Survey of Sociology of Aging  
SOC 353 (on-line course)  
Spring 2009  
Jan 11 – May 14, 2010  
*Draft Syllabus – final syllabus will be posted by Dec 20.*  
*This will give you a good overview of the course and the book that we will be using.*

**Instructor:** Krista Hodges  
gronley@hawaii.edu  
office hours: via Laulima  
Course website: https://laulima.hawaii.edu/portal

Please be sure to read this syllabus carefully, you are responsible for everything on it.

**Course Content:** The focus of this course will be on gaining an understanding of the sociological perspective. We will identify, discuss and write about various topics of sociology such as: social structures and institutions, culture and history, deviance, stratification and inequality.

**Internet Access:** All students must have a University of Hawaii email account and regular access to the internet. All course work will be via Laulima (you will sign on with your UH username and password) and your grade will depend on your timely submission of work. Please be sure to have a backup plan for internet access in case of travel or possible problems with your current access. **Technical problems are not accepted as excuse for missed or late assignments.**

**Course Content:** The focus of this course will be on gaining an understanding of the sociological of aging. We will identify, discuss and write about various issues surrounding the sociology of aging.

**Student Learning Objectives**  
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:  
✔ Recognize and discuss universal, gender and cultural aspects to aging.  
✔ Effectively communicate understanding by writing on aging topics.  
✔ Evaluate macro- and micro-level factors that influence aging in our society  
✔ Compare and contrast issues and theories using a sociological point of view  
✔ Discuss issues and concerns related to older people

**Required Texts:**  
The Cultural Context of Aging Worldwide Perspectives, Third Edition  
Jay Sokolovsky  
ISBN: 0-275-99302-7  

Additional readings will be assigned and made available to you.

**Exams**  
✔ There will be an exam after each major section (see course timeline below). Each exam will be worth 75 pts. The exams will be short answer and multiple choice and include any materials covered in the readings or discussions or assignments.
Assignments
✓ There will be assignments listed on the Course Timeline at the end of the syllabus. This will have more detail by Dec 20.

Participation/Attendance  Participation and Attendance will be based on Discussions and timely submission of assignments, papers, tests, etc.
✓ Discussions: For each of the discussions, students must post a question demonstrating critical thinking based on the materials covered to date (and since the last discussion).
✓ In addition, each student will respond to a minimum of two classmates’ questions. Make sure that your responses show that you understand the topic (normally 4 to 6 sentences but some topics will need longer responses) or explain your confusion. These discussions should be an ongoing, interactive exchange involving all students regarding the broad topic area.
✓ Specific dates and topic areas will be announced at the beginning of the semester.
✓ Top points will be awarded to any question that highlights the important ideas and points of the readings as well as less obvious ones.
✓ Top points will be awarded to responses which answer the question and demonstrates creative or in-depth thinking regarding the topic.

Any inappropriate, rude, hostile, or otherwise unacceptable posts will have consequences.

Papers
✓ 3 - 500 to 750 word essays discussing an aspect of the readings completed to date. Your paper will show an understanding of the materials and be critical of them or advance an argument made in the readings. Specific details/requirements will be posted in the Assignment folder on Laulima.
✓ Papers must be typed and written at a college level. I will count grammar, punctuation and sentence structure. You will need to have an introduction, body and conclusion to your paper and it needs to make sense. Please write your papers in a scholarly manner without a lot of rhetoric. Do not quote from the readings; read it until you understand it and then explain it to me or give me your point of view or opinion on the topic.
✓ Be sure your name is on your paper or it will not be graded. Word count does not include the title, bibliography, your name, excessively long citations, etc.
✓ Do not plagiarize; it could result in you failing the course or being kicked out of school.
✓ Those who have writing difficulties are encouraged to contact the UH Manoa Writing Program (http://www.mwp.hawaii.edu/writer_help.htm).

Extra Credit: The only opportunity for extra credit in this class is if 75% of the class completes the end of semester course evaluation on eCafe. As the evaluation is completely anonymous, there will be no way to tell if a particular person completed it or not. Therefore, you will receive
30 extra credit points only if 75% of the class completes the evaluation. 30 pts is worth 3% of total grade.

Email: From time to time, I will use Laulima messages for assignments and/or to get in touch with the students for assignment updates or modifications, etc. Please make sure you check your Laulima messages frequently. Not knowing about a change is not an excuse for missing an assignment or doing it incorrectly or late.

Do not use regular email (UH or otherwise) to contact me unless you are absolutely unable to log on to Laulima. I will not respond to emails unless there is a problem with Laulima and you have let Laulima know.

Final grades will be calculated on the percentage of points earned:

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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>97 -100%</td>
<td>A+</td>
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<td>93-96</td>
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<td>85-88</td>
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<td>&lt;59</td>
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ADA statement
Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability is invited to contact me privately. I would be happy to work with you, and the KOKUA Program (Office for Students with Disabilities) to ensure reasonable accommodations in my course. KOKUA can be reached at (808) 956-7511 or (808) 956-7612 (voice/text) in room 013 of the Queen Lili'uokalani Center for Student Services.

Student Conduct
"Plagiarism includes but is not limited to submitting, in fulfillment of an academic requirement, any work that has been copied in whole or in part from another individual's work without attributing that borrowed portion to the individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation another's idea and particular phrasing that was not assimilated into the student's language and style or paraphrasing a passage so that the reader is misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral or artistic material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved; or "drylabbing," which includes obtaining and using experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other sections of a course or from previous terms." (University of Hawaii at Manoa, Student Conduct Code, Section H. Academic Dishonesty, Part 2, Page 6).

Course Timeline Subject to changes as needed and with sufficient notice. There will be discussion dates and other assignments added to this timeline

Jan 11 – 22 Pt. I A global vision of aging, culture and context
Assignment due:
Exam available Jan 22 (1 am) - Jan 23 (11 pm)

Jan 25 – Feb 5 Pt. II The life course and intergenerational ties in cultural and global context
Assignment due:
Exam available Feb 5 (1 am) - Feb 6 (11 pm)

Feb 8 - 19 Pt. III Aging, globalization and societal transformation
Feb 22 – Mar 5
Pt. IV The ethnic dimension in aging: culture, context and creativity
Assignment due:
Exam available Mar 5 (1 am) - Mar 6 (11 pm)

Mar 8 – Apr 9
Pt. V Families, communities and elderscapes: transforming cultural spaces for aging
Assignment due:
Exam available Apr 9 (1 am) - Apr 10 (11 pm)

Apr 9 – May 5
Pt. VI The quest for gerontopia: culture and health in late life
Assignment due:

May 10 – 14
Exam available May 10 (1 am) - May 12 (11 pm). This is over the last section of the class and is not cumulative.