

INTRODUCTION TO AGING AND SOCIETY

June 22nd - August 7th

Summer 2020

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Lecture: Asynchronous content organized into three Modules ([Module 1](#): June 23rd - July 9th; [Module 2](#): July 10th - July 30th; [Module 3](#): July 31st - August 7th).

Please see class format below for more details.

Office Hours: See [description](#) below for more details about online office hours

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Course Description

This course introduces students to the study of gerontology which is the interdisciplinary study of aging. During the term we will examine the social, psychological, physiological, economic, and health aspects of growing old and consider aging in an individual and societal context. We will look at a range of topics including population aging, ageism, family life, care, health, finances, retirement, work, housing, transportation, leisure, recreation, and end of life issues. The content of the course focuses on older people and later life and is intended to provide a general background for more specialized studies in aging.

Course Objectives

The central objective of the course is to provide an opportunity for students to think critically about aging in society and to demonstrate this knowledge both descriptively and analytically through tests and assignments.

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- describe myths about aging and identify implications of ageism
- identify and explain theories and concepts key to the study of aging
- describe the ethno-cultural diversity of seniors in Canada
- explain the demographic shifts that have led to population aging
- describe key physical, psychological, and developmental changes that occur with age
- discuss institutional changes in response to population aging
- identify and explain challenges facing older people and their caregivers in later life
- advance writing, critical thinking, and research skills

Required Materials (Available at Campus Store):

- Novak, M. and Campbell, L. and Herbert C. Northcott (2017). *Aging & Society: A Canadian Perspective* (8th edition). Toronto: Nelson Education Ltd.

Currently the Campus Store has a few used copies available which you can order online and have shipped. The campus bookstore is currently following the University's Crisis Management guidelines and are unable to order physical stock for the summer term. Likewise, the e-text version can be ordered online from the campus website and the code to redeem the book will be emailed to them. If they run out of the physical copies, they will post a link so you can order a physical copy from the publisher's website if you prefer.

Class Format

This is an online course that is held asynchronously - meaning that other than scheduled test dates/times and assignment due dates, students will self-direct their learning of the three modules at their own pace within the given time frame set aside for each module.

The class is organized in this way to ensure equitable access to course materials without needing to be online at a given time or date (other than scheduled exam dates). The class is organized

into three modules: Module 1 runs from June 23rd - July 9th, 2020 (Introduction to the course and Module 1, Parts 1-5); Module 2 runs from July 10th - July 30th, 2020 (Module 2, Parts 1-5); and finally, Module 3 (Part 1) runs from July 31st - August 7th, 2020. Please review the course schedule below for more information. Each Module will be made available at 10am on the first day in which it begins in the content section of Avenue. For example, Module 1 will be available at 10am on Tuesday, June 23rd, 2020, while Module 2 will be available at 10am on July 10th, 2020, with Module 3 available at 10am on July 31st. Each part of each Module will contain: (1) PowerPoint slides, along with an identical PDF document, containing self-directed learning content; (2) a Word document (and identical PDF document) containing additional notes to compliment the content in the self-directed learning PowerPoint (and PDF) slides; (3) A brief lecture recording that summarizes the content under discussion in each part of each respective Module (this is subject to change). It is important to do the readings and to look at all material to succeed in this course. Slides will augment the required reading but will not cover all content presented in the text (if you read this far, super proud! send me your favorite meme/gif/clip to let me know).

In addition to the course content for each Module, students are required to read the assigned textbook readings. Please review the course schedule below for more information on the assigned readings. It is strictly prohibited to post, distribute, transmit, copy, etc., lecture and tutorial material/notes in any shape or form (electronically, audio, etc.,) outside of Avenue to Learn and the SAS notetaking program. This includes but is not limited to: online note sharing sites, Facebook, YouTube, Google documents, etc.,. If you miss the notes from a particular class, there is a discussion board in Avenue where you can connect with classmates to obtain the missed notes. McMaster University is committed to an inclusive and respectful community. These principles and expectations extend to online activities including email communication, electronic chat groups, video calls and other learning platforms. It is the expectation of this course that all members of the HLTH AGE 1BB3 community (students, faculty and staff) are respectful, inclusive, considerate and professional in all course related activities and communication with one another.

