SOC 251 Gerontology

Online

Course Description: This course includes the analysis of aging within the context of the life cycle with emphasis on the major concerns of the elderly and social policies, especially Social Security and health care, which have an impact on the lives of the elderly.

Credits: 3 semester hour credits
Prerequisite(s): PSYC 111 Introduction to Psychology
Delivery Method: Online

Course Objectives/Student Outcomes:

It is expected that students will be able to

- Recognize how societal attitudes toward the process of aging affects the individual's concept of aging. (Meets DCB Gen Ed Goal #2)
- Understand the psychological and physical changes which occur with aging. (Meets DCB Gen Ed Goal #6)
- Recognize and understand various social policies and their impact on the elderly.
- Knowledge of culture and its reflections on aging.
- Understand how various cultures view the elderly. (Meets DCB Gen Ed Goal #8)
- Understand how elders in various cultures view themselves.
- Identify various critical contributing factors to the issues facing the elderly.
- Describe a realistic approach to the various problems facing the elderly.
- Integrate personal feelings with societal needs and values. (Meets DCB Gen Ed Goal #10)

Instructor: Alice West, M.A.
Office: Online. You may post questions in my Virtual Office in our online classroom.
Office Hours: Use the eMail tool within the online course to communicate with the instructor. Course eMail messages will be checked daily, Monday through Friday. If you have a technical problem, contact the Distance Education office by calling 1-701-228-5479 or 1-888-918-5623 (toll-free).
Email: Use online course eMail tool.
Class Schedule: Online

Textbooks:

Hillier, S. M. and G. Barrow. *Aging, The Individual, and Society;* 8th Ed. Thomson-Wadsworth. ISBN: 0-534-59814-5.

Order by e-mail: bookcell@dakotacollege.edu
or Order online: https://epayment.ndus.nodak.edu/C22800_ustores

Course Requirements:

There are **weekly deadlines** for completing assignments.

Discussion Forums:

Each week, you will have one or more discussion forums (one for each chapter.) For each forum, you will need to post one answer to a question, two replies to other students' answers, and two replies to students who have replied to you. Forums will close on Saturday nights at 11:45 p.m. If you wait until Saturday night to post your answer, other students will not have time to reply to you, and you will not have time to reply to them, resulting in a loss of points for you. So please, make the discussion forums your first priority each week in this class.

Homework Assignments:

During the term, you will have six short papers (one-half to one page each) due in the drop box. The deadline for submitting this homework to the drop box is 11:45 p.m. Saturday nights.

Paper:

A research paper is due the last week of the term. The topic for your paper is due the 3rd week of the term. Both are to be submitted to the drop box just like homework assignments.

Quizzes:

Each week you will need to take a quiz (one for each chapter.) There is no time limit on the quizzes, and you can take each one as many times as you like. The highest grade you earn will be the grade recorded in the gradebook. The quiz for each week will be available until 11:45 p.m. Saturday night.

Final Exam:

The final exam will be taken at the end of the term. It will have a time limit, and it can only be taken once.

Attendance: Regular participation is expected. Students should complete all assignments by the due dates.

Course Outline:

WEEK 1: Chapter 1
WEEK 2: Chapter 2
WEEK 3: Chapter 3
WEEK 4: Chapter 4
WEEK 5: Chapter 5
WEEK 6: Chapter 6
WEEK 7: Chapter 7
WEEK 8: Chapter 8
WEEK 9: Chapter 9
WEEK 10: Chapter 10
WEEK 11: Chapter 11
WEEK 12: Chapter 12
WEEK 13: Chapter 13
WEEK 14: Chapter 14
WEEK 15: Chapter 15
WEEK 16: Chapter 16
WEEK 17: Final Exam

Relationship to Campus Theme:

This course develops a background in the study of aging that can be used to understand people in family, social, professional, and community settings.

Classroom Policies:

- Regular participation is expected.
- All quizzes and exams can be taken on any computer with Internet access.
- Students need to set up or select an environment conducive for testing (e.g. distraction-free area at home, a computer lab at a library, etc.)
- Students can take the quizzes and exam at any time between the given dates and times.
- A discussion is only a discussion if everyone is participating together. Therefore, no points will be given for forum posts once the week is over.
- Homework assignments and the paper will lose 10% for each day they are late, and will not be accepted more than one week after the due date.

Evaluation:

Grades are based on total points earned.

Points

Discussion Forums	160
Quizzes	160
Drop Box Homework	90
Paper	90
Final Exam	100
Total Points:	600

A--90-100%	(540 points)
B--80-89%	(480 points)
C--70-79%	(420 points)
D--60-69%	(360 points)
F--59% or lower	(359 points or lower)

Academic Integrity: The academic community is operated on the basis of honesty, integrity and fair play. It is the expectation that all students, as members of the college community, adhere to the highest levels of academic integrity. This means that:

- Students are responsible for submitting their own work. Student work must not be plagiarized.
- Students must not cooperate on oral or written examinations or work together on evaluated assignments without authorization.

To learn how to avoid plagiarism in your work, review the website from Purdue University, Is It Plagiarism Yet?

Violations of academic principles such as cheating, plagiarism or other academic improprieties will be handled using the guidelines outlined in the Student Handbook on pages 18, 19, and 37.

Disabilities and Special Needs:

If you have a disability for which you need accommodation, contact the Learning Center to request disability support services: phone 701-228-5477 or toll-free 1-888-918-5623.