

**PSYC 457**
**Social & Clinical Aspects of Aging**
**Winter 2017**
**Instructor:** Dr. Rose Joudi Kadri

**Lecture Location:** ES 920

**Email:** [rjoudi@ucalgary.ca](mailto:rjoudi@ucalgary.ca)
**Lecture Days/Time:** MF 14:00 – 15:15 pm

\* When contacting me via email,  
please write the course # in the  
subject heading

**Office:** AD 155 B

**Office Hours:** By Appointment

### Course Description

During this course we will discuss theory, research, and intervention/policy pertaining to the aging process and older adults. Therefore, the course will assume a practical approach to studying adult development. Students will work with case study examples, research data excerpts, and visual/video materials. The course will also address critical issues and frameworks that shape how we understand and study adult development, such as the characteristics of developmental stages in events, issues of health and aging, dying and spirituality. Throughout the course we will also address diversity of older people in general, and ethnic diversity in particular. Please note, this course is considered an advanced aging course that will go beyond the topics addressed in PSYC 353, therefore knowledge in core aging topics are required.

### Course Learning Outcomes

The Department of Psychology is committed to student knowledge and skill development. The table below lists the key learning outcomes for this course, the program-learning outcomes they facilitate (see [psyc.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/program-learning-outcomes](http://psyc.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/program-learning-outcomes)), and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	PLO(s)	Level(s)
convey key concepts and theoretical approaches in the area of aging	1	A
describe biological, psychological, and social foundations of aging	1	A
assess and critically evaluate information, ideas, and assumptions comprehensively and from a variety of perspectives	2	A
contribute to knowledge and problem solving using integrative and creative approaches	2	A
use relevant sources of scientific knowledge to identify, frame, and generate novel solutions to problems or issues related to aging	2	A
understand the advantages and limitations of different research methods	3	A
draw appropriate inferences from obtained findings	3	A
Show effective written and oral communication	4	A
identify ethical issues and ramifications of actions and policies in research and other settings	6	A

use psychological principles to generate solutions to personal, social, organizational, and societal problems	7	A
transfer learning and psychological knowledge to novel contexts and situations	7	A

Notes. PLOs = Program-Learning Outcomes: 1 = demonstrate knowledge of psychological sciences, 2 = think critically and solve problems, 3 = conduct research and analyze data, 4 = communicate effectively, 5 = demonstrate information literacy, 6 = understand and implement ethical principles, 7 = apply psychological knowledge and skills. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

### Prerequisites

Psychology 312: Experimental Design and Quantitative Methods for Psychology

Psychology 353: Psychology of Aging

### Course Textbook

There will be weekly readings (primarily journal articles) that will be available for you on D2L.

In addition, there is a *recommended* textbook for this course:

Lane, A.M., & Reed, M.B. (2015). *Older adults: Understanding and facilitating transitions* (2nd ed.). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt. (Available through the bookstore)



Please note that the lectures will elaborate on the assigned material or will cover related topics in more detail. On some topics, the lecture will be the only source of information, thus regular attendance is important for success in the course.

### Evaluation

Assessment type	Weight	Additional Information
Midterm Test	30%	Date: Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb Short Answers, Essay and /or Multiple Choice format questions Test will cover material in class, videos and handouts. *No iPods, iPads, computers, books or notes allowed during tests
Submission of Class Participation Questions	12%	Date: One day before class (more detail provided on D2L and in class) Each student submits via e-mail, 2 questions pertaining to the readings or new topic, one day before class.
Reflection papers	18%	Date: At the end of each topic-week (more detail provided on D2L and in class) Students submit a 2-3 page paper reflecting on the literature and issues addressed in class. Students submit only <u>six</u> reflective papers (from a total of 12 topics).
Final Exam	40%	Date: To Be Scheduled by the Registrar Short Answers, Essay and /or Multiple Choice format questions Test will cover material in class, videos and handouts. The final exam is cumulative. *No iPods, iPads, computers, books or notes allowed during tests

**Total**

**100%**

### **Class Participation Questions**

By midnight the day before class, every student will submit at least two question regarding the readings for that class period. This aim of this assessment is to promote active class participation. A list of reading will be provided on D2L pertaining to each topic that will be discussed in class and throughout the semester. Students will have these readings available beforehand which in turn means that they have an opportunity to think about the topics addressed critically and analytically. As such, throughout the semester you are expected to submit via e-mail 2 questions per article/reading/chapter

### **Reflection papers**

Students must write short (2 to 3 pages, double spaced) papers that summarise and give impressions of the week's readings and class lectures. The purpose of these papers is to provide an opportunity for students to think critically about aging in general, but also the topics specific to the course such as interdisciplinary treatment strategies, quality of life, successful aging, ethnicity, social support and mental health interventions. Students should incorporate theoretical approaches or empirical research or treatment strategies into these papers. The paper can be a critique of one of the readings and discussions or it can suggest a novel approach (an alteration to a theory or an idea for a new treatment or study) to some problem discussed in the readings. The paper should demonstrate that you have done the readings AND thought about them. SIX reflection papers will be required (out of a total of TWELVE potential topics).

**You are expected to hand in your printed reflection paper in class on the due date (dates will be posted on D2L).**

If you cannot attend class that day, you must notify the instructor and then **1)** drop off the assignment into the Drop Box (slot in the counter) at A255 by **4:00 pm** on the due date. OR **2)** hand the assignment to me at my office in room A155 (you may also submit your assignment prior to the due date). **E-mail copies will be accepted as proof of submission, but you are also expected to submit a hard-copy to your instructor.** If illness or other circumstances beyond your control make it difficult to complete an assignment on time, you are expected to advise the instructor of this **before** the due date has passed.

