

**LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY
PSYCH / GERO 4151 – ADVANCED PSYCHOLOGY & AGING
WINTER 2017**

THREE COURSE SECTIONS

The course is arranged into 3 sections. Each section will require the completion of an exam. Any readings or movies that are required material for a section will be released during that section. All required materials for this course will be made available on the course website. If a reading will be required for a class, it will be made available as early as possible on the course website. The aim will be to make readings available on the course site at least 5 days prior to the class during which it will be covered.

SCHEDULE & GRADING OVERVIEW

Section 1 Exam (February 1, 2017) – 20%
Section 2 Exam (March 8, 2017) - 30%
Section 3 Exam (TBD) - 25%
Presentation & Guided Discussion (March) - 15%
Critical Thought Papers - 10%

THREE EXAMS

Each section of the course will require the completion of a multiple choice and short answer exam. The exams will not be cumulative. You will be permitted 80 minutes to write the exam. The correct answer for any exam question is that answer which is the “best” option as per the materials presented in the course. You will be responsible (i.e. it may be covered on the exams) for all readings, lecture information, and videos that are presented during the relevant section of the course.

CRITICAL THOUGHT PAPERS

Critical Thought Papers will be required for classes designated as “Article Review Classes”. A Critical Thought Paper is a brief (100-300 words) typed piece stating a critical thought about the paper. The “thought” should be something that you would be willing, or be likely to bring up in class during the discussion of the paper. You will not be required to bring it up in class, but the professor may ask during class for people to express their critical thought for class discussion. The thought can be pretty much anything – perhaps you disagree with the author(s) on a point. Perhaps you would like to make mention of a point you found particularly interesting in the paper. Your “Thought Paper” should state the point and express why you found it interesting or why you disagree with it. Or perhaps you feel some more detailed discussion could be made about a point in the paper. Maybe you would like to “free associate” and discuss how a point in the paper reminded you of some other concept; explain it in your “Thought Paper”. The “Thought Papers” will be graded out of 1 point. A thought paper that is at least adequate or better will be graded as 1 point. A thought paper that is less than “adequate” (as judged by the professor) will receive a grade lower than 1 (e.g. .25 or .5). Thought summaries will be due on the day the relevant article is discussed. The thought papers will be submitted on the online course site. They can be submitted late but will incur a 50% penalty. Even if you cannot attend class you still submit the thought paper.

PRESENTATION & GUIDED DISCUSSION

Each student will complete a 15 to 20-minute presentation & guided discussion with the class. You will pick some very specific topic relevant to the lives of older adults and present that topic concisely and guide a brief discussion on that topic in class. More details on the requirements for this assignment will be provided in class well before you complete it. These will be scheduled in March and scheduling will be completed soon.

OTHER IMPORTANT GUIDELINES

1. QUESTIONS & CONTACTING THE PROFESSOR.

For the purposes of this course, you can either email using the Desire 2 Learn email system or you can email estpierr@lakeheadu.ca . Please do not phone me or email me to other addresses that you may find. I am not a full-time Lakehead professor and hence I do not have an office or phone number at Lakehead University. I will not be scheduling regular office hours, but if a face to face meeting is required for some purpose then it will be arranged. If you have a quick question on any day feel free to approach me after class.

If you have a question about course content or how to use the course site, post it in the "General Questions & Discussion" forum. I will attempt to answer your question or another student might offer their assistance. If you have a question that you feel hesitant to post in the discussion forums, because it is of a personal nature, and not about course content, you may email it to me directly.

2. LECTURE NOTES.

The professor does not provide access to his lecture notes. If a student must miss a class it is their responsibility to contact a fellow student to arrange the sharing of lecture notes.

3. CLASS ROOM BEHAVIOUR.

Students are expected to raise their hand and await the professor's acknowledgement before speaking. Please do not talk while anyone else is speaking. Arrive for class on time. Make every effort to remain in class for the duration. Repeated late arrivals, early departures, or other disturbances will result in a meeting with the professor.

4. TECHNICAL ISSUES.

It is the responsibility of all students to learn how to use and navigate the "Desire 2 Learn" course website. If a student fails to complete a course requirement because they do not know how to use the Desire 2 Learn website no accommodation will be made. If a student is unsure how to use the site in any regard, or if the student is encountering technical difficulties with the site, it is the student's responsibility to rectify the situation or to contact CEDL technical support for assistance. Students are welcome to post their concerns in the "General Questions & Discussion" forum in the hopes that a fellow student can help them. I will not act as "technical support".

5. THERE WILL BE NO REWEIGHTING OF ANY GRADES FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL STUDENT. THERE WILL BE NO EXTRA ASSIGNMENTS OFFERED FOR THE PURPOSES OF INCREASING GRADES. PLEASE DO NOT EMAIL THE PROFESSOR ASKING FOR SUCH CONCESSIONS.

6. THERE WILL BE NO TOLERANCE FOR DISCUSSION POSTINGS OR EMAILS WITH CONTENT THAT IS DEEMED TO BE DELIBERATELY HURTFUL OR INCITES HATE OR AGGRESSION.

7. ACCOMMODATIONS.

Lakehead University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and register as early as possible.

For more information, please visit <http://studentaccessibility.lakeheadu.ca>