



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Winter 2021

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

Department of Sociology Website: <https://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

COURSE TITLE: Sociology of Aging			
Course Number	373		
Pre/Co-Requisites	Sociology 201		
Instructor Name	Courtney Petruik, PhD(c)	Email	courtney.petruik1@ucalgary.ca
Instructor Email Policy	<p>Students are always welcomed to contact me. Please feel free to contact me over email at any time, however, to ensure I receive your email and can respond promptly please adhere to the following email guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ensure that you put the course number (SOCI 373) in the subject line to ensure it is filtered to the right inbox- Include your full name, student ID, and reason for your email- I aim to return all emails within 2 business days- I may not answer emails over the weekend; please take this into account when emailing me questions pertaining to assignments or exams- Please check this course outline first before sending an email as questions that can be answered by consulting the course outline may not be replied to- Please do not use e-mail as a replacement for something that would be better addressed by online appointment. For example, substantive questions clarifying course content and readings, concerns about grades, or any other personal issues should be dealt with via appointment		
Office Location	Remote	Office Hours (by appt only)	By appointment (All meetings via Zoom)
TA Name	Sepideh Borzoo	TA Email	sepideh.borzoo@ucalgary.ca
TA Office Location	Remote	TA Office Hours	By appointment (All meetings will be conducted via Zoom)
Class Dates	Monday January 11, 2021 to Thursday April 15, 2021		
Class Times	Asynchronous – modules (lectures and other course materials) posted on D2L weekly by Monday at 9:00AM MST (unless otherwise noted)		

Class Location	Online – D2L
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Brief Notice:

This course will appeal to students who prefer to work independently as this course is delivered remotely. Students will need to have stable and consistent internet access for the duration of the term. Students must have access and be familiar with using D2L in order to successfully complete the course.

Course Description

This course examines the social organization of aging and the aging process. We will discuss sociological perspectives that relate to aging and the life course. Mainly, this course will highlight those perspectives that help demonstrate and provide us with different ways of understanding how social conditions and social contexts shape the aging process and the experiences of older adults. This course focuses on older adults and provides only limited discussions of aging as it relates to young adulthood and middle age.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should have developed an understanding of the way that social structures shape the aging process, the aging experience, and the way that history, inequality, power, privilege, and institutional change differentiate the aging experience. Students should also dedicate a portion of their learning to applied programs and resources delivered to seniors in Alberta and Canada.

Course Format

This course will be delivered **asynchronously** meaning that there are no specific course times that you need to be present. You may view the course materials (i.e. video lectures, self quizzes, videos, worksheets, etc.) when it suits you; course materials will be posted weekly. However, while modules can be completed on your own time, the **REFLECTIONS** and **EXAMS MUST BE COMPLETED BY THEIR SCHEDULED DEADLINES** to gain credit for their corresponding part of the course. It is advised that you keep up with the weekly modules to avoid falling behind. The course is designed to keep you moving through the material on pace so that you can finish with the knowledge required to successfully complete the course.

The following information is very important so please **read the bullet points carefully**:

- Each week, course material will be delivered to you via D2L that will comprise a mixture of recorded micro and full lectures (varying in length from 15 minutes to 1 hour), videos/links for you to watch, practice questions, self-tests, and/or other ungraded learning activities and assignments intended to help develop your learning
- The modules will be posted weekly on D2L by Monday morning at 9:00AM MST for the corresponding unit (unless otherwise noted)
- The mixture of course material delivered to you via D2L should take approximately 3 hours to complete each week on top of your scheduled readings. All materials will be posted on Mondays throughout the term on D2L under “Course Content” unless otherwise noted
- In some cases, the recordings will be posted on D2L in “chunks” to avoid uploading delays so be sure to watch all of the uploads and review all module materials for the unit that you are working on
- There may be a combination of recorded micro-lectures (short lectures) and other activities (such as videos, links, and/or practice questions) that will be required of you to make up the

three hours of course material delivered weekly. It is up to you to view and complete *all of* these materials as a minimum requirement for the class. All material is “fair game” for the exams.

- Make sure to check **D2L** at *least* daily for Announcements, News, Updates, and Calendar Events as important information may be posted there. There is an app available called “**Brightspace Pulse**” that everyone is highly encouraged to download to their phone and enable notifications to ensure deadlines and important information is not missed.

Learning Resources

Wister, A. (2019). *Aging as a social process*. Oxford University Press.

