## Queen's University School of Kinesiology and Health Studies

critical thinking skills



## **Course Instructor: Contact Hours: Course Name:** HLTH 437/3.0 1 x 3 hrs/wk / 12 weeks Dr. Stevenson Fergus Seminar on Harm Reduction Prerequisite: HLTH 237/3.0 and Level 4 in a HLTH (Major or Joint Honours), or KIN Plan. **Exclusion:** No more than 3.0 units from HLTH 437/3.0: HLTH 493/3.0 topic ID Harm Reductions **Course Texts: Course Description:** There is no course textbook. All readings will be In this course we will study the history and philosophy of harm reduction and learn about various approaches to available on Perusall harm reduction that have been implemented in Canada (https://app.perusall.com/home). and around the world. Harm reduction has been defined by the International Harm Reduction Association (2010) as "policies, programs, and practices that aim primarily to reduce the adverse health, social and economic consequences of the use of legal and illegal psychoactive drugs without necessarily reducing drug consumption" (In Pates & Riley, 2012). Harm reduction has also been applied to other behaviours such as gambling and sexual behaviours. This course will follow a seminar format in which student preparation, presentation, participation, and discussion are key requirements for learning. The class activities and assignments are intended to foster critical thinking. **Learning Outcomes:** Course Evaluation: Class attendance 5% Explain the philosophy of harm reduction, Perusall participation 15% Describe the history of harm reduction, Research study presentation 20% Critique interventions using harm reduction Short essay 20% principles. Final essay prospectus 5% Demonstrate improved research, writing, and Final essay 35%

## **Course Outline**

Course introduction and overview Community advocacy and harm reduction

An Introduction to harm reduction	Opposition to harm reduction
The opioid overdose crisis	Managed alcohol programs; Harm reduction and e-
	cigarettes
Supervised consumption services	Harm reduction and gambling
Heroin assisted treatment and naloxone distribution	Other issues in and approaches to harm reduction
Harm reduction in prisons and drug decriminalization	