Core Course Information

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course you will be able to:

- Understand and indicate competency for the interplay of biological, psychological and social factors as they influence the life-long course of aging.
- Appreciate and apply the value of the multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary nature of the field of gerontology.
- Describe and use several prominent theories of aging in written assignments.
- Identify several specific demographic trends and discuss the implications for individuals, communities, states, nations and the world.
- Identify a broad range of issues and concerns of older adults and make recommendations for improving their quality of life.
- Explain the functions of various service and professional organizations that are part of the aging network.
- Understand some of the unique features of doing gerontological research.
- Understand their own attitudes and beliefs about aging and older adults and make their views more consistent with information gained from the course.
- Become more familiar with career opportunities related to aging.
- Meet their own personal goals for the course, particularly to recognize the value of engaging in community service as a method of gaining knowledge while helping others.

EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS IN COURSE:

Content is presented from a variety of sources including textbook chapters, journal articles, videos, podcasts, PowerPoint lectures, multi-media presentations, and websites. Application of learning objectives will include class discussion, group work, performance critiques, and presentations. Assignments will give students the opportunity to interact with other students and the course material.

Students taking online courses must demonstrate a high level of initiative, autonomy and ability to work independently. This course is based on a philosophy of self-directed learning and is delivered in an asynchronous format. This means that there are no required days or times that you must be "logged in" for real-time participation although I expect you to log in several times a week. Synchronous options are available for group work, instructor office hours, and class communication. You are responsible for completing these requirements according to the defined timelines and deadlines.

EXAMS/MAJOR ASSIGNMENT PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE:
All assignments will be due on a per week basis, with the assignments closing on Fridays at 11 am. All modules will be open at the beginning of the course, so you may pace yourself accordingly. The class will close on April 27th at 11 am.

REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS:
