



Self-Paced Degree Program
HSV 397-WA Social Gerontology
Web-Based Course Syllabus

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: James Christoff

UIU email: christoffj@uiu.edu

Telephone Number: 435-229-4646 - PST

Course Description

Credits: 3 semester credits

Catalog Course Description: This course focuses on personal, interpersonal and societal factors in the human aging process. Emphasis is on family, community and governmental responsibility in defining and resolving problems of the aged in a modern industrial society.

Prerequisites: PSY 190

Session Information: Refer to myUIU for your official term enrollment period.

You have six months from the beginning date of your enrollment to complete this course. You should start working on your course immediately upon enrollment and be prepared to submit unit one (1) within the first 60 days of the enrollment period to avoid a potential administrative withdrawal.

Credit Hour Policy:

As a requirement of HLC Accreditation, all UIU courses, regardless of meeting schedule or instructional mode, follow the Federal Credit Hour Definition. As such, each credit hour earned at UIU is equivalent to a minimum of 45 hours of student engagement.

For more information on how specific instructional modes meet this requirement, please see *UIU's Policy Guidelines for Instructional Time Expectations*: [UIU Policies](#).

Course Materials

It is the student's responsibility to make sure the student has access to all required course materials by the start of the session.

Required Textbook:

Hooyman, N.R., & Kiyak, H.A. (2018). *Social gerontology: A multidisciplinary perspective* (10th Ed.).

California: Pearson. ISBN: 9780133894776

Course Objectives

1. Recognize the physical, cognitive, socioemotional processes influenced by aging.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of aging stereotypes.
3. Identify the impact of various social environments on aging.
4. Analyze how families, communities, and the government address issues related to aging.

Program Student Learning Outcomes

Psychology

1. Program Outcome: Knowledge Base in Psychology
 - SLO: Students will demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology enabling them to better understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.

Human Services

1. Program Outcome: Awareness of Ethical Standards and Practices
 - SLO: Students will recognize, understand, and respect the commitment to the use of ethical standards and guidelines within their interactions with others in the human services field.
2. Program Outcome: Awareness of Individual and Relationship Dynamics
 - SLO: Students will recognize, understand, and respect the complexity of relationships, including interacting professionally with individuals, families, and groups when working in the human services field.

Course Requirements and Grading Criteria

The course consists of 4 units. All course materials will be available and all work should be turned in for grading. You should not go onto another Unit without completion of the prior unit. Even though you do not attend a regular classroom in the traditional sense and keep up with a set schedule of assignments, it is important to maintain a regular schedule, if possible, to complete all course work. It is too easy to set work aside and decide to do it later.

Assignments:

STUDENT AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Student Autobiography is the first assignment in Unit 1. This assignment is graded and worth 20 points. Since we may never have the opportunity to meet face to face, I would like to know a little bit about you. Please provide the following information and tell me about yourself (i.e. - your educational aspirations, employment, family, hobbies). Submit this autobiography along with your other assignments in 'Unit 1'.

ESSAY QUESTIONS:

There are 32 essay questions, eight for each Unit (1-4). Each essay question is worth 15 points. Each question response should be a minimum of 3-4 paragraphs, or one page in length, typed and double spaced.

REFLECTIVE EXERCISES

Reflection Exercise #1 – Will be submitted along with your other assignments in ‘Unit 2’

For decades, research indicated that many people feel sex in old age is inappropriate. Many women, for example, live into old age without a partner and are therefore expected to have given up sex. In fact, aside from some changes in approach, there is no reason not to continue an active and satisfying sex life throughout one's adult life span.

In your paper, answer the following questions fully using course material to support your answers:

- What are your thoughts and opinions about sex in older age?
- Do you feel that sex in old age is normal or does the idea of individuals as old as your grandparents or great-grandparents having sex make you cringe?
- Think about yourself as an older adult. Do you picture yourself giving up sex at a certain age because someone else is uncomfortable with the idea?

