

**BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE  
SCHOOL OF FOOD & NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES**

**Fall 2023**

**FN9888A SEMINAR in FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES**

**Dr. Paula Dworatzek, PhD, RD, PHEc, FDC**  
**Professor**  
**Room UH 308**  
[pdworatz@uwo.ca](mailto:pdworatz@uwo.ca)  
**Office Hours: By appointment**

**Dr. Danielle Battram PhD, RD, PHEc**  
**Associate Professor and Coordinator**  
**Room UH 302**  
[dbattra@uwo.ca](mailto:dbattra@uwo.ca)  
**Office Hours: By appointment**

**COURSE DETAILS: Wednesdays 2:30-4:30 pm, UH 26**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This seminar course will provide students with an opportunity to enhance their research presentation skills by viewing and critically appraising other research talks and by gaining experience presenting secondary research data on selected topics in nutrition.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Participation in this course will enable students to:

1. Gain broad exposure to food and nutrition research studies and methodologies.
2. Develop presentation skills by presenting and critically appraising research talks.
3. Create tables and graphs using appropriate formats.
4. Enhance research, critical thinking, and communication skills.

**CLASS FORMAT**

This course provides an opportunity to critically evaluate research talks and to gain experience presenting research data and methodologies to a scientific audience. The class will meet for two hours per week. Class sessions will be participatory and students will be expected to ask thoughtful and relevant questions.

**Communication:** Email tends to be the most efficient and effective mode of communication between the course facilitators and students.

**Use of Generative AI:** The use of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools, including but not limited to writing assistants (e.g., ChatGPT, QuillBot) and translation services (e.g., Google translate), in university courses is subject to the Brescia Policy on the Use of Generative AI in Course Assessment. Use of generative AI tools when prohibited or in a way not specifically allowed is a scholastic offence and subject to the penalties for a scholastic offence outlined in the Academic Calendar.

Students may choose to use generative AI tools as they work through the assignments in this course; however, students are ultimately accountable for the work they submit. Any content produced by an AI tool must be cited appropriately and the use of AI tools must be documented in an appendix for each assignment. The documentation should include what

tool(s) were used, how they were used, and how they were incorporated into the submitted work.

<u>DISTRIBUTION OF MARKS</u>	<u>% FINAL MARK</u>	<u>DUE DATE</u>
Critical Appraisal of Research Talk presentation	30%	Oct. 11
Presenting Research Data assignment	20%	Nov. 3
Facilitated discussion	40%	As assigned
Class participation	10%	Throughout

### COURSE SCHEDULE

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>
<b>1</b> <b>Battram/ Dworatzek</b>	<b>Sept 13</b>	Introduction to course and assignments Research Talks - What are they and how are they different?
<b>2</b> <b>Battram</b>	<b>Sept 20</b>	How to Build an Effective Research Talk
<b>3</b> <b>Dworatzek</b>	<b>Sept 27</b>	How to Present Data Effectively & Efficiently
<b>4</b> <b>Battram</b>	<b>Oct 4</b>	Critical Appraisal of Research Talk (30%)
<b>5</b> <b>Battram</b>	<b>Oct 11</b>	Facilitated Discussion 1 (40%) Is the taxation of beverages an effective public health policy?
<b>6</b> <b>Dworatzek</b>	<b>Oct 18</b>	Facilitated Discussion 2 (40%) How do we effectively implement a national school food program in elementary schools?
<b>7</b> <b>Battram</b>	<b>Oct 25</b>	Facilitated Discussion 3 (40%) What is the role of ketogenic diets in the treatment and prevention of nutrition-related diseases?
<b>8</b>	<b>Nov 1</b>	Reading week; Presenting Research Data assignment due Nov. 3
<b>9</b> <b>Dworatzek</b>	<b>Nov 8</b>	Facilitated Discussion 4 (40%) Is food skills education a necessary component of chronic disease management?
<b>10</b> <b>Battram</b>	<b>Nov 15</b>	Facilitated Discussion 5 (40%) Is the restriction of marketing to children an effective public health policy?
<b>11</b> <b>Dworatzek</b>	<b>Nov 22</b>	Facilitated Discussion 6 (40%)

		Is a non-dieting approach to weight-loss an effective treatment for diabetes?
<b>12</b>	<b>Nov 29</b>	Facilitated Discussion 7 (40%)
<b>Battram</b>		Is bariatric surgery a necessary treatment for obesity in children and adolescents?
<b>13</b>	<b>Dec 6</b>	Facilitated Discussion 8 (40%)
<b>Dworatzek</b>		Are Atwater factors accurate enough for individual or population level dietary intake estimations?

## Brescia Graduate Course Academic Policies and Regulations

### Enrolment Restrictions

Enrolment in this course is restricted to graduate students in the MScFN program with the possible exception to include a student that has obtained special permission to enroll in this course from the course instructor as well as the Graduate Chair (or equivalent) from the student's home program.

