

SOC410 Sociology of Aging

Required Text Book:

Quadagno, J. (2014). Aging & the life course: an introduction to social gerontology. **Sixth** edition: McGraw-Hill. (ISBN: 978-0078026850)

Supplemental Reading Assignments:

Available on SOC410 class

Any contents in this syllabus is tentative and may be adjusted as necessary

Instructor

Department of Sociology

Email (this is the primary method of communication between you and me):

Phone:

Office Hours:

Office Location:

Teaching assistant

TBA

Department of Sociology

Email:

Phone:

Office Hours:

Office Location:

Description of the course

Overview of the processes of aging. Emphasis placed on “typical” aspects of aging from three perspectives: the aging individual, social context of aging, and societal responses to an aging population.

Learning outcomes/objectives for the course

The ultimate goal of this course is to enable you to make informed decisions about your life and to prepare for major life events over the life course according to the existing gerontological research and data. In other words, this course is designed to assist you becoming an independent learner of aging and good decision maker for the rest of your life.

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. describe what the social gerontology is
2. identify important life events over the life course
3. write down the basic descriptions of major micro and macro theories of aging
4. explain the population aging process
5. describe three main aging-related social programs that are designed to assist successful aging in the U.S
6. explain normal aging process using biological theories of aging
7. discuss aging-related changes in cognitive skills, mental health and personality
8. draw a complex relationship between dynamic social support and aging process
9. produce the living arrangement plans for his/her own later life
10. develop a comprehensive plans for pre-retirement and retirement
11. describe key factors for healthy aging
12. discuss issues with caring frail older adults

Spring 2016

13. describe general trends of financial status in older populations
14. examine the relationship between the topics covered in this course

Assignments

No.	Assignments	Points	Tentative due date
1	Weekly quiz	10 x 14	Every Sunday* at 11:59pm
2	One into short paper, two video reflection papers & one photography assignment	10, 10 x 2 & 20	See the course schedule
3	Interview	20 x 2	See the course schedule
4	WebCampus discussion	5 x 14	Every Sunday* at 11:59pm
5	Final exam (quiz)	75	See the course schedule
6	Final exam (paper)	25	See the course schedule

*except the Spring Break week

*by principal, no late submission will be accepted without prior arrangement with the instructor

Grading criteria

Grade	Percent	Points *
	100	400
A	90	360
A-	87	348
B+	84	336
B	81	324
B-	78	312
C+	75	300
C	72	288
C-	69	276
<i>Credit or No-Credit Cut Off Line</i>		
D+	63	252
D	61	244
D-	60	240
<i>Pass or Fail Cut Off Line</i>		
F	Below 59	Below 236
* Extra Credit Assignment (if any) NOT included		

Expectations & Responsibilities

The instructor's and graduate assistant's responsibilities are to prepare for the course, provide guidance to students and be available to you for any questions and/or concerns.

Students' responsibilities are to be prepared for the course, intellectually engage the course materials, complete the assignments on time, and take the initiative to seek solution/guidance/advice from the instructors when encountering any issues.

Technical recommendations

Please review the following computer hardware and software recommendations:

<http://online.unlv.edu/content/resources/recommended-computer-software-and-hardware>

Online Etiquette (Netiquette)

Please review the following “Netiquette”: Etiquette for Communicating Online for respectful and smooth communications:

<http://online.unlv.edu/content/resources/netiquette-etiquette-communicating-online>

Course Schedule

Module #	Week of	Title	Reading/Video	Assignment due (Sunday at 11:59pm)
1	JAN 20	The field of Social Gerontology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Quadagno Ch1 • Review the lecture note 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WC discussion #1 2. WC weekly quiz #1
2	JAN 26	Life course transitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Quadagno Ch2 • Review the lecture note 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WC discussion #2 2. WC weekly quiz #2 3. Write a short paper
3	FEB 02	Theories of aging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Quadagno Ch3 • Review the lecture note 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WC discussion #3 2. WC weekly quiz #3
4	FEB 09	Demography of aging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Quadagno Ch4 • Review the lecture note 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WC discussion #4 2. WC weekly quiz #4 3. Watch video and write a reflection paper
5	FEB 16	Old age and the welfare state	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Quadagno Ch5 • Review the lecture note 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WC discussion #5 2. WC weekly quiz #5
6	FEB 23	Biological perspectives on aging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Quadagno Ch6 • Review the lecture note 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WC discussion #6 2. WC weekly quiz #6 3. Interview assignment #1
7	MAR 02	Psychological perspectives on aging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Quadagno Ch7 • Review the lecture note 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WC discussion #7 2. WC weekly quiz #7
8	MAR 09	Family relationship and social support system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Quadagno Ch8 • Review the lecture note 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WC discussion #8 2. WC weekly quiz #8
9	MAR 16	Living arrangement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Quadagno Ch9 • Review the lecture note 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WC discussion #9 2. WC weekly quiz #9 3. Photography assignment
10	MAR 23	Work and retirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Quadagno Ch10 • Review the lecture note 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WC discussion #10 2. WC weekly quiz #10 3. Interview assignment #2
	MAR 30	SPRING BREAK	NO READING	NO ASSIGNMENT
11	APR 6	Health and health care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Quadagno Ch11 • Review the lecture note 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WC discussion #11 2. WC weekly quiz #11 3. Watch video and write a reflection paper #2
12	APR 13	Caring for the frail elderly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Quadagno Ch12 • Review the lecture note 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WC discussion #12 2. WC weekly quiz #12
13	APR 20	The economics of aging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Quadagno Ch14 • Review the lecture note 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WC discussion #13 2. WC weekly quiz #13
14	APR 27	Putting all together & Getting ready for the final exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review all the lecture notes 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WC discussion #14 2. WC weekly quiz #14 3.
	MAY 5	FINAL EXAM WEEK		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write a final paper 2. Take the final exam
		FINAL EXAM DUE	FINAL EXAM DUE at	FINAL EXAM DUE at

Note: WC = WebCampus

Academic Misconduct—Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV’s function as an educational institution.

An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the *Student Academic Misconduct Policy* (approved December 9, 2005) located at: <https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct>.

Copyright—The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves **with** and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. **You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws.** Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright>.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)—The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, <http://drc.unlv.edu/>, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

Religious Holidays Policy—Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor **within the first 14 calendar days of the course for fall and spring courses (excepting modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for summer and modular courses**, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit: <http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531>.

Transparency in Learning and Teaching—The University encourages application of the transparency method of constructing assignments for student success. Please see these two links for further information:

<https://www.unlv.edu/provost/teachingandlearning>

<https://www.unlv.edu/provost/transparency>

Incomplete Grades—The grade of I—Incomplete—can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student’s control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. The incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester for undergraduate courses. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed

Spring 2016

within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

Tutoring and Coaching—The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, visit <http://www.unlv.edu/asc> or call [702-895-3177](tel:702-895-3177). The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of the SSC (ASC Coaching Spot). Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library and College of Engineering TEB second floor.

UNLV Writing Center—One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 702-895-3908. The student's Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: <http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/>.

Rebelmail—By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students' Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV's official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students' e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @unlv.nevada.edu. **Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.**

Final Examinations—The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at: <http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars>.

Library statement:

Students may consult with a librarian on research needs. For this class, the Subject Librarian is (https://www.library.unlv.edu/contact/librarians_by_subject). UNLV Libraries provides resources to support students' access to information. Discovery, access, and use of information are vital skills for academic work and for successful post-college life. Access library resources and ask questions at <https://www.library.unlv.edu/>.