- The textbook is available in digital and hardcopy formats. It should be available at the University of Calgary bookstore, if it is not, please let me know and I will help navigate the issue. All other required course materials will be posted in the modules on D2L throughout the course or available online.
- Link to online copy of the Wister (2019) text:
<https://calgary-store.vitalsource.com/products/aging-as-a-social-process-andrew-v-wister-v9780199028474>

Learning Technologies and Requirements

Use of technology (reliable access to computer and internet connection) is mandatory in this course as it is delivered solely online. If you have issues accessing reliable internet or equipment you may contact the Taylor Family Digital Library to inquire about rental equipment or you might want to take this class in a term where it is offered in person rather than online.

If you require assistance with D2L or any other issue related to the course being delivered online, contact www.taylorinstitute.ucalgary.ca/learningcontinuity

It is advised that you take the D2L essentials training for students if you are unfamiliar with D2L here: <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/d2l-student/>

There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2l.ucalgary.ca).

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Uninterrupted access to internet that allows streaming and watching videos
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

Communication

Most course-related communication will take place on D2L via the “FAQ” Discussion board. These venues are meant to be safe spaces where you can discuss assignments, exams, and other course-

related information with your classmates. If you have a question that would be relevant to the rest of the class, please post here so everyone has access to the response. Also, check this board before posting to ensure your question has not already been answered.

Reminder: Before emailing your instructor or TA please check to ensure your question has not already been addressed on the above forums or on this course outline.

As noted above, it is imperative that students check D2L at least daily to ensure they do not miss important news and announcements because unforeseen circumstances may cause things to change throughout the term. It is advised that students set up alerts on D2L to ensure they do not miss any important information. Reminder: there is an app available called “**Brightspace Pulse**” that everyone is highly encouraged to download to their phone and enable notifications to ensure deadlines and important information is not missed.

If at any point you need help with the functions of D2L, please contact www.taylorinstitute.ucalgary.ca/learningcontinuity. It is advised that you take the D2L essentials training for students if you are unfamiliar with D2L here: <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/d2l-student/>

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Module and Proposed Date of Completion	For Completion	Notes and Special Instructions
Module 1: <i>How is aging a social process?</i> January 15, 2021	Chapter 1 and Associated D2L Materials	
Module 2: <i>How has aging changed over time and culture?</i> January 22, 2021	Chapter 2 and Associated D2L Materials	
First Assignment January 26, 2021	Start-of-Course Reflections Due January 26, 2021 11:59 PM MST	Submit Reflections via D2L under “Dropbox”
Module 3: <i>How do our minds, bodies, and social experiences change as we age?</i> January 29, 2021	Chapter 3 and Associated D2L Materials	
Module 4: <i>How can demographics help us understand aging?</i>	Chapter 4 and Associated D2L Materials	

Module and Proposed Date of Completion	For Completion	Notes and Special Instructions
February 5, 2021		
Module 5: <i>How can theory and research help us understand aging?</i> February 12, 2021	Chapter 5 and Associated D2L Materials	Term Break Begins February 15 (Family Day)
Winter Term Break <i>February 14-20, 2021</i>	No assigned readings or course materials	University Closed
MID TERM February 24, 2021	Testing on all course materials from Modules 1-6	D2L under "Quizzes" Accessible between Feb 24, 2021 at 2PM MST to Feb 25, 2021 at 2PM MST.
Module 6: <i>How are our aging experiences shaped by social relationships and inequality?</i> February 26, 2021	Chapter 6 and Associated D2L Materials	Term Break Ends February 19
Module 7: <i>How can we better understand health and health care in relation to aging?</i> March 5, 2021	Chapter 7 and Associated D2L Materials	
Module 8: <i>How do our living arrangements and environments change as we age?</i> March 12, 2021	Chapter 8 and Associated D2L Materials	
Module 9: <i>How can we understand the interrelationship between aging and the family from a life course perspective?</i> March 19, 2021	Chapter 9 and Associated D2L Materials	
Module 10:	Chapter 10 and Associated D2L Materials	

