Administrative Unit: History and Social Sciences

Course Prefix and Number: SOCI 350

Course Title: Social Gerontology

Number of Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Laboratory Hours: 0

Catalog Description: Social, psychological and physical aspects of aging, including the consequences of the societal demographic shifts toward an increasingly aged society. Investigate the research on death and dying and the role of the elderly in our society. Additionally, generate an understanding of the theoretical perspectives on aging. Cross-listed as HUMS 350. Prerequisite: SOCI 111. Occasional offering.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOCI 111.

Text(s): Most current edition of the following:

Texts:


Supplemental Texts:

Course Objectives:

- To understand the social, psychological and physical aspects of aging.
- To understand the development of the field of gerontology.
- To understand the shifting roles of the aged and the manifestations of such.
- To study the research on death and dying.
- To understand sociological theories of aging and social policies pertaining to the aged and the needs of an increasingly aged society.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the social, psychological and physical aspects of aging.
- Describe the demographic shift toward an increasingly aged society and the manifestations of such a shift.
- Understand the emergence of the discipline of gerontology.
- Critically analyze and interrogate social policies for the aged, understanding their value as well as their limitations: Social Security, healthcare, Medicare and Medicaid.
- Evaluate differing sociological perspectives on aging.
- Understand the intersection of race, gender, and class on aging.

Topical Outline:

- Global demographic shifts: Increasingly aged societies
- The development of the field of gerontology
- Historical and cross-cultural issues in aging
- Physical aspects of aging
- Social aspects of aging
- Psychological aspects of aging
- Death, Dying and Widowhood
- Gender and aging
- Race/ethnic minorities and aging
- Social class and aging
- Love, intimacy, and sexuality in old age
- Social Supports and informal care giving
- Living arrangements and aging
- Aging and social policy
Recommended maximum class size for this course: 35

Library Resources

Online databases are available at http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp. You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

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Name                      Signature

Date: May 23, 2005

NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught or where it is taught. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.

Office of Academic Affairs
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