

Draft Syllabus

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA Department of Sociology

077.455 S01: SOCIOLOGY OF AGING SEMINAR
Winter, 2004, Wednesday, 9:00 am-noon, 3 cr. hrs.
Room 128, St. John's College

Instructor: Dr. Barbara Payne
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Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description:

This course deals with selected aspects of aging with a specific focus on Canada. Topics such as gender, race and ethnicity, socioeconomic status, sexuality, family housing and transportation concerns, work and retirement patterns and use of social and health services may be included.

Objectives of the Course:

1. To augment previous courses in aging by providing in-depth examination of the concepts, theories and methodologies related to individual and population aging;
2. To critically evaluate the theory, methods, rationale, interpretations and conclusions of literature published in scholarly journals; and,
3. To develop critical and imaginative skills that will enable you to appreciate the complexities of the biological, psychological and social processes that comprise aging of yourself, others and society.

Prerequisites: Written consent of Department Head; 077.262 is recommended; a sincere interest in the scientific understanding of aging, and aging in Canada.

Required Readings:

Readings as assigned will be available in Room 320 Isbister Building.

Useful Reference Texts:

Chappell, N., E. Gee, L. McDonald, & M. Stones (2003). *Aging in Contemporary Canada*. Toronto: Prentice Hall.
McPherson, B.D. (1998). *Aging as a Social Process: An Introduction to Individual and Population Aging*. Third Edition. Toronto: Harcourt Brace Canada.

COURSE ORGANIZATION and REQUIREMENTS

The course will follow a seminar format. During **WEEKS 2-9**, students will be responsible for presenting the assigned readings, raising issues and questions, and leading the discussion for one class (10% of final grade). Everyone is expected to become familiar with the weekly readings, to prepare questions and comments to share with other seminar participants, and to actively participate in discussions and debates (seminar participation worth 15% of final mark).

The first written assignment consists of a critical book analysis (8-10 typed pages) that is worth 25% of the final mark. The book is to be selected from a pre-set list which will be provided.

During **WEEKS 11 and 12** students will be responsible for providing an in-depth presentation (worth 10%) which will form the basis for an independent major term paper worth 30% of the total mark (20 pages maximum). You are strongly encouraged to discuss your topic, outline, and content of your paper with the instructor.

Written assignments are due the **beginning of class** on the due date. Details of the expectations for the written assignments will be handed out in class. Late submission of assignments will be penalized by the reduction of one-half letter grade per day late.

EVALUATION:

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----------------------|
| Seminar Participation | 15% | |
| Presentation of Readings | 10% | |
| Book Review | 25% | Due February 4 |
| Outline Major Term Paper | 10% | Due March 3 |
| Major Term Paper | | |
| - Written assignment | 30% | April 7 |
| - Class presentation | 10% | March 25 |

The grade distribution for this course is as follows:

| | | | |
|----|----------|----|---------|
| A+ | 90 - 100 | C+ | 65 - 69 |
| A | 80 - 89 | C | 60 - 64 |
| B+ | 75 - 79 | D | 50 - 59 |
| B | 70 - 74 | F | <50 |

Students are reminded that the University of Manitoba strictly enforces its policy with respect to academic integrity. Students should acquaint themselves with the University's policy on Plagiarism and Cheating and Examinations: Personations, found in the University Undergraduate Calendar, p. 29, sections 7.1 and 7.2..

The last date for voluntary withdrawal from the course without penalty is

Wednesday, March 17, 2004