EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 2012
CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

A. Division: Academic

B. Department / Program Area: Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences / Psychology

C: PSYC 3322

D: Developmental Psychology: Adulthood & Aging

E: 3

F: Calendar Description:
In this course, students will examine theory and research on age-related changes in adult physiology, sensory and perceptual abilities, cognition, memory, social relationships, social cognition, personality, and mental and physical health. Current changing age-related demographics and their implications will be presented. The course will explore methods and findings within the psychology of aging, with an emphasis on optimal aging. Stereotypes and attitudes toward older individuals, as well as their effects, will also be discussed.

G: Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings:
Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings:
Lecture

Number of Contact Hours: (per week / semester for each descriptor)
Lecture 4 hours per week/semester

Number of Weeks per Semester:
15

H: Course Prerequisites:
PSYC 1200

I: Course Corequisites:
None

J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite:
None

K: Maximum Class Size:
35

L: PLEASE INDICATE:

- Non-Credit
- College Credit Non-Transfer
- College Credit Transfer: X

SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS (www.bctransferguide.ca)
M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of the course the successful student will be able to:
1. Describe the research methods used by developmental psychologists, particularly in psychology of aging
2. Describe and explain physiological and health changes in adulthood and aging
3. Describe and explain how sensory and perceptual abilities change over adulthood
4. Describe and explain age-related changes in adult memory and cognition
5. Describe and explain how social relationships change and endure in adulthood and aging
6. Describe and explain age-related changes in adult social cognition
7. Describe and explain age-related changes and consistencies in adult personalities
8. Describe and explain mental health issues pertinent to aging
9. Analyze the implications of aging and attitudes toward aging and older individuals

N: Course Content:

Demographics
- Changing age trends in Canada and globally
- Implications of demographic changes
- Theoretical shifts from decline models to optimal aging

Research Methods
- Descriptive Research
- Correlational Research
- Experimental Research
- Cross-sectional, Longitudinal, and Sequential Research

Changes in Physiology
- Physical Appearance
- Circulation
- Endocrine System
- Brain
- Immune System

Sensory and Perceptual Abilities
- Vision
- Hearing
- Taste, Smell, and Touch

Cognition
- Information Processing
- Problem-solving
- Intelligence
- Expertise
- Wisdom

Memory
- Attention
- Short-term Memory
- Long-term Memory
- Problems with Retrieval

O: Methods of Instruction:

The course will involve a number of instructional methods, such as the following:
- lectures
- small group discussions
- demonstrations
- presentations
- video content
**P:** Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students:

A textbook such as:


**Q:** Means of Assessment:

The course evaluation will be in accordance with Douglas College policy and the Psychology Department. Evaluations will be based on the course objectives. The specific evaluation criteria will be provided by the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

One example of an evaluation scheme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Midterm Exams</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Essay</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**R:** Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR:

No.

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Course Designer(s): Shelley Moore, PhD

Education Council / Curriculum Committee Representative

Dean / Director: Catherine Carlson, PhD

Registrar

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