SOC206 Social Gerontology
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COURSE SYLLABUS
SOC206 Social Gerontology and the Aging Revolution
Fall 2015

Mission Statement: Walla Walla Community College inspires students to discover their potential and to achieve their goals by providing diverse and challenging learning opportunities.

Vision Statement: Walla Walla Community College will be one of the most innovative, professional, and successful service-oriented rural community colleges in the United States based on its performance in meeting student needs and public expectations.

Logistics

Course Location
Online | Canvas LMS

Meeting Times
Distance Learning 24/7

Course Dates
09/21/15 – 12/11/15

Social Sciences College Chair
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Instructor
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Office Hours Room 240A | By appointment

Course Description

SOC206 Social Gerontology Overview:

Looks at the effects of the aging population of society, life/health insurance, retirement planning, and resources for the elderly, discussing the individual and group behaviors with respect to health and illness. Examination of medical professionals and their behaviors, with a look at the human behavioral responses to health, illness and the aging process. The distinction between culture and the process of death, dying and bereavement will be analyzed as it relates to the physical, mental and social changes in people as they age. Emphasis on the aging process itself. The institutional impact of the aging revolution. Recommended: READ 098.

Text

Required:
Learning Outcomes

Core Learning Outcomes

- Recognize the impact of the social and sociocultural conditions on the process of aging and the social consequences of this process.
- Demonstrate how the older population and the diversity of aging both affect and are affected by the social structure through classroom discussions, readings, lectures, essays, and class activities.
- Apply critical reasoning and communication skills while exploring the aging population as it relates to health care, long-term care, specialized services, and other industries aimed at the older population.
- Examine the institutional impacts of the aging revolution such as: aging and the economy, medicalization of old age, the elderly and their families, old age in the mass media, old age in the workplace, and politics of aging.

Teaching Strategies

The following performance objectives are provided as a focus for learning in the Social Gerontology course. The purpose of class sessions is as follows:

- Make practical application of the information so students obtain the desired learning outcomes.
- Discuss and debate the material addressed in the text.
- Discuss and assimilate the completed assignments.
- Evaluate the complexities of an aging and aging system.

I am here to assist you in your educational experience; your success in this course is of primary importance to me. My fundamental objective is for you to learn as much as possible about the complexities of a gerontology and aging from a sociological viewpoint. Additionally, I am aware of the demands on adult students and will make every attempt to accommodate you in your learning. If you require assistance please bring it to my attention immediately.

Course Policies and Purposes

Course Policies

The binding course policies between the College, Instructor and Student are as followed:

- Students with Disabilities
- Late Work Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Classroom Participation
- Classroom Etiquette
- Scholastic Dishonesty | Plagiarism
### Students with Disabilities

WWCC has support services for students with disabilities to ensure that our programs and facilities are accessible. Our campus provides reasonable accommodations to qualified students with disabilities. These services are provided through the Student Development Center. To learn about our services contact: Claudia Angus; Coordinator of Disability Support Services, Office 133D, Phone: (509) 527-4543, TDD: (509) 527-4412, E-mail: claudia.angus@wwcc.edu  Or visit [WWCC Disability Support Services](#) online.

### Late Work Policy

All assignments must be turned in on the day it is due, either in person, posted in Canvas, or sent electronically (e-mail). You should consider due dates as the last opportunity to submit assignments, rather than the targeted goal date. It is difficult for me to accept late work when I’m presented with a problem the same day an assignment is due. This fact, in part, has formed my policy on late work, with some exceptions given.

I will reduce the assignment grade score by 25% per day (including weekends) depending on circumstances. Please receive prior approval from me to turn an assignment late to avoid a grade reduction. You will receive a zero (0) grade score on all CYU assignments and the exam if they are not completed by the due date.

### Attendance Policy

The purpose of attending class is to take advantage of learning opportunities, therefore attendance is required. It is vital you attend your Canvas classroom each day and perform the tasks according to the syllabus and course schedule.