Course Evaluation - Overview

1. A2L Group Discussion Participation - 10% (weekly - on-going)
2. Midterm Test - 25%, July 9th, 2020
3. Term Assignment - 30%, due on July 31st
4. Final Test - 35%, August 6th

Midterm Test (25%) July 9th, 2020

There will be a midterm test written during scheduled class time on July 9th, 2020 on Avenue to Learn. This exam will be based on material from the text, lectures, and any other class materials (i.e. films, etc.). The exam is worth 25% of your final grade and will consist of 50 multiple choice questions.

This test is open-book, meaning that you can use your lecture notes and text as resources while writing the test. However, you are not allowed to collaborate with peers nor are you able to take screen shots, post photos, post questions online, access webpages for answers, or any similar behaviour/activity etc.,. as doing so is a form of academic dishonesty. Additionally, your actions while writing the test in Avenue will be restricted as you will not be

able to right-click or access other features within Avenue. Strategies are therefore in place to prevent academic dishonesty when writing the online test. Please remember that an open book testing format does not mean you do not need to keep up with class learning content or study for the tests.

Creative Group Project worth (30%) due July 31st, 2020

Students will complete an individual or group creative term project (worth 30%) that assesses an aging topic covered within one of the weekly course-based themes. You will be assigned group members at the beginning of the term (max 5 in one group) and will be evaluated as a whole but also peer evaluated (more details will be on avenue). If you choose to not be in a group, you may submit individually, however, you will need to let the instructor know by July 7th, 2020. More Information to follow on Avenue to Learn.

OFFICE 365 @ McMaster

McMaster University offers [Microsoft Office 365](#) at no charge to students, staff, and faculty, and includes access to leading productivity and collaboration tools for everyone in the community. Office 365 also includes access to download the Office 365 ProPlus applications which can be installed on up to 5 devices, Windows or Mac, as well as unlimited mobile devices for iOS, Android, & Windows Phone. Microsoft Teams is a great way to freely and accessibly video chat and connect for groups projects.

Creative projects will be due in the Avenue Drop box on July 31st, 2020 by 11:59pm. More detailed instructions and a grading will be posted on Avenue in due time.

Final Test (35%) August 6th, 2020

There will also be a final test. The final test is cumulative which means that you will be tested on all course content (material covered before and after the mid-term). The final test is worth 35% of your final grade and will consist of 80 multiple choice questions.

- Please note that to pass this course students must complete the term assignment, the midterm, and the final test.
- Further details on examinations will be reviewed in the respective modules.

This test is open-book, meaning that you can use your lecture notes and text as resources while writing the test. However, you are not allowed to collaborate with peers nor are you able to take screen shots, post photos, post questions online, access webpages for answers, or any similar behaviour/activity etc., as doing so is a form of academic dishonesty. Additionally, your actions while writing the test in Avenue will be restricted as you will not be able to right-click or access other features within Avenue. Strategies are therefore in place to prevent academic dishonesty when writing the online test. Please remember that an open book testing format does not mean you do not need to keep up with class learning content or study for the tests.

Online Discussion Groups (10%) (weekly - ongoing)

Discussion questions will be posted weekly for groups to engage with. During the modules students will be expected to actively participate on A2L. Students will be evaluated on their attentiveness in answers and participation in posted discussion exercises. No accommodation will be provided for missed discussion exercises (exceptions may potentially include approved SAS accommodations and religious holiday accommodations- see p 7).

Participation will be based on contribution to discussions and activities, in class attentiveness, and thoughtful completion and sharing of discussion.

- Based on modules, reading will be a routine component of the course. Active participation is required on A2L. It is therefore important that all students, complete readings and be attentive and participate enthusiastically in discussion.
- Each week you will be provided with the opportunity to participate in collaborative learning with your peers. Working in groups of 5 -6, students will be expected to engage in discussion about the lecture, readings and provide responses to questions/exercises posed by the instructor. The purpose of the group work is to provide you with an opportunity to actively reflect on and discuss course material, enhance your ability to critically reflect on age related issues and to work collaboratively with group members in synthesizing responses in written formats.
- In a 'word document' provide a (double spaced 300-500 words) written response to the assigned question/exercise. Provide a title page that has the name of each group member who participated in the activity, the name of the activity and the date. Write the response in an essay style; that is, using proper grammar, paragraph, and sentence structure. Submit your in-class group response to the Avenue drop box no later than 11:59 pm on the date that it is due. Submissions will be assessed for logical, thoughtful reflection, completeness, and writing mechanics. Completed assignments will result in the accumulation of group participation credits.

