
Psychology 457	Social & Clinical Aspects of Aging	Winter 2020
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Instructor:	Dr. Candace Konnert	Lecture Location:	D2L
Phone:	403-220-4976	Lecture Days/Time:	Online
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Office:	AD 235C		
Office Hours:	E-mail me to arrange a convenient time		

Course Description

The first half of this course will investigate transitions in the later years of life. There will be specific attention given to successful aging, both from a theoretical and practical perspective. What does it mean to age successfully and what can be done at an individual, community, and societal level to enhance the aging process? The second half of this course will review the diagnosis, assessment and treatment of specific mental health problems among older adults. Most importantly, course content will address the question, what can be done to prevent mental health problems in later life? Throughout the course there will an emphasis on diversity among older adults, and on critically evaluating ethical, topical and controversial issues that are related to older adults and society at large. Note that this course is not meant to be an introduction to the psychology of aging but will build on the content from Psychology 353 (or the equivalent course).

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), and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Methods	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Outline and critically evaluate theories, research, and knowledge about aging in psychological, social, and clinical domains.	Short answer and essay exams, discussion questions	1, 2, 4	A
Explain what it means to age well, factors related to aging well, and barriers/facilitators to aging well, including media and popular views of aging.	Short answer and essay exams, discussion questions	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	A
Summarize the ethical issues related to aging.	Short answer and essay exams, discussion questions	1, 2, 4, 6	A

Summarize a model used to conceptualize older clients who are seeking mental health services and apply the model to a case study presented in class.	Case conceptualization assignment	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C
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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 or PSYC 300/301
 Psychology 353: Psychology of Aging

Required Text

There is no text for the course. Weekly readings (primarily journal articles) will be available on D2L. **Please note that the lectures will elaborate on the assigned material or will cover related topics in more detail. On some topics the lectures will be the only source of information, thus regular attendance is important for success in the course.**

Assessment Methods

1) Midterm (30%): Short answers based on lectures and readings covered up to and including February 13. **Date of exam: Feb. 25.**

2) Take-home Final (40%): Essay questions based on lectures and readings. Further details will be provided on D2L.

3) Discussion questions (5%): In this written assignment, students will be required to critically analyze and think about the designated readings and provide 2 discussion questions related to those readings. Due date is determined by students' last names. Due dates and designated readings are as follows:

Last names beginning with	Date due	Designated course readings on D2L
A-D	Feb. 4	Health and wellness
E-K	Feb. 11	Transitions I
L-M	Mar. 3	Transitions II
N-R	Mar. 24	Mental health problems: neurocognitive disorders
S-Z	Mar. 31	Mental health problems: mood disorders

These questions can be derived from the readings but may also go beyond the readings and should reflect interesting issues that are raised, including controversies, debates, and dilemmas associated with the topic for that week. If you use additional readings (i.e. beyond those assigned), please reference them in APA style. You are encouraged to prepare questions that are interesting and provocative. Most importantly, it should be a question that will stimulate an interesting discussion. Although all questions will not be covered in each class, be prepared to discuss your questions and views. Questions must pertain directly to the readings as listed in the above table. Questions that do not meet this criterion or are late without approved documentation will receive a 0. They will be graded as follows: very good (3), satisfactory (2), or

needs improvement (1) based on your knowledge of the relevant literature and evidence of your ability to think about, critically analyze, and integrate course material. Questions should not exceed one page, double-spaced. Questions must be typed and e-mailed to me (konnert@ucalgary.ca) by 4:00 PM on the date they are due.

4) Case conceptualization (25%): Due April 14. Students will be given information about an older client in therapy and will be asked to formulate the case using a model that will be presented in class and in the readings. Students will submit a 7-page (double-spaced, typed) paper, addressing different aspects of the model in relation to this client. The case conceptualization will be assessed based on: writing style and organization of the document and comprehensiveness, accuracy, and integration in the case formulation. Further information on the case conceptualization, including evaluation components, is available in class on D2L. The case conceptualization assignment must be submitted via the dropbox function in D2L. Papers submitted to D2L after midnight will be penalized at the rate of 5% per day (including weekends and holidays) up to a maximum of 35% (7 days), at which point, late assignments will no longer be accepted. **Extensions will be given only in exceptional circumstances. Extensions may require supporting documentation.**

iPods, iPads, computers, books or notes will not be allowed during tests.

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. To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date
Jan 6	Winter term begins, Block Week Courses (Jan 6-10)
Jan 14	Winter Lectures Begin
Jan 14 & 16	Introduction to the course/successful aging
Jan 16	Last day to drop Winter Term half-courses.
Jan 21 & 23	Successful aging
Jan 23	Last day to drop a class without financial penalty
Jan 24	Last day to add or swap a course
Jan 28-30	Diversity/methodological approaches
Jan 31	Tuition Fee Deadline
Feb 4-6	Health and wellness
Feb 4	Discussion questions on health and wellness due (last names A to D)
Feb 11-13	Transitions I
Feb 11	Discussion questions on transitions I due (last names E to K)
Feb 16-22	Reading Week. No lectures. University open (except Family Day). Alberta Family Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.
Feb 17	Alberta Family Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.
Feb 25	Midterm exam
Feb 27	Transitions II
Mar 3-5	Transitions II
Mar 3	Discussion questions on transitions II due (last names L to M)
Mar 10-12	Contextual framework/Assessment
Mar 17-19	Assessment

Mar 24-26	Mental health problems: neurocognitive disorders
Mar 24	Discussion questions on neurocognitive disorders due (last names N-R)
Mar 31-Apr 2	Mental health problems: mood disorders
Mar 31	Discussion questions on mood disorders due (last names S-Z)
Apr 7-9	Intervention
Apr 10	Good Friday
Apr 13	Non-Instructional Day, University Open
Apr 14	Intervention
Apr 14	Case conceptualization due
Apr 15	Last day of classes, last day to withdraw from winter semester
Apr 18-29	Final exam period
Apr 30	End of Term

Extra Research Participation Course Credit is Not Offered for this Course.

Seating During Exams

Instructors and exam invigilators are free to ask students to move seats before an exam begins or even during an exam. Students must comply with this request and refusal to do so may warrant a charge of academic misconduct.

Absence From A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are **NOT** an option without the approval of the instructor. A student may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request for a make-up exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/n-1.html>. . Students who miss a test/exam have up to 48 hours to contact the instructor to ask for a makeup test/exam. It's the instructor's discretion if they will allow a make-up 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. Once approved by the instructor 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-and-course-information#mues>. 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 <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

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

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>. Students with an exceptional extenuating circumstance (e.g., a family emergency) should contact the Department of Psychology (psyugrd@ucalgary.ca).

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

Reappraisal of Final Grade <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Academic Accommodations

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/. 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.pdf>.

Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Freedom Of Information and Protection of Privacy

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary

Student Support and Resources

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

Acknowledgments and Respect for Diversity

Our classrooms view diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion. The Department of Psychology would also like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

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

Student Union Faculty Rep.: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **January 23, 2020**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **January 24, 2020**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **April 15, 2020**.