

Syllabus

Gerontological Services

(GERS XXXX)

Social Work and Aging

SYLLABUS

GERS XXXX
CIP CODE: 19.0702

Social Work and Aging

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to provide students with an overview of gerontological social work with emphasis on principle of practice, application of research, and the formulation of policies as they relate to older adults. The course will define the role of the social worker from a gerontological perspective. It will introduce the student to special populations which are most vulnerable: aging women and aging people of color, the disabled, and gay and lesbian aged.

Course Level: Introductory

Semester Hours: 3

Minimum/Maximum Hours: 48

PREREQUISITES:

None

RESOURCES: *Gerontological Social Work*, Schneider, Robert L., Kropr, Nancy P., Kisor, Anne J. (2nd edition)

LEARNING OUTCOMES: At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

Module 1 - 12 Hours Facts and Fictions of Aging

1. Demonstrate effective practice with elderly clients, assess levels of intervention and intervention roles, and practice skills clusters.
2. Identify facts, theoretical perspectives, and psychological and social myths regarding the older adult.
2. Examine social problems, policies, financial well being, living independently, diversity and aging health, long term issues and the objectives set by the Older Americans Act.
4. Examine and gain an awareness of the importance of integration of aging content into social work practices.
5. Understand the importance of preparation of social workers to practice in interdisciplinary settings.

Module 2 - 12 Hours**Aging Programs and Policies for Social Workers**

6. Gain an awareness of the need for policy and program development to deal with the issue of growing old.
7. Provide an overview of case management and identify how this model is used in gerontological settings.
8. Identify community and home based services as an alternative to nursing home placement.
9. Understand the role of the social worker from a gerontological perspective.
10. Analyze the importance of why social work education should include a study of policy issues.

Module 3 - 12 Hours**Service Settings for the Aging Population**

11. Examine awareness of the requirements for discharge planning to include knowledge of crisis interventions, interviewing, community resources, advocacy, and family systems functioning.
12. Discuss nursing homes and some of the characteristics of residents, levels of care and staffing patterns.
13. Examine the dual membership status of individuals who are both elderly and belong to minority groups in the United States.
14. Understand why the knowledge base of social workers should include the service continuum from home/community-based services to long-term care, financing, eligibility and accessibility issues.

Module 4 - 12 Hours**Aging Special Populations/Social and Health Issues**

16. Examine issues such as bias, discrimination, demographics, family, economics, health, and other obstacles to gaining good health care for aging women.
17. Become aware of the social and health issues affecting gay and lesbian elders and areas for future research and improved service delivery.
18. Discuss disabilities and aging.
19. Understand why the importance and focus of empowering the older person should be a part of education and training.

COURSE ASSESSMENT: Students will demonstrate competencies as assessed by the following:

Class Participation – 10%
 Homework Assignment (study questions) – 20%
 Reports – 20%
 Final Exam – 50%

Course Schedule:

Week	Learning Comes	Assignments
1	Overview of Course	Read Chapter 1 & 2
2	Demonstrate effective practice with elderly clients, assess levels of intervention and intervention roles, and practice skills clusters.	Review Case Studies
3	Identify facts, theoretical perspectives, and psychological and social myths about the older adult.	Review Case Studies
4	Examine social problems, policies, financial well- being, living independently, diversity and aging health, long term issue and the objective set by the Older Americans Act.	Read Chapter 3 & 4 Complete discussion questions
5	Gain an awareness of the need for policy and program development to deal with the issue of growing old.	Read Chapter 5 & 6 Summarize Case Studies 1 & 2
6	Provide an overview of case management and identity how this model is used in gerontological settings.	Prepare written response to study questions 1-4
7	Identify community and home based services as an alternative to nursing home placement.	Read Chapter 7 & 8 – Complete the experimental learning activity, “Where has my time gone?”
8	Mid Term Exam	
9	Examine awareness of the requirements for discharge planning to include knowledge of crisis interventions, interviewing, community resources, advocacy, and family systems functioning.	Complete the experimental activity and identify medical and psychosocial studies
10	Discuss nursing homes and some of the characteristics of residents, levels of care and staffing patterns.	Read Chapter 9 & 10 Prepare written responses to questions 1-8 Review Case Studies for class discussion
11	Examine the dual membership status of individuals who are both elderly and belong to minority groups in the United States.	Complete the experimental learning lifetime exercise and additional activities
12	Examine issues such as discrimination and bias, demographics, family, economics, health and obstacles to gaining good health care that	Read Chapter 11& 12 – Prepare responses to discussion questions 1-7. Be prepared to discuss study questions

	affect the aging women.	
13	Become aware of the social and health issues affecting gay and lesbian elders and identify areas for future research and improved service delivery.	Complete Response to discussion questions and complete activity "Family Circle"
14	Discuss disabilities and aging.	Complete responses to discussion questions – Complete experimental learning activity
15	Present Presentation or Experimental Activity	
16	Final Exam	

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Syllabus Developed By:

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