Course Description: 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.

Course Objectives: Following course completion, the student will:
1. Be aware of the sociological, psychological and physical theories of aging and successful adjustment.
2. Be cognizant of the attitudes and stereotypes concerning the elderly.
3. Know common terminology used to describe issues in aging.
4. Comprehend the role of the family as a support system.
5. Understand the aged from the viewpoint of gender, race, class and ethnicity.
6. Discuss the role of the older American in the community and be aware of community resources, economic conditions and employment opportunities.
7. Articulate a personal philosophy of aging and an ethical perspective.
8. Relate the status of the elderly in modern society relative to widowhood, poverty, retirement, social action and political impact.
9. Articulate a philosophy of institutionalization and death from a humanistic viewpoint.

Class Format: Lecture/discussion, Audio/Visual


Attendance: Mandatory

Evaluation: Test 1 15%
Test 2 15%
“Another Country” 15%
Project w/older adult 20%
Article Presentation Summary 5%
Attendance/Particip. 5%
GERO 1100-191
Introduction to Gerontology
Linda Aaronson
Summer A 2006
Distance Learning Course, (W2), (V), Mandatory Orientation

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

Readings:

Evaluation: Project 25%; Two Exams 50%; Another Country Project 25%
Course Content and Objective:

Prerequisites:

Attendance:

Class Format:

Laboratory/Field Experience:

Readings:

Paper/Projects:

Evaluation:
GERO/SOWK 3220-101
Spirituality & Aging
Lisa Cox
MTWR 3:00-6:00 PM
Summer A 2006
(A) Cross listed with SOWK 3220

Objectives: This course examines the ongoing, dynamic, creative process of spiritual growth in older adults, and explores spirituality as a fundamental aspect of human functioning and relationships. Topics include: the normal aging process and meaning in life issues; ageism; death and dying issues; religious beliefs in later life; forms of ministry for and with the aging population; and, life transitions which can foster a continual search for spiritual fulfillment.

Course Content: Exploration of current gerontological literature as it relates to older adults’ experiences with religion and spirituality across the lifespan.

Prerequisites: Not open to freshmen.

Attendance: Required

Class Format: Lecture, Small Groups

Laboratory/Field Experience:

Readings: Required Text

Paper/Projects: short written assignments; creative project; exams

Evaluation: Completion of papers, exam, class participation, and creative project.
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: GER0 1100 or PSYC 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.
GERO 3754-201
Research on Aging
David Burdick
TBA
Summer B 2006
Cross-Listed with PSYC 3754, (W2)

Objectives: 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.

Course Content: Student or instructor initiated research on recent developments in the field of aging.

Prerequisites: GERO 1100
Permission of Instructor
Open to Juniors and Seniors only.

Attendance: The research team will meet periodically. Weekly Computer Conferencing will be used to provide progress reports, discuss research.

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.
GERO 3900-201
Gerontology Internship
David Burdick
TBA
Summer B 2006

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: 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: 8-12 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%