Module and Proposed Date of Completion	For Completion	Notes and Special Instructions
<i>How does the labour force affect and how is it affected by aging?</i> March 26, 2021		
Final Assignment March 24, 2021	End-of-Course Reflections Due March 24, 2021 11:59 PM MST	Submit Reflections via D2L under “Dropbox”
Module 11: <i>How is sociality influenced by the aging process?</i> April 2, 2021	Chapter 11 and Associated D2L Materials	
Module 12: <i>How do we understand the end of life course and how do we care for those at this stage?</i> April 9, 2021	Chapter 12 and Associated D2L Materials	Good Friday April 2 (University Closed) Easter Monday April 5 (University Closed)
Optional: <i>Review Period – Final Exam</i> April 9-15, 2021	Chapters 6-12	Optional – Contact TA and/or Instructor to book time to review specific questions related to course material before final exam
FINAL EXAM Date TBD	Testing on all course materials from Modules 7-13	D2L Under “Quizzes” Time of Access TBD

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

Given the unique format of online course delivery, the following rules are in place for the modes of assessment for the Mid Term Exam, Final Exam, and the Reflection Assignments where applicable:

- During the 24 hour examination periods in which the Mid Term and Final Exams are available, students are **not permitted** to collaborate amongst one another (e.g., discussing questions, approaches to answers, suggestions of where to find relevant material in notes or texts) in any way (voice, text, chat, etc.)
- Students are permitted to use the textbook and online materials provided they are doing so in accordance with appropriate academic conduct (e.g., appropriate citations, etc.)
- Students are strongly discouraged from using online file sharing and “tutoring” sites such as CourseHero, Chegg, etc. for the creation of study notes to prepare for (or use in) assessments as these are often inaccurate and may not have appropriate permissions in place that are compliant with academic integrity. Use of these sites and sources may result in the potential for

students to intentionally or unintentionally use words and ideas which can constitute academic misconduct

As these rules are explicitly prohibited for the examinations and assignments where applicable, if it comes to the attention of the teaching staff that students have engaged in any of the above behaviours, it may constitute academic misconduct and thus the student may face aligning penalties.

Reflection Assignments (Two reflections worth 5% each):

Two reflection papers are required for this course. These assignments are personal reflections. No references are required aside from the textbook, but if you use outside sources, please cite them properly using APA Format (latest edition). You may use personal experiences, current events, experiences you have observed in other people, ideas from the text, and/or previous scholarly knowledge about aging. The purpose of the reflections is to get you thinking about the sociology of aging as relates to the “real” world. You will be required to do one reflection at the beginning of the course and one reflection at the end of the course. The details for the reflections are below.

- 1) Start of Course Reflection: Due January 26, 2021 11:59 PM MST
Answer the question: *“Using your experience and class material so far, how have you witnessed ‘aging as a social process’?”*

- 2) End of Course Reflection: Due March 24, 2021 11:59 PM MST
Answer the question: *“Using examples from class, how would you describe ‘aging as a social process’?”*

Format of the reflection papers:

Each reflection is to be 250 words in total (not including title, name, page numbers, references if included, etc.). Please use Times New Roman, 12 pt font, double-spaced with 1” margins. Please use the latest edition of APA style formatting. Submit the document as a Word or PDF file to “Drop Box” on D2L.

Grading of the reflection papers:

The grading of this assignment will be “pass/does not pass”. A passing assignment will be one that is demonstrably thoughtful and engages with the course material. You will receive zero points if you do not complete and submit this assignment before the deadline or submit a reflection that does not follow formatting guidelines, is superficial in analysis, and/or fails to show thoughtful engagement with the course material. Because the assignments are graded on a pass/fail basis, late assignments will not be accepted; this is to ensure equity in grading for all students since deductions are not possible. Grading will take into account that the first assignment will likely have less engagement with course material

than the second assignment since students will have had less exposure to class material at the beginning of the term.

Mid Term Examination (worth 45% of your grade)

The Mid-term exam will be an *open book* exam held via D2L in the “Quizzes” section.

- 1) The MIDTERM EXAM is scheduled for February 24, 2021. **You will have access to the exam between the hours of 2:00 PM on Feb 24th until Feb 25th at 2:00PM MST and will have 90 minutes to complete the exam once you have started.**

If you have questions during the exam, or experience technical difficulties, please email the instructor AND your TA to ensure someone gets back to you. The instructor and TA will only be available “in real time” between the hours of **2PM and 5PM Feb 24, 2020** to answer your questions via email. So please ensure that you write during these times if you foresee that you will need questions answered promptly.

There will be no re-attempts so please ensure you are certain of your answers before submitting your exam. Once you submit your exam, that is what will be graded. **There will be no deferrals of the mid-term exams.** If you miss the exam, you will receive a zero for the exam or, depending on the circumstance and on arrangements made with the instructor, you may be granted the option to shift the weight of the exam to your final exam (only in extenuating circumstances). The exam will include all or a mixture of the following question types: Multiple Choice, True/False, and/or Short Response Questions.

