
Psychology 353**PSYCHOLOGY OF AGING****Fall 2014**

Instructor:	Dr. Rose J. Kadri	Lecture Location:	ST 145
Email:	rjoudi@ucalgary.ca	Lecture Days/Time:	MWF 12:00 -12:50pm
Office Location:	Admin 155		
Office Hours:	By Appointment		

Course Description

This course is designed to be educational and interactive. Throughout the course you will be expected to think about and answer questions that pertain to a specific topic in Aging. In this course you will experience class activities, exercises and pseudo-tests. Upon completion of this course you should have a good understanding of the psychological, biological, and sociological perspectives to the aging process. This course also examines theory and research related to psychological processes during adulthood and aging. Topics may include life-span developmental theories and methods; biological processes, cognitive processes; personality and social processes; life transitions, mental health issues; and dying. During this course, we will discuss theory, research, and intervention/policy pertaining to the aging process and older adults. Among the changes emphasized are normal age-related changes pertaining to physical development (wrinkles, greying of hair, decrease in height etc.), personality, memory, intelligence, and health. Other topics covered include conceptual and methodological issues, Alzheimer's disease and care giving, stress, social ties, and depression, and longevity and dying.

Course Goals

Among the objectives of this course are to: (a) examine the accuracy of various stereotypes about older adults, (b) promote positive attitudes toward aging and older people; (c) gain an appreciation of the complexity of the conceptual and methodological issues related to studying the aging process; (d) broaden understanding of the aging process; (e) increase knowledge of how applied research is being used to enhance older adults' quality of life; and (f) consider the implications of this course for one's own aging and the aging of family members. Aside from having an increased knowledge of the aging process, it is anticipated that by the end of the course you will have increased your ability to think about aging issues in a critical manner. It is also anticipated that this course will exercise your reasoning skills in an insightful and logical manner.

Prerequisites

Psyc 200 & 201 – Principles of Psychology I & II

Required Text

Erber, J. T. (3rd Ed.). Aging and Older Adulthood (2013). Available through the Bookstore.

Lectures are intended to highlight and extend (not summarize) the material in each chapter. Students are encouraged to ask questions and/or provide comments during the lectures as class discussions enhance learning. Students are responsible for the material covered in all lectures, videos, and textbook readings. Please note that you are encouraged to make arrangements with another student for class information that you may have missed due to absenteeism.

Course Evaluation

The course assessments are:

Two mid-term tests	Worth 20% each <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multiple choice questions
Life History Project	Worth 25% <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This project requires you to interview an older adult (over 65 years), and integrate the information provided by the participant with concepts from the course into a psychological profile, or what might be called a "Life History." (More details will be posted on D2L.)
Final Exam	Worth 35% <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multiple choice questions• Short answer questions

The term tests and final exam are non-cumulative.

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, especially in light of the opportunities students have to increase their final grade via research participation.***

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic	Chapter
M Sep 8	Meet & Greet Overview of Course Outline and Project Outline	
W Sep 10	Class activity – test your knowledge about aging Introduction to Aging	Ch 1
F Sep 12	Introduction to Aging	Ch 1
M Sep 15	Cont. Intro to Aging	Ch 1
W Sep 17	Theory and Method	Ch 2
F Sep 19	Cont. Theory and Method	Ch 2
	Last day to drop full courses (Multi-term) and Fall Term half courses. No refunds for full courses (Multi-term) or Fall Term half courses after this date.	
M Sep 22	Biological aging and health	Ch 3
	Last day to add or swap full courses (Multi-term) and Fall Term half courses. Last day for change of registration from audit to credit or credit to audit.	
W Sep 24	Biological aging and health	Ch 3
F Sep 26	Test One	Chapters 1,2 and 3
	Fee payment deadline for Fall Term full and half courses.	

M Sep 29	Memory	Ch 5
W Oct 1	Memory	Ch 5
F Oct 3	Intellectual Functioning	Ch 6
M Oct 6	Intellectual Functioning	Ch 6
W Oct 8	Cognition and Problem Solving	Ch 7
F Oct 10	Cognition and Problem Solving	Ch 7
M Oct 13	Thanksgiving Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.	
W Oct 15	Documentary – Alzheimer’s: A True Story	
F Oct 17	Class Activity: Alzheimer’s worksheets	
M Oct 20	Test Two	Chapters 5, 6 and 7
W Oct 22	Q & A regarding LHPs (due in 1 week)	
F Oct 24	Personality and coping	Ch 8
M Oct 27	Personality and coping	Ch 8
W Oct 29	Social Interaction and Social Ties	Ch 9
F Oct 31	Cont. Social Interaction and Social Ties	Ch 9
M Nov 3	Cont. Social Interaction and Social Ties	Ch 9
W Nov 5	Guest Speakers – Kerby centre (topic: Elder Abuse)	Potential schedule date
F Nov 7	Documentary - Elder abuse cases **LHP DUE IN CLASS**	Life History Project Due in Class/Submitted to the Psych Main Office by 4pm
M Nov 10	Reading Days. No lectures.	
T Nov 11	Remembrance Day (Observed). University Closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.	
W Nov 12	Employment and Retirement	Ch 10
F Nov 14	Employment and Retirement	Ch 10
M Nov 17	Employment and Retirement	Ch 10
W Nov 19	Mental Health, Psychopathology and Therapy	Ch 11
F Nov 21	Mental Health, Psychopathology and Therapy	Ch 11
M Nov 24	Mental Health, Psychopathology and Therapy	Ch 11
W Nov 26	Death, Dying and Bereavement	Ch 12
F Nov 28	Guest Speaker – Chaplain Marlette Reed	D & Death & Dying from a Chaplain’s perspective
M Dec 1	Death, Dying and Bereavement	Ch 12
W Dec 3	Class Activity: How do you feel about death?	
F Dec 5	Course Recap	
	Last day to withdraw with permission from Fall Term half courses.	
Dec 8-18	Fall Term Exam Period.	Ch 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12

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

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. 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 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.

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 except under exceptional circumstances. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements.

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 office hours, or via the Department Office (Admin 255), or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the 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.

Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally-approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to an individual's final grade. **To get 2%** added to the final grade in a full-year course, like this one, you have to acquire **a total of 4 bonus credits** towards the course. These credits may be acquired in the Fall and/or the Winter Session. The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally-approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **Dec 5th, 2014**.

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 170 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 403-220-3911 suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 403-220-3913 socialscirep@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 (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>).

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 **Friday, September 19, 2014**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **Monday, September 22, 2014**.

The last day to withdraw from this course is **December 5, 2014**.