UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO  
Geron/Hlth/Kin/Soc-352 & Rec-362  
SOCIOLOGY OF AGING  
Winter 2015  
CLASS TIMES: Monday and Wednesday 10:00 – 11:20am  
ROOM: MC 2066

Instructor:  
Dr. Alexander Crizzle, PhD, MPH  
LHN 1705  
amcrizzl@uwaterloo.ca  
Monday 12:30-2:30pm

Teaching Assistants:  
Erika Lui  
mackinley@uwaterloo.ca  
Seema Mutti  
seema.mutti@uwaterloo.ca  
TBA

Office | Email | Office Hours
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LHN 1705 | amcrizzl@uwaterloo.ca | Monday 12:30-2:30pm
TBA | elui@uwaterloo.ca | TBA

COURSE WEB PAGE: Available through UW LEARN

REQUIRED TEXT:


SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS:


READINGS: Posted on ACE

COURSE DESCRIPTION: An introduction to individual and population aging. Topics discussed include: aging from a historical and comparative perspective; aging in subcultures; aging and the social structure; aging and social processes; aging and the environment; work and retirement; and aging and leisure patterns.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To develop a critical, analytical understanding of aging from a sociological perspective.

2. To understand how the theory and methodology of the social sciences can be utilized to explain and predict social phenomena related to the aging process and to the aged.

3. To develop an awareness and an appreciation of the social significance of aging primarily within the Canadian Culture.
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COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS:

1. Weekly Online Quiz: 20% of Grade

Beginning January 12, there will be 8 weekly, on-line quizzes based on the assigned readings worth 20% of your grade. Further information about these quizzes will be given during the first class on January 5.

2. Mid-term Examination: 25% of Grade

Based on the readings, lectures, and class discussions to date. The midterm will consist of multiple choice, short-answer, and essay questions.

Date: February 11th During Class

3. Case Study Essay: 20% of Grade

On the course outline you will see the movie “Bunny & Leona” scheduled for February 9. Students will view this movie in class and will complete a 6-8 page (double-spaced, 12-point font) case study essay using the experiences of Bunny and Leona as illustration. Topics/questions for the case study will be posted on the course website beginning February 6th. As part of this assignment, students will be expected to supplement the information presented in class through the reading of the primary literature (peer-reviewed journals articles, monographs, reports — NOT JUST TEXTBOOKS, NOT JUST WEB-BASED INFORMATION).

a) This essay should summarize and critically evaluate the current evidence / knowledge base for your topic (what do we know, what is unclear, what do we still need to learn) and apply this to the case of “Bunny & Leona”

b) Structure your paper into appropriate sub-topics and include an introduction and a summary for the complete paper.

c) Make certain you understand —academic integrity, what plagiarism is all about and how to avoid academic offences. (see for example http://www.arts.uwaterloo.ca/~sager/plagirism).

PERIODICALS:

Age and Aging
Ageing and Society
Canadian Journal on Aging
Int Journal on Aging & Human Development
Int Journal of Technology and Aging
Journal of Aging and Health
Journal of Aging Studies
Journal of Applied Gerontology
Journal of Gerontology
The Gerontologist
SEE COURSE POLICIES BELOW.

d) Plagiarism detection software (Turnitin) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all materials and sources in assignments are documented. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about arrangements for the use of Turnitin in this course. If you do not wish to use Turnitin you must submit an annotated bibliography along with your essay.

Due Date: March 25th at the beginning of class

4. Final Examination: 35% of Grade

The final exam will consist of multiple choice, short-answer, and essay questions. The coverage of the final exam is cumulative; however, there will be an emphasis upon material from the last midterm and onwards. Exam questions will be based upon the readings, lectures, movies, and class discussion.

COURSE PRACTICES

Student Responsibilities and Rights

Institutions of higher learning recognize that an effective education is one that repeatedly challenges the student while providing an opportunity for the student to learn to meet those challenges. Instructors strive to provide tests and examinations that discriminate among students according to their varying success in learning to meet and overcome respective challenges. This implies that these are integral components of a successful higher education:

1. The amount of material covered in a lecture will be considerable, and you will not be expected to be able to write down everything that is spoken by the instructor, but instead will have to apply effective and selective note-taking skills. If necessary, you are responsible to seek training in these skills at campus workshops.

2. The most effective learning takes place through an active and constructive, rather than a passive process. You are therefore obligated to do more than simply memorize information passed on by the instructor during a lecture. You must study outside of class in order to fully comprehend the material being presented.

3. You are responsible for and may be tested on any lecture material (including videos or other learning aids) as well as any material contained in the assigned readings.

4. Grading: If you believe that an error has been made in grading a course requirement, please contact the TA. Students who believe they provided valid answers that have not been addressed by the TA are invited to make a case to the instructor after an initial discussion with the TA.

Please note that upon appeal, the instructor reserves the right to re-grade any portion of the submitted material. Hence, it is possible that an appeal may result in a lower grade.
5. You are expected to check the course UW ACE web page on a regular basis for announcements concerning schedule changes to classes and office hours, additional reference materials, answers to common questions, etc

6. Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. [Check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information.]

7. Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm. When in doubt please be certain to contact the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

8. Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity [check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/] to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about rules for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71, Student Discipline, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm. For typical penalties check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm.

9. Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 (Student Petitions and Grievances) (other than a petition) or Policy 71 (Student Discipline) may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72 (Student Appeals) www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm.

