GERO 1100-001
Introduction to Gerontology
Christine Caldarale-Ahearn
M 6:00-9:50 PM
Spring 2006

Course Content & Objectives: This course is an introduction to the concept of aging. The student will gain an understanding of the bio, psycho, social, spiritual, and cultural aspects of aging. In addition, the aged person’s role in the family and society will be investigated. Ethics and a humanistic view of aging will be explored.

Prerequisites: None

Attendance: Mandatory

Class Format: Lecture, discussion, group work, audio-visual, guest speakers

Laboratory/Field Experience: None


Evaluation: 15%; Paper 15%; Two Exams at 25% each; Brochure 15%; Class participation 5%
Objectives and Course Content: This course is an introduction to the concept of aging. The student will gain an understanding of social and cultural aspects of aging. In addition, biological aging, as well as the aged person’s role in the family and society will be investigated. Ethics and a humanistic view of aging will be explored.

Prerequisites: Not open to Nursing students

Attendance: Mandatory

Class Format: Lecture, discussion, group work, audio-visual; E-mail WebCaucus

Laboratory/Field Experience: None


Evaluation: Project or Paper 20%; Three Exams 50%; Another Country Project 15%; Aging 04/05 Summaries/Quizzes 10%; Participation/Attendance 5%
GERO 2107-001
Aging and Health
Dee McNeely-Greene
TR 6:00 – 7:50 PM
Spring 2006

Objectives & Course Content:
To clarify the relationship between aging and health.
To understand the concepts of health status, illness, chronicity, prevention and treatment.
To identify the relationship between lifestyle choices and health.
To explore the agencies and institutions serving the older population.

Prerequisites: None. NOT OPEN TO NURSING MAJORS

Attendance: Required. Point loss for unexcused absences

Class Format: Lecture/discussion/group work

Readings: Textbook required/outside readings

Paper/Projects: 8-10 page paper with a required oral presentation

Evaluation: Point system, using the plus/minus system
Objectives & Course Content: 1. To provide a basic understanding of how cells work; 2. To introduce the biologic concept of aging; 3. To provide students with a working knowledge of how the various body systems function and how they change with age. The course will begin with an overview of cell structure and function and how tissues and organ systems are formed. The concept of homeostasis and its role in maintaining cell integrity will be covered next. The rest of the course will be devoted to body’s many systems, how they function, how they interact, and how they change with age. Common geriatric diseases will be covered.

Prerequisites: High school biology

Attendance: Not mandatory (but exams are based mostly on lecture material and quizzes may be given that cannot be made up)

Class format: Lecture

Laboratory/Field Experience: No


Paper/Projects: Each student will give one 5-10 minute presentation on a current aspect of aging as it relates to biology.

Evaluation: Grades will be based on 3-5 exams, quizzes, and the class presentation.
Objectives & Course Content: 1. Students will develop competency in approaching the specific geriatric population with sensitivity and understanding, 2. Students will demonstrate the acquisition of basic techniques and therapeutic skills in the areas of art, music, movement and creative writing. The course explores the role of the creative arts in addressing the unique issues of the elderly. As a group students will engage in a variety of expressive experiences and discuss the practical application. Students will review the literature related to the creative arts and the elderly and will synthesize class learning in a written paper.

Prerequisites: GERO 1100

Class Format: Group experientials/discussion/lecture/slide and video presentations/guest speakers

Laboratory/Field Experience: None


Paper/Projects: Reaction papers – 1-2 pages, Reading portfolio – 2 page paper on related journal articles, Small group presentation demonstrating approach and application of therapeutic use of creative arts

Evaluation: 2 Exams @ 20% = 40%; Group presentation 20%; Reaction paper 15%; Reading Portfolio 15%; Class Participation 10%
Objectives & Course Content: The course considers the multiple issues of age-related psychopathologies, diagnosis and assessment, as well as various approaches to intervention. Course also discusses means to promote and maintain optimal mental health in the older years. Federal and state policy relevant to mental health will also be covered.

Prerequisites: GER 1100 or PSY 1100.

Attendance: Mandatory, class participation included in final grade.

Class Format: Lecture, class discussion, multimedia

Laboratory/Field Experience: Optional

Readings: Text book, journal articles

Paper/Projects: Two papers, one final exam, 2 quizzes, one group project.

Evaluation: Two papers, one final exam, 2 quizzes, group project, class participation.
Objectives and Course Content: Provides students with the opportunity to study a topic in more depth than allowed by regular courses or to study areas not included in the program’s regular curriculum. Student or instructor initiated research on recent developments in the field of aging.

Prerequisites: Permission of Instructor

Attendance: The research team will meet approximately once per week by appointment, with additional meetings scheduled as necessary. Computer Conferencing will be used in lieu of some face-to-face meetings.

Class Format: Tutorial

Laboratory/Field Experience: Student or instructor initiated research projects. To include review of the relevant literature, design of appropriate research strategy, data collection and analysis, final research report.

Readings: TBA - to be assigned as necessary.

Paper/Projects: See above

Evaluation: Based upon periodic write-ups of activities, research proposal, data collection, final report.
Objectives & Course Content: Off-campus learning experience at a local agency, organization, or facility, supplemented with relevant readings and discussions. Possible placements include nursing homes, assisted living, and various other government and private agencies working with the elderly. Course requirements, guidelines, and a partial list of placement sites are available on-line at: www.stockton.edu/~burdickd/intsteps.html

Prerequisites: GER 1100; Permission of Instructor (POI); Open to Juniors and Seniors only.

Attendance: Required regular schedule at placement plus weekly participation in a webcaucus computer conference with other interns.

Class Format: Off-campus work-tasks at a local agency, plus weekly participation in computer conference.

Laboratory/Field Experience: 10-12 hours weekly for 15 weeks (total of at least 140 hours) at designated agency.


Paper/Projects: Required 12-15 page typed paper to tie library research and literature review to the specific field experience. Students also must participate in caucus computer conference where they will keep a log or diary which reflects upon the field placement and communicate with other field placement experience students.

Evaluation: Field Supervisor evaluation 25%; Book Reviews 25%; Caucus Participation & diary 25%; Term paper 25%