



**CUMMING SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
GRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE**

COURSE TITLE: Psychosocial Oncology			
Course	MDSC 635		
Pre/Co-Requisites	None		
Faculty	Cumming School of Medicine, Graduate Science Education		
Instructor Name(s)	G. Pelletier; B.D. Bultz; F. Schulte	Email	gpelleti@ucalgary.ca
Office Location	N/A	Office Hours	Upon request
Instructor Email Policy	Students can email as needed. Emails are looked at twice per day, in AM and early PM		
Telephone No.	403-521-3886		
TA Name	N/A	Email	
Class Term, Days	Fall 2020		
Class Times	Wed 12:30 PM to 3:15 PM		
Class Location	Virtual on Zoom		

This course will take place **online** via Desire2Learn (D2L) and Zoom via synchronous instruction. To best succeed in the course, students are encouraged to participate in the synchronous Zoom sessions. When unable to participate live due to the time difference or unforeseen circumstances, inform the instructor in advance and propose and implement propose an alternative participation activity.

COURSE INFORMATION/DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE
Psychosocial oncology focuses on developing the understanding in health care practitioners of the central concepts related to caring for cancer patients and their families
LEARNING RESOURCES/REQUIRED READING
A reading list will be distributed at the beginning of the course

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES
By the end of this course, students will be able to: 1. understand basic concepts in psychosocial oncology 2. understand the impact of cancer from the patient, family, or caregiver perspective throughout the trajectory of the disease



3. formulate research hypotheses on the basis of detailed reviews of the literature
4. discuss interventions that help patients, families, and caregivers who experience emotional distress
5. understand the role of multidisciplinary interventions in working with cancer patients and their families

Communication

Brightspace (By D2L) is located on the University of Calgary server and will be used extensively for communication with Students. A link to the zoom class will be provided on D2L. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that they receive all posted communications and documents and that they receive e-mails sent by instructors of fellow students through D2L. Only your @ucalgary.ca e-mail address may be linked to D2L. Please ensure that you are regularly checking your @ucalgary.ca account

Learning Technology Requirements

In order to successfully engage in learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

Please see the following for a detailed explanation of the minimal required technology for online learning <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/technology-requirements-for-students/>

A laptop, desktop, tablet or mobile device is required for D2L access. If you need help accessing or using D2L, please visit the Desire2Learn resource page for students: <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/d2l-student/>.

CUT POINTS FOR GRADES			
This course adheres to the grading system outlined in the University of Calgary, Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar. Grades of A+ and A are not distinguished in the calculation of GPAs. Percentage/letter grade conversion used for this course is as follows			
Grade	Grade Point Value	Percentage Conversion	Graduate Description
A+	4.00	95-100	Outstanding



A	4.00	85-94	Excellent – superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	80-84	Very Good Performance
B+	3.30	75-79	Good Performance
B	3.00	70-74	Satisfactory Performance
B-	2.70	65-69	Minimum Pass for Students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	55-64	All grades below 'B-' are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements
C	2.00	50-54	

Assessment Components: The University policy on grading related matters is outlined in the 2019-2020 Calendar .			
Assessment Methods	Description	Weight %	Due Date <u>and</u> Time
Mid-term #1	Take home written exam, one week to complete. Submit the exam in the appropriate D2L dropbox and a paper copy in class.	25%	Given Oct 7, Due date Oct 14 at 12:40 PM
Mid-term #2	Take home written exam, due on the next class date. Submit the exam in the appropriate D2L dropbox and a paper copy in class.	25%	Given Nov 4, due Nov 18 at 12:40 PM
Term paper	15-page academic paper (usually in APA style) on a subject of the student's choice. Discuss the subject with the instructor prior to writing to assure that the subject is appropriate in the context of the course. Submit the paper in the appropriate D2L dropbox and a paper copy in class.	35%	Due Nov 25
In-class oral presentation	Students will be present in class on a topic relevant to psychosocial oncology or on their own research if the subject is relevant. The presentation is expected to take 30 - 45 minutes including questions. Submit the PowerPoint slides in the appropriate D2L dropbox.	15%	November 4, after the academic lecture, which will be about 90 minutes long

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ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS:

Because enrollment in the course is limited to a small number of participants (10 to 12) and because the course is given in a seminar form, students are expected to attend regularly and to participate in class discussions. 'Cherry picking' lectures according to interest is strongly discouraged, as selective attendance affects the overall atmosphere and functioning of the group.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS:

All assignments are submitted in appropriate D2L drop boxes on the days and times indicated above. [Click here to enter text.](#)

FINAL EXAMINATIONS:

There is no final examination

EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING:

Take home exams consist in answering 2 questions in a maximum of 6 double-spaced pages, with 1 inch margins, and the font should be Times New Roman 12 point. No referencing is required on the mid-term exams. The term paper should be 15 to 20 pages long, double-spaced, with 1 inch margins, and Times New Roman 12 point font. Referencing within the text and in the Reference section should be in APA style. If the student wishes to use a different style, please discuss with the instructor. Further instructions will be given in class and posted on D2L.

LATE AND/OR MISSING ASSIGNMENTS:

As per university policy, late assignments will incur a penalty of 5% of the total mark for the assignment per day late, including weekends. Because there is ample time given to complete each assignment, assignments will **NOT** be accepted more than 72 hours after the posted deadline and students failing to submit any assignment within this time frame will receive a mark of zero. **There will be NO exceptions to this policy.**

Is a passing grade on a particular component essential to pass the course as a whole?

