Adult Development and Aging
3490 3.0M

Instructor  Dr. Laurie McNelles  Email  mcnelles@yorku.ca
Office Hours  By Appointment

Teaching Assistants  Saeid Chavoshi  Paula Di Noto  Email  chavoshi@yorku.ca  pmdinoto@gmail.com

Class Times and Location:
The class meets on Mondays 7:00-10:00pm in CLH-A
January 5, 2015 – March 30, 2015, inclusive

NOTE: THE FINAL DAY TO DROP THE COURSE WITHOUT RECEIVING A GRADE ON YOUR TRANSCRIPT IS March 6, 2015.

Description:

Course Description and Prerequisites:
This course is an examination of data and theories relating to the psychology of adult development and aging. Major topics include biological and psychological theories of aging; age changes in intelligence, personality and social relations; pathologies of old age and methods of intervention. Prerequisites: AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 1010 6.00 or AK/HH/PSYC 2410 6.00, with a minimum grade of C. Course credit exclusions: AK/PSYC 3700D 3.00 (prior to Summer 2002), GL/PSYC 3310 3.00.

Resources
Course materials will be made available via moodle in accordance with copyright agreements. Students can expect to have a minimum of one reading that will serve as a foundation for the week’s class meeting. Slide decks (i.e., ppt) presented in class will be available to students via moodle. Links to supplemental materials will be provided. There is no text for this course.

Total Grade Distribution
Trending blog – 20% (one entry per week – blind spot check)
2 Online Quizzes – 20% (10% each)
Virtual Poster on a topic of your choice – 20%
Final Examination – 40%
Learning Objectives:
1. To understand major theories and concepts associated with adult development and aging;
2. To integrate knowledge of traditional and modern theories of adult development and aging;
3. To understand adult development and aging from an inter-disciplinary perspective; and,
4. To understand physical and psychological changes that occur in adulthood, including pathologies

Class Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class Description</th>
<th>Student Action</th>
<th>Evaluation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>05/01/15</td>
<td>Course Overview – Requirements</td>
<td>1. Visit: <a href="http://moodle.yorku.ca">http://moodle.yorku.ca</a> and review course website</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Introduction to course website</td>
<td>2. Post a response to the course material each week in your blog space on moodle. Find a topic that is trending and related (either directly or indirectly to the topic of the week). Share the item in your blog space and write 140 characters about its relevance to the week’s topic. Your trending blog will be blind spot checked by your TA once during the course. If you have the required number of postings for that time (one/week) you will receive 20% of your final grade. If you have less than one trend/week you will receive the grade that your number of postings represents (e.g., you have posted 2 of 4 required postings, your grade for your trending blog will be 10% of your final grade. Blind spot checks will begin on February 2, 2015.</td>
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<td>12/01/15</td>
<td>Epigenetics</td>
<td>1. Lecture Slide Deck &amp; Materials – Available on Moodle</td>
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<td>2. You are what your genes experience – Dr. Clyde Hertzman</td>
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<td>3. Student discussions with Course Director and/or Teaching Assistants</td>
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<td>19/01/15</td>
<td>Adult &amp; Aging Brains</td>
<td>1. Lecture Slide Deck &amp; Materials – Available on Moodle</td>
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<td>2. Film Screening – The Brain the Changes Itself</td>
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<td>3. Student discussions with Course Director and/or Teaching Assistants</td>
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<td>26/01/15</td>
<td>Longevity Health Well-being</td>
<td>1. Lecture Slide Deck &amp; Materials – Available on Moodle</td>
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<td>2. Undoing Aging – Aubrey de Grey</td>
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<td><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMAwnA5WvLc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMAwnA5WvLc</a></td>
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<td>3. Student discussions with Course Director and/or Teaching Assistants</td>
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<td>4. Complete online quiz that covers all material from 05/01/15 to 26/01/15</td>
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<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Activities</td>
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| 02/02/15 | Focus on Alzheimer's disease | 1. Lecture Slide Deck & Materials – Available on Moodle  
2. Film Screening – *Forgetful Not Forgotten* – Followed by Discussion Group  
3. Student discussions with Course Director and/or Teaching Assistants |
| 09/02/15 | Memory and Aging | 1. Guest Lecturer – Tina Weston, PhD candidate York University  
2. Film Screening – *The Ghost in Our Genes* – Followed by Discussion Group – Extending our knowledge of epigenetics |
| 16/02/13 | Reading Week - No Lecture | 1. Choose a topic that you would like to learn more about, and clear your topic with your TA. You will present what you have learned in a virtual poster that is due to be uploaded to your blog no later than Monday, March 23, 2015. This virtual poster will be worth 20% of your final grade. |
| 23/02/15 | Mental Health/Well-Being & Dementia | 1. Lecture Slide Deck & Materials – Available on Moodle  
2. Student discussions with Course Director and/or Teaching Assistants |
| 02/03/15 | Long-term Care – Resident to Resident Aggression | 1. Guest Lecturer – Dr. Sander Hitzig  
Senior Research Associate, University of Toronto - Institute for Life Course and Aging  
2. Film Screening – *A Year at Sherbrooke* – Followed by Discussion Group  
[https://www.nfb.ca/film/year_at_sherbrooke](https://www.nfb.ca/film/year_at_sherbrooke) |
| 09/03/15 | Focus on Culture | 1. Lecture Slide Deck & Materials – Available on Moodle  
2. Student discussions with Course Director and/or Teaching Assistants  
3. Complete online quiz that covers material from 02/02/2015 to 09/03/15 10% |
| 16/03/15 | Families, Careers & Retirement | 1. Lecture Slide Deck & Materials – Available on Moodle  
2. Student discussions with Course Director and/or Teaching Assistants |
| 23/03/15 | Dying & Bereavement | 1. Lecture Slide Deck & Materials – Available on Moodle  
2. Film Screening – *Dying at Grace* – Followed by Discussion Group  
3. Post Virtual Poster on your blog this week. Late submissions will be treated according to the grading rubric. 20% |
| 30/03/15 | Wrap Up & Exam Preparation | 1. Lecture Slide Deck & Materials – Available on Moodle  
2. Student discussions with Course Director and/or Teaching Assistants |
| 08/04/15 to 24/04/15 | Examination Period | 1. Write MC-format examination during formal examination period – This examination is cumulative through the course.  
2. Consult the Faculty of Health, Department of Psychology Guidelines for Missed Tests and Examinations Visit: [http://www.yorku.ca/health/psyc/advising_missedtests.html](http://www.yorku.ca/health/psyc/advising_missedtests.html)  
3. Note that students who are unable to write the examination will be provided with an alternative examination format. 40% |