In cases of medical, personal, or cultural/religious traditions, please contact me beforehand and request a leave of absence. Attendance will recorded.

### Classroom Participation

Participation is essential! There will be more than enough to discuss and everyone has an opinion. You’re tasked with reading all course materials each week and come prepared so we can have meaningful conversations. Please be courteous to all individuals, some topics yield a range of viewpoints and providing an inclusive environment is essential to learning. Feel free to ask questions during class sessions. Participation points are folded into assignments that require classroom participation.

| Academic Freedom | Student Conduct and Responsibility | Safety Policy | Student Rights and Responsibilities | Other Issues | Contacting Your Instructor | Dropping or Withdrawing from Class | Grade Policy |
Classroom Etiquette

This course emphasizes active learning. For this to take place a few simple classroom procedures need to be followed:

- Everyone has something to add to the class and to the learning experiences, so treat your classmates and instructor with respect and courtesy.
- Complete all assigned tasks.
- Ask questions.
- Participate in classroom discussions.
- Have meaningful, well written discussion posts that are free of spelling errors.
- Understand the basic operating functions your Canvas classroom.

Scholastic Dishonesty | Plagiarism

Acts prohibited by the college for which discipline may be administered include scholastic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an exam or quiz, plagiarizing, and unauthorized collaboration with another in preparing outside work. Academic work submitted by students shall be the result of their thought, research or self-expression. Academic work is defined as, but not limited to, tests, quizzes, whether taken electronically or on paper; projects, either individual or group; classroom presentations; and homework.

Direct information on Plagiarism and Student Code of Conduct was acquired from the WWCC Student Handbook (http:www.wwcc.edu).

(1) **Plagiarism** is defined as the buying, borrowing, or stealing of written material for the purpose of fulfilling or partially fulfilling any assignment or task required as part of the student’s program of instruction at the College. Any student who plagiarizes shall be subject to disciplinary action.

(2) Any student who aids or abets the accomplishment of such activity as defined in subsection (1) above shall also be subject to disciplinary action.

(3) An instructor may take reasonable action against any student who is deemed to have been guilty of plagiarism or cheating. Course of action might include but not be limited to:
   (a) Student receive warning and lowered grade
   (b) Student receive failing grade for the course
   (c) Student dropped from course
   (d) Student be recommended for suspension or dismissal from the College
   (e) Case referred to civil action

Academic Freedom

Institutions of higher education are conducted for the common good and the search for truth and free expression. In this course the professor and students shall strive to protect free inquiry and the open exchange of facts, ideas, and opinions. Students are free to take exception to views offered in this course and to reserve judgment about debatable issues. Grades will not be affected by personal views. With this freedom comes the responsibility of civility and a respect for a diversity of ideas and opinions. This means that students must take turns speaking, listen to others speak without interruption, and refrain from name-calling or other personal attacks.
Student Conduct and Responsibility

Rules of Conduct and Procedures of Enforcement. Admission to Walla Walla Community College carries with it the expectation that students will conduct themselves as responsible members of the college community, that they will comply with established rules and regulations of the College, maintain high standards of honesty and integrity, and respect the rights, privileges, and property of other members of the college community. Walla Walla Community College expects that students will conform to the laws of the greater society and regulations established to assure the orderly conduct of the affairs of the College. Rules of Conduct including but not limited to, Plagiarism/Cheating, Abusive Language, Disorderly Conduct, Sexual Harassment, Malicious Harassment, Liquor, Drugs, and Computer Trespass.