### Statement on Academic 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 the following website

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_grad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf)

Additionally;

A) When written work is assigned, 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>).

B) 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.

### 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.

### Policy for Accommodation for Illness or Other Exceptional, Extenuating Circumstances

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by physical or mental illness, or other exceptional, extenuating circumstances. The University recognizes and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be considered only in those cases where there is documentation indicating

that the student was seriously affected by illness or other exceptional, extenuating circumstances and could not reasonably be expected to meet their academic responsibilities.

**When Seeking Accommodation for Work Representing 10% or More of the Overall Grade:** The course instructor should be notified in advance of deadlines and documentation shall be submitted as soon as possible in accordance with the below guidelines. Students should submit documentation to the Graduate Program Coordinator in the School of Food and Nutritional Sciences. For students enrolled in a graduate program outside of the School of Food and Nutritional Sciences, contact the Graduate Program Office in your program for accommodation and have them notify the School of Food and Nutritional Sciences instructor(s). Once the supporting documents have been received and assessed, appropriate academic accommodation shall be determined by the student's home Graduate Program office in consultation with the course instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include an extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements for classes/labs/tutorials, arranging Special Exams or Incompletes, reweighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawals without academic penalty. Academic accommodation shall be considered and granted only where the proper documentation is received, using the guidelines noted below, and the severity of the illness/condition is such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete their academic responsibilities. The medical professional providing the documentation must be able to make a reasonable assessment of the student's physical or mental state during the period for which accommodation is sought. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated. Note that there is no expectation that a student must be in optimum condition to carry out their academic responsibilities.

**When Seeking Accommodation for Work Worth Less Than 10% of the Overall Grade in a Course:** the student must contact the instructor in advance of missing the deadline. In arranging accommodation, instructors will use good judgment and ensure fair treatment for all students. Instructors must indicate whether documentation will be required for absences, late assignments or essays, missed tests, laboratory experiments or tutorials, etc. Where medical or other documentation is required, the guidelines for accommodation for 10% or more should be followed. Students who have been denied accommodation by an instructor may appeal this decision to the Chair of the School of Food and Nutritional Sciences.

**Non-medical / Non-emergency Need to Miss a Class or Course Responsibility:** If a student will need to miss a class or a course requirement for non-medical or other non-emergency reasons, the Course Instructor must be notified a minimum of two weeks prior to missing the class and/or deadline. It is the student's responsibility to obtain and review material for any classes they have missed. For graded course requirements, it is the student's responsibility to ensure accommodation arrangements are approved by the course instructor well in advance of missed deadlines. Relevant documentation may be required.

**Medical (Or Other) Documentation Required for Accommodation:** must be sought immediately, indicate a timeline including when the student should be able to resume academic responsibilities and include the professional person's name, qualifications, the professional office name and contact details, the student name, and the date. Documentation will be retained in the student's file within their home Graduate Program Office and will be held in confidence in accordance with the University's Official Student Record Information Privacy Policy.

**Related Student Resources:**

**Academic Advising:** Please contact the Graduate Program Coordinator in your home Graduate Program Office for academic advising and support.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress or are worried about the emotional health of a peer should refer to Mental Wellbeing @Western <https://www.uwo.ca/health/> and <https://www.uwo.ca/health/psych/index.html> for a complete list of options about how to obtain appropriate help. Crisis contact details can be found at <https://uwo.ca/health/crisis.html>

**Accessible Education Western (AEW):** Western is committed to achieving barrier-free accessibility for all its members, including graduate students. As part of this commitment, Western provides a variety of services devoted to promoting, advocating, and accommodating persons with disabilities in their respective graduate programs.

Graduate students with disabilities (for example, chronic illnesses, mental health conditions, mobility impairments) are strongly encouraged to register with [Accessible Education Western \(AEW\)](#), a confidential service designed to support graduate and undergraduate students through their academic program. With the appropriate documentation, the student will work with both AEW and their graduate programs (normally their Graduate Chair and/or Course instructor) to ensure that appropriate academic accommodations to program requirements are arranged. These accommodations include individual counselling, alternative formatted literature, accessible campus transportation, learning strategy instruction, writing exams and assistive technology instruction.

**Sexual Violence:** All members of the Western University community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Western University recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence will not be tolerated. The university is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone who has experienced Sexual Violence. If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at [https://safecampus.uwo.ca/sexual\\_violence/](https://safecampus.uwo.ca/sexual_violence/)

**Health and Wellness Services:** As part of a successful graduate student experience at Western, we encourage students to make their health and wellness a priority. Western provides several on-campus health-related services to help you achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing your graduate degree. Information regarding health- and wellness-related services available to students may be found at <http://www.health.uwo.ca>