Course Schedule and Required Readings

Module 1 (June 23nd - July 9th, 2020)

Introduction to the Course

Readings: N/A

Notes: *** Read and Listen to Course Outline Recording **

Material Provided: PowerPoint slides, Recording, Transcript

Part 1: Social Representations of Aging and Demographics of Aging

Readings: Chapter 1, 3

Material Provided: PowerPoint slides, Recording, Transcript

Part 2 Theories and Methods and Cultural Diversity

Readings: Chapter 2, 4

Material Provided: PowerPoint slides, Recording, Transcript

Part 3 Recreation and Leisure Chapter

Readings: Chapter 10

Material Provided: PowerPoint slides, Recording, Transcript

Part 4 The Aging Mind

Readings: Chapter 6

Material Provided: PowerPoint slides, Recording, Transcript

Part 5 The Aging Body

Readings: Chapter 5

Material Provided: PowerPoint slides, Recording, Transcript

Midterm Review

Readings: Text chapters 1-6 & 10 + material provided.

Material Provided: PowerPoint slides, Recording, Transcript

Notes for Module 1:

Midterm Test on Thursday, July 9th, 2020 worth 25% of final grade. See Midterm section for more information.

For equity and accessibility, there are two test times offered on July 9th. Students will only write the test at one of the times - it is up to each student to choose which time to write the test on July 9th, 2020:

- 4:00 - 5:00pm on July 9th, 2020: Test will be accessible from 4:00-5:30 pm, with 60 minutes to complete the test from when you log in
- 6:00 - 7:00pm on July 9th, 2020: Test will be accessible from 6:00- 7:30pm, with 60 minutes to complete the test from when you log in

More information and instructions about accessing test etc. will be available on Avenue to Learn in due time.

Module 2 (July 10th - July 30th)

Part 1 Formal Care

Readings: Chapter 7

Material Provided: PowerPoint slides, Recording, Transcript

Part 2 Informal Care

Readings: Chapters 12,13

Material Provided: PowerPoint slides, Recording, Transcript

Part 3 Death, Dying, and Bereavement

Readings: Chapter 14

Material Provided: PowerPoint slides, Recording, Transcript

Part 4 Later Life Income

Readings: Chapter 8

Material Provided: PowerPoint slides, Recording, Transcript

Part 5 Retirement and Work

Readings: Chapter 9

Material Provided: PowerPoint slides, Recording, Transcript

Notes for Module 2:

Creative Project DUE- on Avenue Drop box by 11:59 pm July 31st

Module 3 (July 31st - August 7th)

Part 1 Housing and Transportation

Readings: Chapter 11

Material Provided: PowerPoint slides, Recording, Transcript

Part 2 Review for Final Test

Readings: All course content (material covered in all modules).

Material Provided: PowerPoint slides, Recording, Transcript

Notes for Module 3:

Final test on Thursday, August 6th, 2020 worth 35% of final grade. See Final test section for more information. For equity and accessibility, there are two test times offered on August 6th. Students will only write the test at one of the times - it is up to each student to choose which time to write the test on August 6th, 2020:

- 4:00 - 5:30pm on August 6th, 2020: Test will be accessible from 4:00-6:00 pm, with 90 minutes to complete the test from when you log in
- 6:00 - 7:30pm on August 6th, 2020: Test will be accessible from 6:00- 8:00pm, with 90 minutes to complete the test from when you log in

More information and instructions about accessing test etc. will be available on Avenue to Learn in due time.

Course Policies

Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all email communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

Online Course Behaviour

McMaster is committed to an inclusive and respectful community. These principles and expectations extend to online activities including electronic chat groups, video calls and other learning platforms. If you are concerned about your virtual classroom experiences, the Equity and Inclusion Office (EIO) is available to advise and assist students who may be experiencing any equity, accessibility, inclusion, harassment, discrimination or sexual violence concerns. You can reach the EIO at equity@mcmaster.ca. Thank you for joining us in ensuring that our McMaster online communities are spaces where no one feels excluded and everyone is able to enjoy learning together.

