

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

PSYC 336 GERONTOLOGY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The facts of demography describe the background and present status of elderly people in the United States. Then the biological, psychological and sociological factors in aging will be studied to promote an in-depth understanding of the dynamics of aging. The dying-grieving processes, as well as LTC policies and government-sponsored programs are explored.

RATIONALE

As the Baby Boomer generation enters retirement and old age, topics like Medicare and Social Security have risen to the forefront of national attention. The entrance of this large birth cohort into this phase of life has important implications for health care and the economy, among other issues. This course will seek to explain the process of aging so that students who interact with older adults will have a foundation upon which to base their relationships and work.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Describe the major theories in gerontology.
- B. Analyze issues related to behavior and mental processes in older adulthood.
- C. Evaluate concepts from gerontology from a biblical perspective.

- D. Apply gerontological research and theory to real life situations involving older adults.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and presentations

- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Discussion Board Forums (3)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student will participate in 3 Discussion Board Forums. For each Discussion Board Forum, the student must submit a thread of at least 300 words. The student must then submit a reply to at least 1 of his or her fellow students. Replies must be at least 150 words. Current APA citation style must be used for these Discussion Board Forums, and the student must cite the textbook at least 1 time in each of his or her threads.

- D. Blog Entries (7)

The student will be required to maintain a weekly blog (in Blackboard) that notes instances in which he or she encounters some event that has relevance for his or her understanding of aging. In addition to the blog entries, the student must comment on 1 of his or her fellow student's blog each module/week (for a total of 7 comments). These comments need not be overly long, but they must be substantial.

- E. Writing Assignment

The student will have the option to choose between completing either a 5-page research paper or an 8–10-page life story paper.

The research paper must be in current APA format, with a title page, abstract, and bibliography included. The title page, abstract, and bibliography DO NOT count as part of the 5 pages. The student must have at least 5 references in this paper.

The life story paper must be in current APA format as well, with a title page included. It is not necessary to have any citations in this paper.

- F. Field Experience Project

This assignment requires the student to work with an older adult and keep a journal of the student's experiences. The student will submit a 1-page Arrangement Description and then a Final Submission.

- G. LearnSmart (14)

There will be one LearnSmart Assignment per chapter in Connect. The LearnSmart Assignments will introduce important topics from each chapter incrementally based on students understanding and mastery. The LearnSmart assignments are expected to take students 20-45 minutes per chapter.

H. Exams (4)

The student will complete 4 comprehensive exams. These exams are based entirely on the textbook, and they are open-book/open-notes. Each exam will include 50 multiple-choice and true/false questions, and the student will have 1 hour and 30 minutes to finish the exam. There will be a deduction of 1 point per minute for going over the time limit.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (3 at 50 pts ea)	150
Blogs (7 at 15 pts ea)	105
Writing Assignment	140
Field Experience Project	
Arrangement Description	5
Final Submission	100
LearnSmart (14 at 10 pts ea)	140
Exams (4 at 90 pts ea)	360
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 900–1010 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

PSYC 336

Textbook: Quadagno, *Aging and the Life Course* (2018).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Quadagno: chs. 1, 4 1 presentation	Course Requirements Checklist	10
		Class Introductions	0
		Blog Entry 1	15
		LearnSmart	20
2	Quadagno: chs. 2 - 3 1 presentation	Blog Entry 2	15
		Field Experience Project: Arrangement Description	5
		LearnSmart	20
		Exam 1	90
3	Quadagno: chs. 5, 14 1 presentation	DB Forum 1	50
		Blog Entry 3	15
		LearnSmart	20
4	Quadagno: chs. 6 - 7 1 presentation	DB Forum 2	50
		Blog Entry 4	15
		LearnSmart	20
		Exam 2	90
5	Quadagno: ch. 8 1 presentation	DB Forum 3	50
		Blog Entry 5	15
		LearnSmart	10
6	Quadagno: chs. 9 - 10 1 presentation	Blog Entry 6	15
		LearnSmart	20
		Exam 3	90
7	Quadagno: ch. 11 1 presentation	Blog Entry 7	15
		Writing Assignment	140
		LearnSmart	10
8	Quadagno: chs. 12 - 13 1 presentation	Field Experience Project: Final Submission	100
		LearnSmart	20
		Exam 4	90
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.