

University of Guelph
Department of Family Relations & Applied Nutrition
FRHD*3060 Principles of Social Gerontology
Fall 2014
COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor: Jacobi Elliott
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Teaching Assistant: Rena Dosanjh

Class Time: Tuesday and Thursday, 8:30 – 9:30am in MINS 300
Final Exam: Friday December 12th, 2:30pm-4:30pm

Calendar Description: A study of social and health aspects of individual and population aging, including theories and implications for understanding and working with the elderly.

Course Objectives:

1. To discover what science knows, does not know, and speculates about in the research literature on social gerontology. *For example, how important, alarming or exciting is it that the population of older persons is growing?*
2. To explore the diversity of experience in later life wherever and however we can. *What are the variations in family structure, diversity of ethnic, socioeconomic and experiential backgrounds among Canadian elderly persons?*
3. To facilitate students having the opportunity to take control of significant parts of the learning process, eg. *Critical thinking*

Prerequisites: 9.50 credits including FRHD*1020 or SOAN*3100

Required Textbook: The required textbook for the course is available at the University Bookstores for approximately \$100. Additional readings and resources will be posted to the course website on D2L. A copy of the textbook is available from the library course reserves.

<p>Wister, A. & McPherson, B. (2013). <i>Aging as a Social Process: Canadian Perspectives, 6th Edition</i>. Oxford University Press.</p>
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Appeals Procedure: Please consult the Undergraduate Calendar

Drop Date and Procedure: Please consult the Undergraduate Calendar pages 32/37. The last date to drop this course without penalty October 31st 2013. For regulations and procedures for dropping Course, please review the undergraduate calendar.

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/2013-2014/pdf/c08.pdf>

Email and classroom etiquette: As per university regulations, all students are required to check their uoguelph.ca email account regularly: email is the official route of communication between the University and Students.

Please use discretion when emailing. You will receive a response within 48 hours (not including weekends) if your email is sent from a uoguelph email address. You will not receive a response if your email is sent from a hotmail or similar web-based account. Please do not email questions related to the course content; these questions are more appropriate for D2L.

Given the nature of the class, participation is an expectation. Our goal together should be to create an open environment that promotes discussion and fosters critical thinking. Respectful debate is encouraged. Please offer you colleagues the same respect and maturity you hope to be given when sharing your thoughts both in the classroom and in online discussions.

Learning and Writing Services are there to help

Specially trained Peer Helpers and professional staff in Learning and Writing Services can help you achieve your academic goals. Get personalized assistance in appointments or walk-in sessions, or stop by the Learning Commons (1st Floor Library) for free handouts and workshop information. Visit online at www.learningcommons.uoguelph.ca or call ext. 53632.

When you cannot meet course requirements: When you find yourself unable to meet in-course or online requirements due to illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing with your name, id # and e-mail contact. Where possible, this should be done in advance of the missed work or event, but otherwise, just as soon as possible after the due date, and certainly no longer than one week later. Note: if appropriate documentation of your inability to meet that in course requirement is necessary, the course instructor, or delegate, will request it of you. Such documentation will rarely be required for course components representing less than 10% of the course grade. See the undergraduate calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration.

Academic Integrity & Misconduct:

It is the responsibility of every student to review the Academic Integrity policy at the University of

Guelph found at the following link: <http://www.academicintegrity.uoguelph.ca/>

Please also review the Academic Misconduct Policy detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Course format:

Classes are intended to foster debate, analytic thinking about the research literature and to provide foundational knowledge about key issues in gerontology. Class discussions will build on required readings, lectures and current events. Students will be expected to be active participants in the course both in online discussion and in class.

Methods of Evaluation:**Participation: 15%**

Students are expected to be conscientious contributors to all classes. This includes an expectation that students will do the assigned readings, and actively engage in classroom discussion.

Attending class regularly is key to achieving high participation marks. Throughout the semester there will be a variety of interactive methods used in the classroom. Your participation will be tracked during interactive activities. Engaging in these activities will be vitally important for achieving high participation marks. Online discussions throughout the semester will also inform the total participation grade.

Midterm Exam: 25%

This will be an in-class exam on **October 16th** during class time in our regular classroom. Its format will be multiple choice and short answer and students will be responsible for **all** course material covered up to this date.

Case Study Assignment: 25%

On the course outline you will see the movie "Bunny & Leona" is scheduled. Students will view this movie in class and will complete a 7-8 page (APA style) case study assignment using the experiences of Bunny and Leona as illustration. Topics/questions for the case study will be posted on the course website beginning Oct 1st. As part of this assignment students will be expected to supplement the information presented in class through the reading of the **primary literature** (peer-reviewed journals, articles, monographs, reports – NOT JUST TEXTBOOKS, NOT JUST WEB-BASED INFORMATION).

- See Assignment Instructions for more details
- Assignment Due Date: November 27th, 2014 at the beginning of class (Hard copy to be submitted for marking)

Final Exam: 35%

There will be a registrar scheduled final exam on **Friday December 12th from 2:20p.m. – 4:30p.m.** Students are responsible for **all** course material. The final exam will be a multiple choice and short answer format.

Note: Students are expected to fulfill the course requirements in accordance with University policies on Academic Misconduct. See Undergraduate Calendar for details.

APPROXIMATE SCHEDULING OF CLASS TIME

WK	Date	Topic	Notes/Reading
1	Thursday Sept 4 th	Welcome, Introductions and Review of Syllabus	
2	Tuesday Sept 9 ^h	Attitudes: Ageism & Stigma	Chapter 1
	Thursday Sept 11 th	Individual Aging: Changes across the Life Course	Chapter 3
3	Tuesday Sept 16 ^h	Population Aging	Chapter 4
	Thursday Sept 18 th	Theories of Aging: What & Why?	Chapter 5
4	Tuesday Sept 23 rd	Theories of Aging: In Research	
	Thursday Sept 25 th	Diversity in Aging	Chapter 2
5	Tuesday Sept 30 th	Health Status	Chapter 7 p.193-218
	Thursday Oct 2 nd	Health Care Systems	Chapter 7 p.218 – 231
6	Tuesday Oct 7 th	Guest Lecture: Aging & Technology	Supplementary Reading
	Thursday Oct 9 th	Patient and Citizen Engagement in Health Care – Special Guests	Supplementary Reading
7	Tuesday Oct 14 th	Fall Study Break – No Class	
	Thursday Oct 16 th	MIDTERM EXAMINATION	
8	Tuesday Oct 21 st	Lived Environment: Community and Housing Alternatives	Chapter 8
	Thursday Oct 23 rd	Family Relationships	Chapter 9
9	Tuesday Oct 28 th	Work & Retirement	Chapter 10 p.302-317
	Thursday Oct 30 th	Finances in Late Life	Chapter 10 p. 318 -335
10	Tuesday Nov 4 th	BUNNY & LEONA	
	Thursday Nov 6 th	Caregiving and Social Support, Social Connectedness	Chapter 11 Chapter 12 p.370-385
11	Tuesday Nov 11 th	Aging as a Political Issue	Chapter 12 p.403-409 Supplementary Reading
	Thursday Nov 13 th	End of Life: Death & Dying	Chapter 12 p.395-403
12	Tuesday Nov 18 th	Perspectives on Successful Aging	
	Thursday Nov 20 th	Guest Lecture: Special Topic	Supplementary Reading
13	Tuesday Nov 25 th	Work Period for Assignment – No Class	
	Thursday Nov 27 th	Assignment Due & Review for Exam	