Sharing and Posting of Course Material is Prohibited Students

Who have access to authorized recorded lectures in a course may use these recordings only for personal or group study and should not reproduce, share or upload the recording to any publicly accessible web environment. Similarly, notes, slides, evaluations and tests are for personal use and should not be shared with others outside of a course.

Email

Send all emails to my McMaster email account: hatzifis@mcmaster.ca. Please consider email equivalent to any other form of written communication. Students who write to their instructors are expected to follow rules of spelling, grammar and punctuation. In addition, please include a proper greeting, such as "Dear Stephanie or Ms. Hatzifilalithis," and not "Hey Fam". Add a closing that includes your full name, such as "Sincerely, John Smith." Email failing to meet these standards may be returned unanswered. Emails that require a very short reply will be answered within 3 working days (I will generally not respond to emails over the weekend). Email questions requiring a more detailed response will only be answered during office hours or by appointment.

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at their discretion.

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Office Hours

Every Thursday of the term, I will host a drop in zoom session available from 10:00 -11:00am for questions you have about the course content. Please be aware: this is not a private discussion, this is open to those who want to ask questions or need queries answered. Alternatively, I am also available by email (hatzifis@mcmaster.ca) or by appointment. Emails will be answered Monday-Friday between 9am and 4:30pm. You can expect a response to your email within 48 hours, excluding weekends and holidays. Your teaching assistant will also hold 'office hours' in the Avenue chat once a week (time/date TBD). Your TA is available by email as well, Monday-Friday between 9- 4:30pm. Please allow up to 48 hours for a response, excluding weekends and holidays.

Midterm and Final Test

If these tests are missed, only Faculty-approved absences will be offered consideration for a re-write. As the test is worth 25% and 35% respectively, students must contact their respective Faculty office with appropriate documentation for the Faculty to review as the test is not eligible for an online MSAF. If Faculty approval is obtained, the make-up date for the midterm test is July 16th, 2020 and August 13th, at 4:00 pm. No other date or time will be offered. It is your responsibility to attend scheduled test dates. In the event of any **extreme circumstances** (see policy) that prevent the test from being held online on the scheduled test date of July 9th and August 6th the test will be rescheduled to launch online on Avenue to Learn the following day (July 10th and August 7th) with the same two access times (4:00 pm-5:30pm and 6:00pm-7:30pm for the midterm and 4:00-6:00 pm and 6:00-8:00pm for final). While it is extremely unlikely that our test will not be held as scheduled online on July 9th and August 6th, it is important to have a contingency plan in place so that the test can be completed as soon as possible without disruption to your student schedule and so each student can plan in advance, accordingly.

Grades

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

MARK	GRADE
90-100	A+
85-90	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
67-69	C+
63-66	C

MARK	GRADE
60-62	C-
57-59	D+
53-56	D
50-52	D-
0-49	F

Late Assignments

Without approved justification, you must make arrangements directly with me to hand in the assignment. Assignments will be marked down 5% if turned in late on the day it is due, and an additional 5 percentage points for each day it is late after that; this includes weekend days and holidays. If an assignment is due at the start of a class, it will be considered one day late any time after the end of class that day.

Absences, Missed Work, Illness

All reasons for illness, injury and family emergency must be addressed through the office of the Associate Dean of Social Sciences who will notify the Professor of your absence. The policy contains the following requirements:

1. If you are seeking relief for missed academic work because of an absence lasting up to 3 days in duration, you must use the McMaster Student Absence Form. The course work you have missed must be worth 24% or less of your grade.
2. You may submit a maximum of 1 Academic Work Missed request per term. It is YOUR responsibility to follow up with your Instructor immediately (NORMALLY WITHIN TWO WORKING DAYS) regarding the nature of the accommodation.
3. If you are absent for reasons other than medical reasons, for more than 3 days, or exceed 1 request per term you MUST visit your Associate Dean's Office (Faculty Office). You may be required to provide supporting documentation. This form should be filled out immediately when you are about to return to class after your absence. Additional requests for relief of academic missed work must be reported to your Faculty's Associate Dean's Office (Be prepared to submit appropriate documentation. Relief for missed academic work is not guaranteed).
MSAF is now available in MOSAIC Student Center (in the drop down menu under Academics)
4. You should expect to have academic commitments Monday through Saturday but not on Sunday or statutory holidays. If you require an accommodation to meet a religious obligation or to celebrate an important religious holiday, you may use the McMaster Student Absence Form or contact your Faculty's Associate Dean's Office.
5. In deciding whether or not to grant relief for missed work, factors such as the following may be taken into account: the timing in relation to the due date of the missed work and the degree of the student's incapacitation.
6. You are responsible to contact your Professor(s) promptly to discuss the appropriate relief.
7. It is the prerogative of the Professor of the course to determine the appropriate relief for missed term work in his/her course.

