

GER501 Studies in Gerontology

Level: 5

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY JULY

Synopsis:

Studies in Gerontology takes a multidimensional perspective to ageing and integrate key concepts and theories of gerontology for application to the local and international contexts. Beginning with the theoretical foundation for understanding the individual, this course moves on to examine the social, economic and ethical issues and trends and effects of an ageing population, preparing students for leadership in this field. Discussions and debates about the current issues that cut across disciplines will be held in the classroom e.g. intergenerational issues, changes in family dynamics resulting from global as well as local social changes, ageism in private and public spheres, and whether policies and legislation affecting Singaporean older people and their families are effective. A half day field trip for those students who have not visited an eldercare agency previously may be organized out of the classroom time for their learning exposure (optional).

Topics:

- Global ageing phenomenon
- Key concepts and their definitions (two sessions)
- Ageism and its effects on older people
- Values clarification
- Major theories of ageing
- Effects of an ageing population
- Gender, class and ethnicity
- Active and productive ageing
- Social support, elderly's wellbeing and community
- Social policies and legislation related to older adults
- Ethical issues in ageing
- Achieving the right balance of family and state support

Textbooks:

Morgan, L. A. and Kunkel, S.R.: Aging, Society, and the Life Course, 5th edition (2011) 5 Belmont, NY: Springer.
ISBN-13: 9780826121721-AA

Morgan, L. A. and Kunkel, S.R.: Aging, Society, and the Life Course, 5th edition (2011) 5 Belmont, NY: Springer.
ISBN-13: 9780826121721

Learning Outcome:

- discuss the broad multi-disciplinary perspective on the ageing process
- critique and meaningfully apply the major gerontological theories
- develop self-awareness of their values, and attitudes towards older people
- assess and discuss the positive contributions and potentials of older populations
- analyse the issue of ageism and the challenges facing marginalised older persons
- appraise ethical, legal and social issues related to older persons

Assessment Strategies:

Continuous Assessment Component	Weightage (%)
TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT	25
GROUP BASED ASSIGNMENT	25
Sub-Total	50

Examinable Component	Weightage (%)
Written Exam	50
Sub-Total	50

Weightage Total **100**