Final Examination (45% of final grade):

The final exam will be an open book exam held via D2L in the “Quizzes” section.

The exam is scheduled for **during the exam period. Date is TBD. You will have access to the exam for a 24-hour period and will have 90 minutes to complete the exam once you have started.**

If you have questions during the exam, or experience technical difficulties, please email the instructor AND your TA to ensure someone gets back to you promptly. The instructor and TA will only be available for the first five hours that the exam is open to answer your questions via email. So please ensure that you write during these times if you foresee that you will need questions answered promptly.

There will be no re-attempts. Once you submit your exam, that is what will be graded. You cannot pass the course if you do not complete the final exam. The exam will include all or a mixture of the following question types: Multiple Choice, True/False, and/or Short Response Questions.

Extra Credit:

Extra credit assignments are not typically offered, but if an opportunity for extra credit arises, this opportunity will be given to the class as a whole. Individual opportunities for extra credit will not be allowed.

Final Exam Information

The final exam for this course will be a registrar-scheduled exam to be held during the exam period **Monday April 19 – Thursday April 29, 2021.** The specific date is to be determined. The exam will be held

via the D2L software. The exam will be delivered asynchronously. However, there will be a scheduled 24-hour window of time to complete the exam, ending at the end of the registrar-scheduled time. This is to ensure that students have access to the instructor in real-time in case there are technical or exam-related issues that need to be addressed quickly. Students will have 75 minutes to complete the exam from when they start the exam. Students will have only one try to complete the exam.

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned and submitted to the registrar based on the following scale:

Grade	Percent range	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	96 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding performance
A	90 – 95.99%	4.0	Excellent performance
A-	85 – 89.99%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80 – 84.99%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
B	75 – 79.99%	3.0	Good performance
B-	70 – 74.99%	2.7	Approaching good performance
C+	67 – 69.99%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	63 – 66.99%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
C-	59 – 62.99%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	55 – 58.99%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	50 – 54.99%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	<50%	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Passing Grades

A passing grade for any of the course components is 50% or a letter grade of D. However, to satisfactorily understand course material and be prepared for further study in sociology, students should strive to achieve a grade higher than 50%. Please contact the instructor or TA if you require support throughout the term.

Absences and Deferrals

Students who miss class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructor as soon as possible. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, the instructor may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or

assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test.

Deferred Final Exam Form: Please note that requests to defer a Registrar scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar's Office. Further information can be found at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term requires a form to be filled out by the student and submitted, along with any supporting documentation, to the instructor. The form is available at:

<https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/deferral-of-term-work-2020.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the instructor will email the form to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (ascarts@ucalgary.ca) for approval by the Associate Dean.

Grade Reappraisal

Within two weeks of the date the exam/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of one's mark. The instructor will reconsider the grade assigned and will then book a time with the student to discuss his or her work and rationale. It should be noted that a re-assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.

Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. Because the assignments are graded on a pass/fail basis, late assignments **will not be accepted**. This is to ensure equity in grading for all students since deductions are not possible.
2. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
3. **Protection of Privacy:** The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they can provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary
4. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

Research Ethics

Students are advised that any research with human subjects – including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation – must have the approval of the Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws->

lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s).

These materials **may NOT** be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Recording of Lectures

The audio or video recording of lectures and taking screenshots of PowerPoint slides during the lecture are not permitted without explicit authorization. The non-authorized media recording of lectures is inconsistent with the Code of Conduct and may result in discipline in accordance with the Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure. For more information click

here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

Sharing of Lecture Notes and Exam Questions

Publicly sharing lecture notes and exam questions on 3rd party sites such as OneClass, StudyBlue, Quizlet, Course Hero, etc. is not permitted. If you wish to use these helpful studying tools, make sure you adjust your privacy settings accordingly. Any violations are subject to investigation under the UofC Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy. For more information, click

here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

Academic Misconduct

Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Academic Accommodation

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Libraries & Cultural Resources

To contact your librarian or find out about the resources and services available to sociology students go to the Sociology Library guide: <https://library.ucalgary.ca/guides/sociology>

To access the main Library website go to: <https://library.ucalgary.ca>

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through Student Wellness Services (Room 370 MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success>

Student Ombuds Office

The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca.

Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or suvpaca@ucalgary.ca; Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives, can be found here: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca>.

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website:

<https://live-risk.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points>

Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.