See the Faculty of Social Sciences web page on [Student Absence Information](https://socialsciences.mcmaster.ca/current-students/absence-form)
<https://socialsciences.mcmaster.ca/current-students/absence-form>

Avenue to Learn

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

Course information will be posted here throughout the term. Please check this site often to keep informed of assignment instructions, links to course resources, important announcements, and interim grades. It is the responsibility of all students to be aware of all information posted on Avenue to Learn.

Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure, please discuss this with the course instructor.

Step 1: Make sure you are in the Avenue to Learn system. If you officially registered for the course, you were automatically enrolled in the Avenue To Learn system. Go directly to step 2. Students who registered late for this course need to be added to the Avenue to Learn database before they can perform the next step. The best way to do this is to make sure that you are officially registered for this course.

Step 2: Logon to Avenue to learn. Go to <http://Avenue.mcmaster.ca/>
All the information you need for logging on to the site, for configuring your web browser, and for adding this course to your account are available here.

Step 3: Support

If you are interested in viewing the support for Avenue to Learn, including quick help guides and other resources please visit <http://avenue.mcmaster.ca/help/>

Authenticity / Plagiarism Detection

In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly to Turnitin.com or via Avenue to Learn (A2L) plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty. Also, cheating is not cool brah.

Students who do not wish to submit their work through A2L and/or Turnitin.com must still submit an electronic and/or hardcopy to the instructor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com or A2L. All submitted work is subject to

normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, other software, etc.). To see the Turnitin.com Policy, please go to www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

Course Modification

The instructor reserves the right to modify elements of the course during the term. If any modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

University Policies

Inclusivity and a Culture of Respect

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience and the responsibility to demonstrate respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. Expectations are described in [Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities](#)

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviors that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students' access to these platforms.

Additional information about the Code and netiquette can be found [here](#) .

Academic Integrity Statement

The University values integrity, inclusiveness and teamwork, and strives to support the personal and collective growth of the McMaster student community. These values are foundational to ensuring campus environments - both in-person and virtual -are conducive to personal wellbeing and academic success. As a McMaster student, you are expected to exhibit honesty and ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. The academic credentials that you earn are rooted in the principles of honesty and academic integrity. Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, (e.g., the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript which reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty") and/or suspension of expulsion from the university).

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the [Academic Integrity Policy](#).

Some helpful information can be found [here](#)

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

- Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which credit has been obtained.
- Improper collaboration in group work.
- Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities

Students who require academic accommodation must contact [Student Accessibility Services \(SAS\)](#) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. [Student Accessibility Services](#) can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail sas@mcmaster.ca. For further information, consult McMaster University's [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#) policy.

I am committed to making appropriate accommodations for students' observance of religious holidays. Please contact me as early in the term as possible to make individual arrangements.

I am also committed to working with students with disabilities to make individualized accommodations according to your specific needs. All such arrangements must be made through Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Please drop by my office at the beginning of the term to review individual arrangements. All such arrangements will remain confidential. Student Accessibility Services: For information about academic support services, contact SAS at MUSC B107 (ext. 28652) or <http://sas.mcmaster.ca>.

If you require this course outline in an alternate/accessible format, please contact the Department of Health, Aging & Society (ext. 27227 | e-mail: hasdept@mcmaster.ca).

Academic Accommodation for Religious, Indigenous or Spiritual Observances (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the RISO policy. Students requiring a RISO accommodation should submit their request to their Faculty Office normally within 10 working days of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

Extreme Circumstances

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., global pandemic, severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.