Course Outline - Fall 2018

Course:  **HTH SCI 3T03 - Inquiry into Work, the Self and Purpose**

Instructor: Dr. Debbie Nifakis

Course Section: C05

Class Time and Location: Tuesdays, 8:30 – 11:20 in MDCL 3504

**Course Description**
Together we will explore work, self and purpose using approaches including career/life design. Students will undertake group projects and personal reflection and will complete assessment tools with a view to integrating a critical appreciation of course content into their career and life decision-making.

**Learning Objectives**

In facilitating this course and evaluating your evidence we will be looking for:

- Growth in your self-knowledge, and depth in your personal awareness and insight
- The ability to connect your experiences to aspects of yourself, for example to explore, understand and articulate those connections
- Use of creativity and critical engagement with the course content and with yourself
- The ability to understand and integrate your personal career concerns into the wider context of the world of work and approaches to career and life design
- Evidence of having begun to develop a personal framework for making meaningful life choices
- The demonstration of inquiry skills in keeping with Inquiry I (HTH SCI 1E06) such as the ability to be a self-reflective learner, and to be able to provide thoughtful and helpful feedback to each other.
- Effective collaboration with classmates and genuine respect for others - their perspectives, choices, experiences, values, etc.
Course Description

The course will follow an inquiry model emphasizing the integration of content with personal development. Our learning will of course unfold. To assist that process, we have put together the following elements and a minimal structure, which may be adapted to better suit our needs.

The first half of the course focuses upon deepening students’ awareness of their own skills, values, strengths, etc. in particular as they relate to career and life design. This will include the use of assessments (formal and informal) and completion of activities and reflections based on the course text.

Additionally, we will broaden our perspectives through discussion, Open Space Technology and introduction to theories of student development and complexity and chaos as applied to careers, and perspectives on work, education, leisure, and purpose.

During the second half of the course we will increase our focus on working in small groups. These small groups will take responsibility for facilitating the class’s learning through a question or topic of interest that is relevant to the course and for which group members have genuine passion. Some class time will be allotted for group work, with the expectation that groups will require time outside of class to complete well-researched and engaging activities. Small working groups will also take the responsibility to facilitate class learning and discussion for assigned text chapters.

The course culminates with the final integration paper assignment, where you will explore a question/topic that has personal meaning for you. The paper is your opportunity to research the question/topic through the academic literature and integrate your personal reflection and meaning to develop this significant document for yourself.

Your facilitator will support you in your integration of course content with self-awareness and understanding. This will be achieved through time together in class and through an invitation to meet individually with your facilitator midway through the term. The purpose of that interview will be to discuss your experience of the course and assist you in formulating your approach to the final integration paper. Interview dates will be scheduled by your facilitator.

Course Readings


Other readings may be assigned during class.

Textbooks are available from McMaster University Campus Store - http://www.campusstore.mcmaster.ca/
Evaluation

Weekly Reflections

**Value:** 15% of final grade  
**Due Date:** Fridays by 4pm  
**Description:** 1-2 page written reflection that demonstrates your critical thinking and personal meaning making of class experience. 6 weekly reflections will be submitted in the first half of the course. Reflections will be read only by your facilitator and submitted to the Reflections Folder in LearnLink (please make sure you are submitting to the appropriate section). Please see Reflection Guidelines for clarification of expectations.

Participation

**Value:** 20% of final grade  
**Due Date:** full class attendance is mandatory  
**Description:** Course engagement and class participation is essential in 3TO3. By this we mean: showing up, being present, paying attention to what has heart and meaning for you and for your fellow classmates, and letting go of preconceived notions. Please see Participation Guidelines for clarification of expectations.

Family Interview – Reflection

**Value:** 10% of final grade  
**Date:** Friday, Nov. 2nd by 4pm (or discuss with facilitator)  
**Length:** 3-4 page critical reflection  
**Description:** Interview a family member of a different generation with questions developed from your text readings and course content. Write a reflection about the experience that includes your observations, critical thoughts, affective knowledge and personal meaning of the experience. Please see Family Interview Reflection Guidelines for clarification of expectations.

Group Presentation/Learning Activity

**Value:** 15% of final grade  
**Date:** to be agreed upon as a class  
**Length:** 45 minutes  
**Description:** The interactive learning activities/presentations led by working groups will also be evaluated for their effectiveness in advancing the learning objectives. Group members will be required to submit self-evaluations. Please see Group Presentation Guidelines for clarification of expectations.

Final Integration Paper

**Value:** 40% of final grade  
**Date:** Monday, December 10th by 4pm.  
**Length:** 10 -12 page, double spaced, APA format plus Self-evaluation of paper  
**Description:** The integration paper is an opportunity to explore a question of personal interest relevant to work, self or purpose. By integration we mean that you will seek out and critically select relevant literature in relationship to your question, and then reflect on the meaning and
significance for you and your guiding question. Please see Final Integration Guidelines for clarification of expectations.

**Submitting Assignments**

**All assignments will be submitted to the LearnLink – Reflections Folder or as instructed by facilitator. Brief extensions of this deadline may be possible upon request but will not be encouraged. The ability to complete course work in an active, self-directed and timely way will be expected, in keeping with our emphasis on building skills for life and work.**

**Late Assignments**

Facilitators may deduct marks for late submissions, to a maximum of 1.5 % per day (each 24 hour period after the due date). For example, an integration paper/self-evaluation submitted 48 hours late would decrease a student’s final grade for 3T03 by 3%, such as a final grade of 80 rather than 83.

**Academic Integrity**

Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”) and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

**It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty.** For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to: [https://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.html](https://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.html)

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which previous credit has been obtained.
2. Submitting academic work for assessment that was purchased or acquired from another source,
3. Submitting the same academic work to more than one course

Consider taking the Academic Integrity quiz to ensure you are aware - [https://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity/students/quizzes/](https://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity/students/quizzes/)

**Additional notes:**

In the context of 3T03 our goal is to support students' learning. Occasionally a student or facilitator identifies a learning concern related to 3T03 and both agree to work further together on it, after the completion of the course.

The primary goal of this work is to facilitate that student's learning. While a grade revision is a possible additional result, it is not the focus of this work. This is about remediating a skill area related to the course, in keeping with the course's developmental objectives.

We rely on students to self-identify to us in this regard, and it is at the facilitator's discretion whether or how to work further with a student.
We encourage students who need accommodations related to their learning needs to use the resources of Student Accessibility Services http://sas.mcmaster.ca.

**Student Feedback**

There will be a formative and summative feedback survey that is administered by the Honours Bachelor of Health Science office. Your participation in the survey is important to the continued development of the course content and course facilitation. Please contact your facilitator directly with any other feedback, suggestions or concerns.

**Student Supports**

**Student Accessibility Services**
Student Accessibility Services (SAS) offers a variety of supports for students with disabilities. For information on specific services, please see the SAS web site: https://sas.mcmaster.ca/services/

**Student Wellness Centre**
The Student Wellness Centre provides individual counselling and health services as well as wellness programs. For more information, see: https://wellness.mcmaster.ca/

**Student Success Centre**
The Student Success Centre provides academic supports, employment preparation supports and individual career counselling. For more information: https://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/

**Instructor Contact Information**

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