

Aging and Mental Health **GERS 1342**

Description: This course provides the student with an introduction and analysis of current knowledge and concerns related to psychological aging. It addresses the theoretical and empirical foundations relevant to the psychological study of the later part of the life span. The course is taught from an interdisciplinary perspective and focuses on topics related to perceptual, cognitive, personality, and interpersonal social development. Issues related to psychological adjustment and the topic of death and dying are examined.

Outcomes: The student will be able to discuss the impact of mental health issues on older persons and their quality of life; discuss the mental health concerns of older persons; identify the appropriate assessment and intervention techniques regarding mental health care; develop an appreciation and respect for older persons and the strengths they bring to the helping relationship; and, apply analytical thinking to the treatment and diagnosis of the care of the elderly with mental health concerns.