Safety Policy Students Right To Know

The security of all members of the campus community is of vital concern to Walla Walla Community College. In compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act, Walla Walla Community College information concerning campus safety, campus crime statistics for the most recent three-year period, graduation and transfer statistics, and other right-to-know information can be found at http://wwcc.edu.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Each student has the right to expect a campus climate in which all students:

• Are given the opportunity and encouragement to succeed
• Are treated with dignity and respect
• Demonstrate good manners and courtesies
• Are safe from sexual harassment and discrimination
• Are free to ask for help, anytime

Each student has a responsibility to:

• Support a learning environment and opportunity for all students to succeed
• Treat all students and staff with dignity and respect
• Exhibit good manners and common courtesies at all times
• Respect the property and space of others
• Help keep the campus litter free
• Refrain from swearing and using any inappropriate communication
• Read and abide by the college rules in the Student Handbook
• Be accountable for your own actions

Taken from the WWCC Student Handbook | Visit the website at: www.wwcc.edu

Other Issues

Although the course is well outlined and will likely follow the dates and topics in the syllabus, some degree of flexibility is expected as some events require changes and/or amendments. I do reserve the right to modify the course content, expectations, and graded assignments during the quarter, as needed, or based on performance outcomes. You should anticipate additional readings and/or films to be incorporated throughout the quarter and should changes occur, advanced notice and accommodations will be given.
Contacting Your Instructor

If you are presented with a problem, or unclear on an assignment, please contact me ASAP as I am always available during college operating hours. You can reach me by phone, text message, email, chat, and in-person. Afterhours or on weekends, please send me a text message at 509.956.8224 to prevent delays when seeking assistance.

Dropping or Withdrawing from Class:

If you need to drop or withdraw from the course please speak with me and your advisor to determine your best option. Sooner is always better than later. You must formally drop or withdraw from a class. If you stop attending, even after the first day and do not formally drop or withdraw from the class I am required to submit a final class grade for you. The last day to drop a class during the quarter is November 6th, 2015.

Grade Policy

The WWCC grading system provides a permanent record of grade evaluations which reflect the student’s course achievement. The following grades are used:

- A (4.0) | 94 – 100% | 682 – 725 Points
- A- (3.7) | 90 – 93% | 653 – 681 Points
- B+ (3.3) | 87 – 89% | 631 – 652 Points
- B (3.0) | 84 – 86% | 610 – 630 Points
- B- (2.7) | 80 – 83% | 580 – 609 Points
- C+ (2.3) | 77 – 79% | 559 – 579 Points
- C (2.0) | 74 – 76% | 537 – 558 Points
- C- (1.7) | 70 – 73% | 508 – 536 Points

Minimum Achievement
- D+ (1.3) | 67 – 69% | 486 – 507 Points
- D (1.0) | 60 – 66% | 435 – 485 Points

Unsatisfactory Achievement
- F (0.0) | 59% – 0% | Under 434 Points
# Course Outline of Assignments

Student grades will be comprised of the following:

- **Syllabus Quiz | Getting Started**…………………………………………..50 Points
- **Check Your Understanding (CYU)**……………………………………..100 Points
- **In the News**…………………………………………………………….60 Points
- **Internet Activities & Discussion Forums**……………………………..265 Points
- **Final Exam**………………………………………………………………100 Points
- **Final Paper** ………………………………………………………………..150 Points
- **Extra Credit**……………………………………………………………….25 Points

Total Score……………………………………………………………………725 Points

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# Course Activities and Evaluation Criteria

**Classroom Participation in Discussion Forums**
Participation is being actively involved in the online classroom discussions. The standard goal for participation is responding to two (2) of your classmates each week with responses at least a 100 words in length. I will be looking for those responses that fit these criteria and participation can happen in a number of different ways. You can reply to classmate’s original post, you can respond to a previous reply, or to any submission made by your instructor. Participation points are folded into assignments that require classroom participation.

**In the News:**
During this course you will find a current news article, centered on course topics, where the primary premise of the article relates to individuals 65 years or older. Look for news article that have an original publication date within the last seven days. You may use any news article found on any reputable news source (NBC, Wall Street Journal, Seattle Times, CNN).