Reflective Exercise #2 - Will be submitted along with your other assignments in ‘Unit 3’

For some older adults, coming to terms with their own mortality can involve a hard look back on their lives to see if they have accomplished everything they wanted to before they die. For some, this can involve taking on a new adventure or seeing something special or important before their time on Earth comes to an end.

Create your own “bucket list”. List 10 things you want to do or see before you die.

- Briefly describe what each of these 10 things would involve and why they are so important for you to do or see that they made your top 10.

RESEARCH PAPER - Will be submitted along with your other assignments in ‘Unit 4’

Students will select one of the major types of physical or cognitive change resulting from aging discussed in the course textbook and write a research paper highlighting the major scientific findings related to this area of aging and the results that these changes have not only on the individual's body, their mind, but also on their ability to function in the social world around them.

Each paper must be at least 5 full pages of content and include a title page and reference list formatted in APA style that are not counted in the 5-page requirement. The paper should be double spaced, using 12-point font, and 1-inch margins.

Each research paper **MUST include a minimum of 4 peer reviewed journal articles**. While you may use your textbook or notes as general information sources, you CANNOT count the course materials toward your minimum resource requirements. If you do use your course materials, these must also be cited properly and listed on your reference list. **NO websites, textbooks, or other**

outside sources are allowed. You must find peer-reviewed, scientific studies associated with your chosen topic. Any paper not using the appropriate sources will automatically receive a score of zero for the paper.

Exams:

Midterm Examination:

There is a Midterm Exam after Unit 2. The exam is open book and consists of 50 multiple choice questions. The Midterm Exam covers Chapters 1-9. You will have 90 minutes to complete each exam.

Final Examination:

There is a Final Exam after Unit 4. The exam is open book and consists of 50 multiple choice questions. The Final Exam covers Chapters 10-18. You will have 90 minutes to complete each exam.

QUESTIONS & FEEDBACK

You will receive your graded units within approximately seven to ten days from the date you submit them. If there is a delay, please call Upper Iowa University. After receiving the graded unit, review and contact me immediately with any questions.

GRADING CRITERIA

The course letter grade will be based on the following grading criteria.

Activity	Points
Student Autobiography	20
4 Unit Essay Questions (120 pts. Per Unit x 4 Units=480)	480
Reflection Exercise #1 (50 points)	50
Reflection Exercise #2 (50 pts.)	50
Midterm Exam (50 items /Chs. 1-9 /2 pt. each=100)	100
Final Exam (50 items /Chs. 10-18 /2pt. each = 100)	100
Research Paper	100
Total Points	900

GRADE SCALE

Letter Grade	Percent	Points
A	93-100%	837-900
A-	90-92%	810-836

B+	87-89%	783-809
B	83-86%	747-782
B-	80-82%	720-746
C+	77-79%	693-719
C	73-76%	657-692
C-	70-72%	630-656
D+	67-69%	603-629
D	63-66%	567-602
D-	60-62%	540-566
F	0-59%	0 – 479

Course Schedule

Course units and exams should be completed in the order they are shown below. Completing units/exams out of sequence could result in a loss of points and a reduced grade.

Unit	Topics of Study	Activities	Assessments
Unit 1	Chapter 1 The Growth of Social Gerontology Chapter 2 Aging in Other Countries and Across Cultures in the U.S. Chapter 3 The Social Consequences of Physical Aging Chapter 4 Managing Chronic Diseases and Promoting Well-Being in Old Age	Review your syllabus Read: About Your Instructor Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4 Formulate a timeline for the course	Unit 1: Student Autobiography Essay Questions

Unit	Topics of Study	Activities	Assessments
Unit 2	Chapter 5 Cognitive Changes with Aging Chapter 6 Personality and Mental Health in Old Age Chapter 7 Love, Intimacy, and Sexuality in Old Age Chapter 8 Social Theories of Aging Chapter 9 The Importance of Social Supports	Read Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 Review your timeline, confirm you are on schedule	Unit 2 Reflective Exercise #1 Essay Questions
MIDTERM	Midterm Chapters 1-9	50 Multiple Choice Questions 2 pts. each	
Unit 3	Chapter 10 Opportunities and Challenges of Informal Caregiving Chapter 11 Living Arrangements and Social Interactions Chapter 12 Enhancing Older Adults' Lives Through Technology Chapter 13 Productive Aging	Read Chapters 10, 11, 12, and 13 Review your timeline, confirm you are on schedule	Unit 3 Reflective Exercise #2 Essay Questions

