Survey of Sociology of Aging
SOC 353 (on-line course)
Summer 2009
May 26 – July 2, 2009
Draft Syllabus

Instructor: Krista Hodges
241-F Saunders Hall
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:
Text: Aging and the Life Course: An Introduction to Social Gerontology, 4th Ed,
Author: Jill Quadagno
Publisher McGraw Hill

Additional readings may be assigned

Exams (70%):
- There will be two midterms (20% each) and one cumulative final (30%).
- Midterms will consist of 60 questions (multiple choice and short answer), you will have one hour to complete and no do-overs.
Final will be cumulative, consist of 90 questions (multiple choice and short answer), and you will have 90 minutes to complete with no do-over. The final will be more heavily weighted on the last topic area and will pull from the midterms for the cumulative aspects.

**Participation/Attendance (20%)**: Participation and Attendance will be based on Discussions and timely submission of assignments (quizzes, papers, tests).

- **Discussions**: For each of the three areas (see syllabus), students must post a question demonstrating critical thinking based on the materials covered that week. This question must be posted by noon on the second Monday (June 1, June 15 and June 29) of topic area.

- **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 posts must be done by midnight on last day of topic area (June 5, June 19 and July 2). These discussions should be an ongoing, interactive exchange involving all students regarding the broad topic area.

- You will receive between 0 and 3 points per post but if you do not post all three required posts or if one or more of them receives a score of zero, you will not receive points for the week.

- 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.

**Written Assignment (10%)**:  
- 750 word essay discussing an aspect of the readings for the course. These essays will show an understanding of the materials and be critical of them or advance an argument made in the readings.

- Papers must be typed and written at a college level. Those who have writing difficulties are encouraged to contact the UH Manoa Writing Program (http://www.mwp.hawaii.edu/writer_help.htm).

- There may be shorter, ad hoc writing assignments assigned as needed.

- You must submit your papers to me via the assignment drop box on the course homepage by noon on June 26, 2009. Late papers will not be accepted.

**Extra Credit**: There are no opportunities for extra credit in this class.

**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 Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<td>97 - 100%</td>
<td>A+</td>
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<tr>
<td>93 - 96</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>89 - 92</td>
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<td>85 - 88</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>82 - 84</td>
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<td>79 - 81</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  

Theoretical Perspectives on Aging
May 26 – June 5
Please read entire chapter (unless noted otherwise) and read in the order listed
Ch 1, Ch 6 – selected pages,
Ch 7 & 3, Ch 2, Ch 5
Midterm Available June 5 & 6

Demography and Political Economy of Aging
June 8-19
Ch 4, Ch 11 – selected pages
Ch 15, Ch 12 – selected pages
Ch 16 & 17
Midterm Available June 19 & 20

Social Context, Relationships and Care of the Elderly
June 22- July 2
Ch 12 – selected pages, Ch 8
Ch 9, Ch 11 – selected pages
Ch 13, 10, & 14
Paper is due at noon on 6/26/09

Cumulative Final available July 2 & 3