Write a one paragraph summary on the news article, including the web address link (URL) for the article. Feature the principal storyline and reference any application of course material in your summary. As always, your written work must be in your own voice and any quoted material will be referenced in your response. Please review the policy on plagiarism for more information. Each 15 points……………………………………………………………………Total 60 Points

**Check Your Understanding (CYU):**
The assignment Check Your Understanding pulls the core concepts from your textbook which is designed to give you a framework on each chapter. You can retake this assignment until you achieve a mastery score of 100% prior to the due date. Your highest score will be assigned. Check Your Understanding chapters will contain a 10-item multiple choice assessment for each chapter. Each 10 points…………………………………………………………..Total 100 Points
Final Exam:
The final exam will consist of textbook chapters covered in your CYU assignments. The final exam includes an 80-item multiple choice question set and one essay question. You have 1 hour and 30 minutes to complete your final exam once you start. The final exam is available on Monday December 7th through end of Tuesday December 8th in your online classroom. The essay question is worth 20 points. .......................................................... Total 100 Points

Final Paper | Project:
You will be responsible for one writing assignment during the quarter that has two components.

Component I: You will interview an older adult (over age 65) and write a brief biography of this person. You can interview a family member, but I would prefer you interview someone you do not know. You will be required to incorporate the concepts you have learned about social gerontology into your interview of the older adult. Be sure to include major milestones that have been important in shaping her/his life. Have them share fears and concerns about the systems for the aging. Other questions should include their thoughts on the lifelong journey about family, employment, policies, Medicare, Social Security, politics, and current social issues.

Component II: Interview a program coordinator, care provider, or service administrator in a setting such as nursing homes, an assisted living community, continuing care community, or a care facility. You will ask specific questions relevant to the older population. I will provide assistance along the way and will work with you to develop your interview questions.

The written portion of your paper needs to be at least five (5) full pages in length, double-spaced, and represent college level writing. **Typeface and Size:** Times New Roman and 12 point. A cover page and reference page must also be included and does not count towards your five page minimum requirement.

**IMPORTANT:** Students who fail to meet the five (5) page minimum requirement will receive a zero (0) for the entire paper. Putting extra spaces or headings throughout your paper will not count, when in doubt—add more pages. .......................................................... Total 150 Points

Extra Credit:
Opportunities for extra credit may be available and based on course outcomes. Regardless of the activity or opportunity, extra credit points will not exceed 25 points. ................. Total 25 Points
Resources and Materials

Computer Lab
IBM compatible computers are available for student use. In Walla Walla, computers are also available in the Library and the Academic Support Center. Call for hours 509.527.1818 (WW Tech Center) 509.529.5858 (WW- Main Bldg.) 509.758.1772 (Clarkston).

Library Services
On the Walla Walla Campus during the academic year, library hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Friday; and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sunday. Phone: 527-4294

Instructional Support Services
Tutoring and Learning Center (TLC) 509.527.4624 (Walla Walla) 509.758.1772 (Clarkston individual) located on the 2nd floor of the main building. Students needing assistance may drop in or make an appointment.

- Math Lab http://www.wwcc.edu/CMS/index.php?id=879
- Science Center http://www.wwcc.edu/CMS/index.php?id=880
- Writing Lab http://www.wwcc.edu/CMS/index.php?id=65

Individual Tutoring
WWCC provides individual and group tutoring services in many, but not all, subject areas to students who have demonstrated a need for assistance, and currently have a C grade or lower in the course for which they are requesting tutoring. Students must have an instructor recommendation to be eligible for tutoring. Call 509.529.5511 (Walla Walla) 509.758.1772 (Clarkston)

Student Advising and Development Center
Advisors in the Student Development Center help students identify and successfully achieve their academic, career and personal goals. Staff members also assist students with the development of problem-solving skills and advocate for students. To find your advisor: click here. If you do not have an advisor call 509-527-4262 to schedule an advising appointment.

Resources and Helpful Links
- Whitman College: http://www.whitman.edu/penrose
- Walla Walla University: http://www.wallawalla.edu/index.php?id=992
- Lewis-Clark State College: http://www.lcsc.edu/library
- Washington State Library: http://www.seystate.wa.gov/library
- SageCat : 76 Libraries of Eastern Oregon Union Catalog: http://eos.eou.edu
- PNW Academic Libraries’ Union Catalog: http://summit.orbiscascade.org/