No



MDSC 535/635 tentative lecture schedule 2020

<u>Lecture</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1	9-Sep	Barry Bultz, Guy Pelletier, Fiona Schulte	Introduction to Psychosocial oncology and Overview
2	16-Sep	Tavis Campbell	Psychobiological aspects of cancer
3	23-Sep	Guy Pelletier	Developmental issues and family dynamics in adults with cancer
4	30-Sep	Sara Beattie	Psychosocial challenges of caregivers of cancer patients
	07-Oct		First Mid-term take home exam given
	07-Oct		Students to consider a final paper topic and discuss it with the facilitator if not yet done
5	07-Oct	Linda Carlson	Psychosocial aspects of complementary and alternative therapies in Cancer
	14-Oct		First Mid-term take home exam due
6	14-Oct	Kyle Anstey	Ethics and Informed Decision-Making in Oncology
	14-Oct	Andrea Feldstain	Medical assistance in dying (MAiD): implications for psychosocial oncology
7	21-Oct	Steve Simpson	Psychopharmacology for psychosocial oncologists
	21-Oct	Debra Carnat	Trauma and Cancer
8	28-Oct	Manny Ester (Nicole Culos- Reed lab)	Exercise and cancer
9	4-Nov	Debra Allatt and guest lecturers	Social disparities and cancer

	4-Nov	MDSC 635	Student presentation (last 30-45 mins)
	4-Nov		Second mid-term given
	11-Nov	Term break	No Classes
10	18-Nov	Lauren Walker	Sexuality and cancer
	18-Nov	Guy Pelletier	Cognition and cancer
	18-Nov		Second mid-term due
11	25-Nov	Wendy Pelletier and Fiona Schulte	Pediatric Oncology and young adults and cancer
	25-Nov	Fiona Schulte	Young adults and cancer
	25-Nov		Term paper due
12	02-Dec	Lyle Galloway	Psychosocial aspects of palliative and end of life care
	02-Dec	Shane Sinclair	Spiritual care and cancer
13	9-Dec	Celestina Martopullo	Psychotherapeutic interventions with cancer patients Coping with cancer and its treatment throughout the disease trajectory
	9-Dec		Final assignment given, due on Friday Dec 11 in D2L mail box no later than 11:59 PM

Guidelines for Zoom Sessions

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a ‘live’ video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.



To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as the Code of Conduct). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions, you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies. If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/>.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity (where available). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (such as for group work, presentations, etc).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only.

Conduct During Lectures

The classroom should be respected as a safe place to share ideas without judgement - a community in which we can all learn from one another. Students are expected to frame their comments and questions to lecturers in respectful and appropriate language, always maintaining sensitivity towards the topic. Students, employees, and academic staff are also expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment.

As members of the University community, students, employees and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/forms/title>.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICE INFORMATION

Cell phones must be turned off in class unless otherwise arranged with the instructor.
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The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Students are to refrain from accessing websites that may be distracting for fellow learners (e.g. personal emails, Facebook, YouTube). Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/electronic-communicationspolicy.pdf>.

MEDIA AND RECORDING IN LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Media recording for lesson capture

The instructor may use media recordings to capture the delivery of a lecture. These recordings are intended to be used for lecture capture only and will not be used for any other purpose. Although the recording device will be fixed on the Instructor, in the event that incidental student participation is recorded, the instructor will ensure that any identifiable content (video or audio) is masked, or will seek consent to include the identifiable student content to making the content available on University approved platforms.

Media recording for assessment of student learning

The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

Media recording for self-assessment of teaching practices

The instructor may use media recordings as a tool for self-assessment of their teaching practices. Although the recording device will be fixed on the instructor, it is possible that student participation in the course may be inadvertently captured. These recordings will be used for instructor self-assessment only and will not be used for any other purpose.

Student Recording of Lectures

Audio or video recording of lectures is prohibited except where explicit permission has been received from the instructor.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full



policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Any research in which students are invited to participate will be explained in class and approved by the appropriate University Research Ethics Board

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The Cumming School of Medicine expects intellectual honesty from its students. Course participants should be aware of University policies relating to Principles of Conduct, Plagiarism and Academic Integrity. These are found in the printed Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar, or online under Academic Regulations in the Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar, available at [Faculty of Graduate Studies Academic Regulations](#)

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

EMERGENCY EVACUATION AND ASSEMBLY POINTS

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. The primary assembly points for South Campus (Health Science Centre (HSC); Health & Research Innovation Centre (HRIC); Heritage Medical Research Building (HMRB) and Teaching, Research and Wellness (TRW)) are:

- HSC and HMRB: HRIC Atrium (alternate assembly point is Parking Lot 6)
- HRIC: HMRB Atrium (alternate assembly point is Parking Lot 6)
- TRW: McCaig Tower (alternate assembly point is HMRB – Atrium)

APPEALS

If there is a concern with the course, academic matter or a grade, first communicate with the instructor. If these concerns cannot be resolved, students can proceed with an academic appeal, as per Section N of the Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar. Students must follow the official process and should contact the



Student Ombuds Office (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>) for assistance with this and with any other academic concerns, including academic and non-academic misconduct

THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP) and students should identify themselves on written assignments (exams and term work.) by their name and ID number on the front page and ID on each subsequent page. Assignments given by you to your course instructor will remain confidential unless otherwise stated before submission. The assignment cannot be returned to anyone else without your expressed permission to the instructor. Grades will be made available on an individual basis and students will not have access to other students' grades without expressed consent. Similarly, any information about yourself that you share with your course instructor will not be given to anyone else without your permission

WELLNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre), <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services> and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>

SUPPORTS FOR STUDENT LEARNING, SUCCESS, AND SAFETY

Student Ombudsman: The Student Ombuds' Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca

Student Union: The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or suvpaca@ucalgary.ca; Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives can be found here: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca>

Graduate Student's Association: The GSA Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220- 5997 or gsa.vpa@ucalgary.ca; Information about the GSA can be found here: <https://gsa.ucalgary.ca>

SAFEWALK

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.