a class is in progress will not be tolerated. Research shows that failure to attend class can have a negative impact on one's grade. All students are responsible for all course material.

Laptops and electronic devices are encouraged in the classroom for taking of notes and for searching out relevant material on the internet to enhance classroom discussions.

Cell phones shall not be used (nor should they be left on) during class.

Course Outline Schedule

Date	Topic	Textbook Readings
Week 1 September 12	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>MODULE 1: MARKETING FUNDAMENTALS</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to course – Review of course syllabus 2. Discussion of Marketing paper (Group Project) 3. The Nature of Marketing/Why study Marketing? 4. Marketing: Creating/Capturing Customer Value 	Chapter 1
Week 2 September 19	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Marketing's Role in the Firm 2. Marketing Strategy 3. Social Responsibility and Ethics 	Chapter 2, 4
Week 3 September 26	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>MODULE 2: THE MARKETING ENVIRONMENT</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyzing the Marketing Environment 2. Marketing Research <p>Note: Group lists for term project due</p>	Chapter 3, 5
Week 4 October 3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Market Segmentation, Differentiation and Positioning 2. Consumer Behaviour (B2C) <p>Note: 1-pg. summary of marketing plan due Midterm Exam Q & A</p>	Chapter 8, 6,
Week 5 October 10	THANKSGIVING DAY – NO CLASS THIS WEEK	
Week 5 October 13	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MID-TERM EXAM – 5 pm to 7 pm – HSB 236 and HSB 240 – Ch.'s 1,2,3,4,5,6,8 and all in-class materials/discussions 	EXAM
Week 6 October 17	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Business Buying Behaviour (B2B) continued 2. In Class application workshop: Components of a Marketing Plan 	Chapter 7 Workshop*
Week 7 October 24	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>MODULE 3: THE MARKETING MIX</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Product and Service Planning 2. Branding <p style="text-align: center;">Review of Midterm Examination</p>	Chapter 9
Week 8 October 31	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New Product Development 2. Product Life Cycle 3. Place: Marketing Channels 	Chapter 10, 12
Week 9 November 7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Place: Marketing Channels (continued) 2. Retailing and Wholesaling 	Chapter 12, 13
Week 10 November 14	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pricing 	Chapter 11
Week 11 November 21	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promotion: Integrated Marketing Communications 2. Advertising and Public Relations <p>MARKETING PLANS DUE AT BEGINNING OF CLASS</p>	Chapter 14, 15,
Week 12 November 28	<p>IN CLASS MARKETING PLAN PRESENTATIONS (all group members are expected to participate in presentations)</p>	

DATE	TOPIC	TEXTBOOK READINGS
<p>Week 13 December 5</p>	<p>1. Direct and Online Marketing 2. Creating Competitive Advantage – bringing it all together 3. Briefing of Final Exam Format, Q & A (if time permits) Note: may require some class time for a few marketing plan presentations if insufficient time November 28 based on # of groups</p>	<p>Chapter 17,18</p>
<p>TBA December 10-21</p>	<p>Final Exam – Ch. 7,9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18 and in class materials/discussions</p>	

The course outline and schedule are subject to change at the discretion of the course instructor. Speaker(s) will be invited to class as available and as time permits

Students must read assigned chapters prior to attending the scheduled session.

**For Marketing Plan workshop, it is recommended that students review chapter 18, if not for that class specifically, then at some point early in the group project process.*

General Information

If, on medical or compassionate grounds, you are unable to meet your academic responsibilities, i.e., unable to write term tests or final examinations or complete course work by the due date, you should follow the instructions listed below. You should understand that academic accommodation will not be granted automatically on request. You must demonstrate that there are compelling medical or compassionate grounds that can be documented before academic accommodation will be considered. Read the instructions carefully. In all cases, action must be taken at the earliest possible opportunity, preferably prior to the scheduled examination, test or assignment.

1. Check the course outline to see if the instructor has a policy for missed tests, examinations, late assignments or attendance. The course outline should include the preferred method of contact (e-mail, phone, etc.).
2. Inform the instructor prior to the date of the scheduled time of the test or examination or due date of the assignment. If you are unable to contact the instructor, leave a message for him/her at the department office.
3. Bring your request for accommodation to the Academic Counselling Office, Room 2105, Social Science Centre, telephone 519 661-2011 or fax 519 661-3384. Be prepared to submit documentation of your difficulties.
4. If you decide to write a test or an examination you should be prepared to accept the mark you earn. Rewriting tests or examinations or having the value of the test or examination reweighted on a retroactive basis is not permitted.

TERM TESTS and MID-TERM EXAMS

1. If you are unable to write a term test, inform your instructor (preferably prior to the scheduled date of the test). If the instructor is not available, leave a message for him/her at the department office.
2. Be prepared, if requested by the instructor, to provide supporting documentation (see below for information on acceptable forms or documentation). Submit your documentation to the Academic Counselling Office.
3. Make arrangements with your professor to reschedule the test.
4. The Academic Counselling Office will contact your instructor to confirm your documentation.