10. Note for Students with Disabilities: The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.
School of Public Health and Health Systems Practice Regarding Course Assignments and Examinations

LATE ASSIGNMENT: Unless stated otherwise in the course outline.

1. All assignments are due at the **beginning of class** on the dates indicated in the course outline, or, for online submission, as specified in the course outline.

2. Unless a “**Student Request for Variance from HSG Course Outline**” form (http://www.ahs.uwaterloo.ca/current/hlth/Variance_request_hsg.pdf) has been approved by the instructor:
   
   a. Late assignments will be penalized by **10% of the assignment total mark per 24-hour period to a maximum of 5 days (excluding weekends)**. The late penalty begins immediately after the beginning of the class in which the assignment is due, or immediately after the posted time at which the assignment is due.

   b. **After the 5 day maximum** assignments will not be accepted and a **grade of ‘zero’** will be recorded for the assignment,

3. Elective arrangements (e.g. travel plans) or heavy workloads are not considered acceptable grounds for variance.

MISSED TESTS/EXAMINATIONS

1. Tests, mid-term examinations and final examinations not scheduled during the regular examination period will be administered on the dates indicated in the course outline.

2. Failure to contact the instructor **within 48 hours** of a test/exam missed due to unforeseeable circumstances or failure to submit a “**Student Request for Variance from HSG Course Outline**” form (http://www.ahs.uwaterloo.ca/current/hlth/Variance_request_hsg.pdf) with acceptable documentation will result in a **mark of “zero”** for the test/exam.

3. Elective arrangements (e.g. travel plans) or heavy workloads are not considered acceptable grounds for variance.

4. A student who becomes ill during the writing of a test/examination and is unable to continue should ensure, before leaving the site of the examination, that the proctor in charge is notified of the situation. In addition, the student must notify the course instructor and supply the documentation specified for a missed examination **within 48 hours** after the partially completed exam. Failure to do so will result in the recording of the grade achieved on the partially completed test/examination.

5. If a student completes a test or examination, even though he/she is ill, the grade obtained in the course will normally stand. Subsequent petitions for an exception to academic regulations on the grounds of illness may be considered if accompanied by acceptable documentation (see
below). The student’s Department or Faculty may take the illness into consideration, and possibly alter academic standing, but the grade will not normally be altered.

6. False claims of illness and/or the submission of false supporting documentation constitute an academic offence that will result in disciplinary action under Policy #71.

REQUEST FOR VARIANCE DOCUMENTATION

1. It is the student’s responsibility to submit a completed “Student Request for Variance from HSG Course Outline” form (http://www.ahs.uwaterloo.ca/current/hlth/Variance_request_hsg.pdf) to the course instructor at least one week before the exam date or assignment due date, and provide acceptable written documentation substantiating the reasons for not completing the evaluation component (test/exam or assignment) as scheduled. An alternate arrangement may be made if the request is approved by the instructor. A copy of the “Student Request for Variance from HSG Course Outline” form will be kept in the student’s file.

2. In special unforeseeable circumstances where a test/exam is missed or an assignment is missed due to circumstances beyond the control of the student, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the course instructor no later than 48 hours after the scheduled date and arrange to submit acceptable documentation and a completed “Student Request for Variance from HSG Course Outline” form (http://www.ahs.uwaterloo.ca/current/hlth/Variance_request_hsg.pdf).

3. Acceptable documentation may include a copy of a death certificate or obituary, a police report or a doctor’s certificate.

4. Doctor’s certificates must be completed using the UW Verification of Illness Form available at http://www.healthservices.uwaterloo.ca/Health_Services/verification.html. Degree and Dates of Incapacitation must be indicated on the form. Students who consult their physicians or use the services of off-campus walk-in clinics must provide this form to the attending physician for completion. Doctors’ notes and forms created by the physician or clinic are not normally acceptable. Instructors are not compelled to accept medical documentation that contains the same information specified on the UW Verification of Illness Form, buy may do so in exceptional circumstances. Health Services charges a $10 fee for completing the UW Verification of Illness Form, which is not covered by OHIP/UHIP. Similarly, fees for this service levied by off-campus practitioners are the student’s responsibility.
ACCOMMODATIONS DUE TO EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

Requests for variance must be approved by the course instructor and are not automatic upon the presentation of acceptable documentation. The instructor will use the documentation along with all information available to him/her when determining whether accommodation is warranted. Where a request for variance is approved by the instructor, the following university-wide accommodation practices will normally apply:

1. Missed/Late Assignments: The weighting of the missed assignment is added to the final examination weighting or is spread over the remaining assignments. Assignment due dates are not extended, with the exception of project-based, thesis or similar courses where submissions must be made. Instructors may use their discretion in these cases and allow an extension.

2. Term Tests/Examinations: The weighting of the missed test/midterm examination is added to the final examination weighting or spread over the remaining tests. Term tests are not deferred.

3. Final Examinations: A deferred final examination is written the next time that the course is taught. Although not compelled to do so, instructors may use their discretion to schedule make-up final examinations at a mutually agreed upon date and time earlier than the next offering of the course.

4. If granted, alternative final examinations may be of a different format than the regularly scheduled exam.

*If an obituary is used as the only supporting documentation the student’s relationship to the deceased must be apparent (i.e. through same uncommon surname, student’s name in obituary, etc.)