**SOCI 385 - Sociology of Aging**

**Fall, 2019 (CRN 12939)**

Mondays and Thursdays: 1:00 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.
Classroom: Cornett A229
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**Course Description and Objectives**
For the first time in our history, the vast majority of Canadians can expect to live to old age. Canada’s population also includes more, and a greater proportion, of older people than it ever did before. Similar trends are evident in numerous other countries as well. What implications do these and other age-related trends have for our own and others’ experiences with aging? How are they affected by and how do they influence health and social policy?

This course examines these and other aging-related issues in contemporary society from a sociological perspective. Discussion will focus on topics such as the nature and implications of population aging; attitudes, myths and stereotypes regarding aging; income inequalities, work and retirement; family ties and intergenerational relations; and health, health care, and health policy in an aging society. Although the primary focus will be on the Canadian context, the broader international context will also be considered.

**Skills Development**
This course will provide students with an opportunity to apply a sociological lens to issues of aging and old age in social context; to consider linkages between individual aging-related experiences and broader socio-political, economic and historical contexts; to examine one’s own age-related assumptions; and to critically evaluate important aging-related social policies, programs, and practices.

**Course Pre/Co-requisites:** Recommendation(s): SOCI 285 recommended prior to SOCI 385. Recommended prior to SOCI 445.

**Course Organization & Requirements**
There is no required textbook for this course. Required readings for each week will be listed in the course outline. Students are responsible for all assigned readings and class content. All readings should be completed in advance of the class for which they have been assigned.

Course evaluation will be based on:
- Discussion Questions Submitted Based on the Readings (10%)
- Research Paper and Participation in a Class Debate (30%)
- Mid-Term Test (20%)
- In-Class Final Test (15%)
- Term Paper Assignment (25%)

*This online outline is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. Detailed course outlines will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.*