**Because you do not have to submit a paper every week I will not accept late papers.**

### **Department of Psychology Grade Distribution Policy**

The distribution of grades in Psychology courses (the percentage of A grades, B grades, etc.) will be similar to the distribution of grades in other courses in the Faculty of Arts. The Department monitors the grade distributions of 200-, 300-, and 400-level courses in the Faculty to ensure that the grade distributions in Psychology courses are comparable. Based on these reviews, students can expect that 1) up to 30% of grades in 200- and 300-level psychology courses will be "A" grades (A+, A, and A-), and 2) up to 40% of grades 400-level psychology courses will be "A" grades.

## Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades

Psychology professors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

**A+ grade: *Exceptional Performance.*** An A+ grade indicates near perfect performance on multiple choice and short answer exams. For research papers/essays/course projects/presentations, an A+ grade is awarded for exceptional work deserving of special recognition and is therefore not a common grade.

**A, A- Range: *Excellent Performance.*** Superior understanding of course material. Written work is very strong in terms of critical and original thinking, content, organization, and the expression of ideas, and demonstrates student's thorough knowledge of subject matter.

**B Range: *Good Performance.*** Above average understanding of course material. Written work shows evidence of critical thinking and attention to organization and editing but could be improved in form and/or content.

**C Range: *Satisfactory Performance.*** Adequate understanding of course material. Knowledge of basic concepts and terminology is demonstrated. Written work is satisfactory and meets essential requirements but could be improved significantly in form and content. Note: All prerequisites for courses offered by the Faculty of Arts must be met with a minimum grade of C-.

**D range: *Marginally meets standards.*** Minimal understanding of subject matter. Written work is marginally acceptable and meets basic requirements but requires substantial improvements in form and content. Student has not mastered course material at a level sufficient for advancement into more senior courses in the same or related subjects.

**F grade: *Course standards not met.*** Inadequate understanding of subject matter. Written work does not meet basic requirements. Student has not demonstrated knowledge of course material at a level sufficient for course credit.

### Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades. In this course there will be no rounding up of final grades.

### Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic
M Jan 09	Winter term lectures begin.
	Meet & Greet. Course Overview Successful Aging
F Jan 13	Successful Aging
M Jan 16	Successful Aging
F Jan 20	Quality of Life
	Last day to drop Winter Term half-courses.

M Jan 23	Quality of Life Last day to add or swap Winter Term half courses. Last day for change of registration from audit to credit or credit to audit.
F Jan 27	Methodological Diversity in Studying Aging Fee payment deadline for Winter Term fees.
M Jan 30	Methodological Diversity in Studying Aging
F Feb 3	<b>Midterm test</b>
M Feb 6	<i>Special Topic</i>
F Feb 10	Health and Wellness: Trends in Health and Compression of Morbidity
M Feb 13	Health and Wellness: Disability, Frailty, and Active Life Expectancy
F Feb 17	Adult's Relationships: Introduction and theories
Feb 19-26	Reading Week. No lectures. University open (except Family Day).
M Feb 20	Alberta Family Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.
M Feb 27	Adult's Relationships: Relationships and Health
F Mar 3	Adult's Relationships: Social Support
M Mar 6	<b>Guest Speaker: Deb Runnalls (Elder Abuse)</b>
F Mar 10	<b>Guest Speaker: Dr. Amane Abdul-Razzak (Modern Palliative Care)</b>
M Mar 13	Palliative Care
F Mar 17	Aging and Ethnicity
M Mar 20	Aging and Ethnicity
F Mar 24	<i>Special Topic</i>
M Mar 27	Death and Dying
F Mar 31	<b>Guest Speaker: Marlette Reed (Death, Dying and Spirituality)</b>
M Apr 3	Death and Dying
F Apr 7	Physician Assisted Death
M Apr 10	Last Day of Class Course Recap
W Apr 12	Winter Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw from full courses and Winter Term half courses.
F Apr 14	Good Friday. No Classes. University Closed
Apr 15-26	Winter Term Final Examinations.

### Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor **within 15 days** of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class; no reappraisal of term work is permitted after the 15 days. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15 days of the

unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

### **Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

### **Academic Accommodation**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services ; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available

at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf) .

Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of this course.

### **Absence From A Test/Exam**

Makeup tests/exams are **NOT** an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. **Students who miss a test/exam have up to 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam.** Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. **Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam during exam make-up hours provided by the department <http://psychology.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/exam-review-and-makeup-exams>.** If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam [http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred\\_final](http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final). Under no circumstances will this be accommodated by the department.

### **Travel During Exams**

Consistent with University regulations, students are expected to be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official December and April examination periods. Requests to write a make-up

exam because of conflicting travel plans (e.g., flight bookings) will NOT be considered by the department. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam [http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred\\_final](http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final). Under no circumstances will this be accommodated by the department.

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act**

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIP-sensitive information.

### **Evacuation Assembly Point**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

### **Student Organizations**

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 130 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

**Student Union VP Academic:** Phone: 403-220-3911 [suypaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)

**Student Union Faculty Rep.:** [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca)

### **Student Ombudsman's Office**

The Office of the Student Ombudsmen provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca) (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>)

### **Safewalk**

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year.

Call 403-220-5333.

### **Important Dates**

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **January 20, 2017**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **January 23, 2017**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **April 12, 2017**.