Unit	Topics of Study	Activities	Assessments
Unit 4	Chapter 14 Death, Dying, Bereavement, and Widowhood Chapter 15 The Resilience of Elders of Color Chapter 16 The Resilience of Older Women Chapter 17 Social Policies to Address Social Problems Chapter 18 Health and Long-Term Care Policy and Programs	Read Chapters 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18 Review your timeline, confirm you are on schedule	Unit 4 Research Paper Essay Questions
FINAL	Final Exam Chapters 10-18	50 Multiple Choice Questions 2 pts. each	

Course Expectations

Email

Upper Iowa University employees and students are issued an UIU email account (doej@uiu.edu). University email communications will only be sent to UIU email address. Faculty and staff are not obligated to respond to students using non-UIU email accounts.

Professional Writing and Speaking Guidelines

Communications in class and online should follow the Student Conduct and Discipline, Respect for the University Environment, and Code of Student Responsibility in the [Student Handbook](#) (pg. 20 and 21). Respect the opinions of others using appropriate language and communications.

University Policies

Library Resources

As a student of Upper Iowa University, library resources (online journal databases, e-books, newspaper access, citation help, etc.) are available. If travel to the campus is not feasible, you can access the library through the University's website. Go to: www.uiu.edu/library. If you need assistance locating information or using the library's resources, please contact the library at library@uiu.edu, Phone: 563-425-5270.

To use any of the materials listed on the site, you can log in using your myUIU username and password. If you need help with your myUIU login credentials, please contact the UIU Help Center Desk at helpdesk@uiu.edu, Phone: 563-425-5876.

Course Withdrawal (W)

If you wish to withdraw prior to the last day of the enrollment period you must contact your advisor by phone or in writing. After your original six-month enrollment period, you no longer have the option to withdraw from the course. You must finish the course or have a final grade assigned based on the coursework submitted. Please contact the financial aid office if you have questions about course withdrawal's effect on your financial aid award.

Administrative Withdrawal (AW)

A grade of AW (administrative withdrawal) is recorded for any course from which a student is administratively withdrawn. At least one complete unit must be submitted to the instructor within the first 60 days of the enrollment period or the student will be administratively withdrawn from the course.

REFUND POLICY

Upon receiving a written or phone request for withdrawal, using the date of the request, a refund of tuition is made according to the guidelines listed below.

On or before the first day of the enrollment period*	100%
After the first lesson through 10% of the enrollment period	90%
After the first 10% through the first 25% of the enrollment period	50%
After the first 25% of the enrollment period	0%

*An enrollment period is defined as a number of units to be submitted during a six-month period of time. The refund/repayments shall be calculated using the percentages noted above. The percentages are determined by the number of units/exams completed as compared to the total number of units/exams required for the course.

Students who withdraw from a course prior to submitting the first unit or who are administratively withdrawn for no submission of units will be charged an administrative fee of \$99.

INCOMPLETE/EXTENSION

Students who are enrolled in self-paced courses will be allowed to request one four-month extension and receive an 'I' (incomplete grade) at the end of their original six month enrollment period if:

- A minimum of one assignment has been received for grading per guidelines **AND**
- All course units and exams are not completed and submitted **OR**
- A course withdrawal has not been initiated

Incomplete grade details:

- When the extension is granted and an incomplete grade is issued, the student will receive a four-month enrollment period to complete the course.
- Students do not have the option to withdraw from a course after the initial six-month enrollment period.

- An 'I' grade posted to the student's official record will be replaced with a final letter grade; however, the incomplete will remain on the official transcript as a notation.
- If the course is not completed by the end of the incomplete/extension period, the instructor will assign a final grade (A-F) based on work completed in relation to the total course requirements.
- After that point, only re-enrolling and repeating the course in its entirety may earn credit.