FINAL EXAMINATIONS

1. You require the permission of the Dean, the instructor, and the Chair of the department in question to write a special final examination.
2. If you are unable to write a final examination, contact the Academic Counselling Office in the first instance to request permission to write a special final examination and to obtain the necessary form. You must also contact your instructor at this time. If your instructor is not available, leave a message for him/her at the department office.
3. Be prepared to provide the Academic Counselling Office and your instructor with supporting documentation (see below for information on documentation).
4. You must ensure that the Special Examination form has been signed by the instructor and Department Chair and that the form is returned to the Academic Counselling Office for approval without delay.

Note: Make sure you know the date, time and location of the special examination. For more information see [Examinations - Common Situations](#).

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

1. Advise the instructor if you are having problems completing the assignment on time (prior to the due date of the assignment).
2. Submit documentation to the Academic Counselling Office.
3. If you are granted an extension, establish a due date.
4. Extensions beyond the end of classes must have the consent of the instructor, the Department Chair and Dean. A Recommendation of Incomplete form must be filled out indicating the work to be completed and the date by which it is due. This form must be signed by the student, the instructor, the Department Chair, and the Dean's representative in the Academic Counselling Office.

SHORT ABSENCES

If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outlines 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.

EXTENDED ABSENCES

If you are absent more than approximately two weeks or if you get too far behind to catch up, you should consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses. This must be done by the appropriate deadlines. (Refer to the Registrar's website for official dates.) The Academic Counsellors can help you to consider the alternatives. At your request, they can also keep your instructors informed of your difficulties.

DOCUMENTATION

- **Personal Illness:** If you consult Student Health Services regarding your illness or personal problem, you should request a Student Medical Certificate from the physician. Once your documentation has been assessed, the academic counsellor will inform your instructor that academic accommodation is warranted.
- If you were seen by an off-campus doctor, obtain a certificate from his/her office at the time of your visit. The off-campus medical certificate form must be used. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medicalform.pdf>. The doctor must provide verification of the severity of the illness for the period in question. Notes stating "For Medical Reasons" are not considered sufficient.
- **In Case of Serious Illness of a Family Member:** Obtain a medical certificate from the family member's physician.
- **In Case of a Death:** Obtain a copy of the newspaper notice, death certificate or documentation provided by the funeral director.
- **For Other Extenuating Circumstances:** If you are not sure what documentation to provide, ask an Academic Counsellor.

Note: Forged notes and certificates will be dealt with severely. To submit a forged document is a scholastic offense (see below) and you will be subject to academic sanctions.

ACADEMIC CONCERNS

- You need to know if your instructor has a policy on late penalties, missed tests, etc. This information may be included on the course outline. If not, ask your instructor.
- You should also be aware of attendance requirements in courses such as Business and English. You can be debarred from writing the final examination if your attendance is not satisfactory.
- If you are in academic difficulty, check the minimum requirements for progression in your program. If in doubt, see your Academic Counsellor.
- If you are registered in Social Science courses but registered in another faculty (e.g., Arts or Science), you should immediately consult the Academic Counselling Office in your home faculty for instructions.

FAILED YEAR

Procedures for completing a [Waiver of the Progression Requirements](#) (DEADLINE IS JUNE 30). [Click here for BMOS Waiver of Progression Requirements.](#)

In your petition letter, you must address all of the following questions:

- What were the extenuating circumstances which contributed most significantly to your poor academic performance.) When did the problem(s) arise? Appropriate supporting documentation (eg. medical note from a doctor to document problems, or a letter from a family member or close personal friend to support compassionate grounds) must be submitted with the petition. If you need more information regarding the submission of appropriate documentation, please contact the Dean's Office.
- Answer the following questions:
 1. What attempts did you make at the time you were encountering problems that affected your academic performance to contact your instructors, Academic Counsellors, the staff in Student Development Centre (Learning Skills Counsellors), the Ombudsperson, or Student Health Services?
 2. What academic accommodation did you request at the time you were experiencing major problems that were affecting your academic performance?
 3. What steps did you take to minimize the impact on your academic work of the difficulties that you were encountering?
 4. Approximately what percentage of classes did you attend in each course?
 5. What assignments/tests/labs/quizzes/exams did you complete in each course?
 6. Please record the grades you received for assignments/labs/tests/quizzes/exams, etc in each course. If you failed to complete all the course requirements, explain and provide reasons.
 7. Please list the final grade earned in each course in which you were registered during the past academic year.
- Why do you think you would be successful in University-level academic studies, if your petition was granted?
- What are your academic goals?

- What is your long-term degree/program objective?
- In what specific program do you wish to register during the coming year?
- What specific courses do you wish to take during the coming year?

NOTE: In (b) and (c), do not list courses or programs for which you are not currently eligible. You must check the prerequisites for the program and courses you wish to take.