Note: Students are not reported as enrolled during the incomplete/extension period and are not eligible for student loan deferment.

The fee for a self-paced extension is \$99 per course. To request an extension, the "Self-Paced Course Extension Request" form must be completed and returned to the Self-Paced department. The form can be found at <https://my.uiu.edu> (Academics Tab under Student Forms). The request for an extension and payment must be submitted no earlier than one month before the end of the course and no later than a week before the end of the course. Please see page 40 of the Academic Catalog for more information regarding the Incomplete/Extension guidelines. **If you do not request and pay for an extension, a final grade will be issued for the course based on coursework received by the original course end date.**

If you do not wish to use the extension option and will not be able to finish your Self-Paced class by the original six-month end date, you can submit a course withdrawal form before the course end date if you wish to withdraw from the course. The number of lessons submitted as compared to the total due determines the amount of the course refund. Please see page 38 of the Academic Catalog for more information on the refund policy.

Academic Accommodations

It is the policy of Upper Iowa University to ensure equal access to educational and co-curricular activities to students with disabilities as mandated by the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. A student seeking accommodations should contact the Director of Disability Services (DDS) as early in the session as possible. In order to receive accommodations, students must disclose their disability to the DDS by completing a *Voluntary Disclosure Form*, as well as providing appropriate documentation.

The *Voluntary Disclosure Form* is available in the DDS office or online at [Disability Services](#). Students will be given a *Request for Accommodations Contract* during their initial appointment with the DDS.

This appointment will be in person for Fayette campus students and over the phone for center, online, and self-paced students. It is the student's responsibility to provide the instructors with a copy of the *Request for Accommodations Contract* (for Center or online students, these contracts are emailed out to instructors by the DDS for the student). Additionally, students should work cooperatively with their instructors throughout the session to make sure that appropriate accommodations are being made. You can contact the DDS at (563) 425-5949, disabilityservices@uiu.edu, or stop by the office in the Student Center, Office of Student Life, Room 229.

Academic Misconduct Policy

Cheating, academic dishonesty, and plagiarism constitute a violation of the offender's own integrity, as well as the integrity of the entire University; they will not be tolerated. Violators will receive sanctions based on the level of academic misconduct.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- The use of unauthorized books notes or other sources in the giving or securing of help in an examination or other course assignments.
- The copying of other students' work or allowing others to copy your work. The submission of work that is not your own or allowing others to submit your work as theirs.
- The submission of the same work for two or more classes without the approval of instructors involved.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- Sharing academic materials knowing they will be used inappropriately.
- Accessing another person's work without permission.
- Providing false or incomplete information on an academic document.
- Changing student records without approval.
- Obtaining and using texts or other materials intended for instructor use only.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- The presentation of another's published or unpublished work as one's own.
- Taking words or ideas of another and either copying them or paraphrasing them without proper citation of the source.
- Using charts, graphs, statistics or tables without proper citation.

Levels of Academic Misconduct and Sanctions

The faculty member teaching the course has the primary responsibility for resolving allegations of academic dishonesty, though egregious violations will be resolved by the School administration, the Academic Misconduct Board, or some combination thereof. The final decision on the level of a violation rests with the Academic Misconduct Board. Options for resolving an alleged case of academic dishonesty range from dismissing the allegation with no negative sanction to being expelled from the university ([Academic Misconduct Policy: Table 1](#)). A negative sanction is defined as an action taken by the faculty member that affects the student's grade for the assignment or his or her cumulative grade for the course. Anytime academic misconduct is detected, the procedures outlined in [Academic Misconduct Policy: Table 1](#) should be followed. The incident will be maintained in a searchable database maintained by the Office of Academic Affairs.

Copyright Statement

In recognition of the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code), Upper Iowa University reminds both faculty members and learners that a willful infringement of the law may result

in disciplinary action. The University library has available materials discussing the "fair use" concept, along with criteria and guidelines for reproduction and use of copyrighted materials.

This syllabus is subject to change.

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