

**GERIATRIC PSYCHOLOGY**

**PSY 4381/5381 Section 010**

**Fall Semester 2009**

**Monday and Wednesday 1:00 to 2:15 PM**

**Instructor: John G. Jones, Ph.D. ABPP ATR-BC**

**Phone: 325-896-1607 e-mail: [jjones77@web.unc.edu](mailto:jjones77@web.unc.edu)**

**Office: 104 J Academic Building**

**Office Hours: 12:00 – 1:00 Monday & Wednesday and by appointment**

**Required Textbook: Zarit, H. & Zarit, J. (2007) *Mental Disorders in Older Adults* 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York, NY: Guilford Press.**

**Attendance Requirements**

**It is very important for each student to attend each class session as scheduled. You should refer to the University statement of absenteeism, which can be found in the Undergraduate/Graduate catalog. Excessive absences will adversely affect your grade.**

**Goals and Objectives of the Course:**

**By the completion of the course, students should demonstrate a thorough understanding of the following areas:**

**Major domains that explain adult development and aging from the following perspectives:**

- a. Forces of Development and their impact on the aging process**
- b. Physical, Health and Mental Health Changes**
- c. Environmental Factors**
- d. Changes in cognitive process: memory, perception, attention**
- e. What happens to our intelligence**
- f. Personality changes**
- g. Relationships**

**h. Dying and Bereavement**

**i. Clinical Issues, including Assessment and Intervention**

**j. The Future for the Aging**

**Schedule of course of study:**

**The class will spend approximately one week on each assigned chapter(s) of the text.**

**Evaluations:**

**The grade will be assessed on a point system. The total points available will be 200. There will be four major examinations during the course of the semester. These exams will account for 60% of your grade or 120 points (30 points each). 30% of your grade, or 60 points will be derived from written reports, unannounced quizzes and observational research reports. 10% of your grade, or 20 points, will be based on attendance and classroom participation.**

**The tests will be taken from the text, lectures and other assigned materials.**

**All numerical grades will be converted to percentages and these will be expressed as letter grades as indicated by the scale below:**

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Point Range</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>200-180</b>	<b>90-100%</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>179-160</b>	<b>80-89%</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>159-140</b>	<b>70-79%</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>139-120</b>	<b>60-69%</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>119- 000</b>	<b>59-00%</b>

### **Extra Credit Points**

**There are several ways you can earn extra credit. These opportunities will be detailed in class. Participation in obtaining extra credit points will be expected and will be an essential part of meeting the stated goals of the class. Please note, these opportunities are in addition to any assigned reports, exercises, etc., NOT in lieu of them!**

### **Make-up Exams**

**If you know in advance that you will have to be absent on a test date, for any reason, contact or see me to arrange an alternate testing times. There will be no make-up for the final examination.**

### **Honor Code**

**Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is available on the web at**

**<http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pat/honorcde5.pdf>**

### **Disabilities**

**Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.**

### **Research Opportunities:**

**[http://www.angelo.edu/dept/psychology\\_sociology/](http://www.angelo.edu/dept/psychology_sociology/)**

**READING ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE SEMESTER  
MENTAL DISORDERS IN OLDER ADULTS 2 ed.**

**Part I**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Chapter(s)</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

***Additional reading assignments will be made in addition to the text. Students will be responsible for all reading assignments made during the course.***

## **Outside Assignments, Research Papers and Other Opportunities**

**An integral part of this course is to familiarize you with elderly adults in various roles and settings. The additional assignments focus primarily on your exposure to elderly adults, interviewing them, assessing their level of development and self-actualization and understanding the physical, social, environmental and familial that impact their lives.**

**1. One (1) 7 - 10 page research paper that addresses a particular dimension of aging &lor adult development. This paper will be due on November 1, 2009.**

**2. A minimum of three extensive contacts with an elderly adult in three different settings. For example, a person who is still employed, an active person in a retirement community and a person confined to a nursing home. These should not be one-time visits. Observations of how and why these folks are able, or not able, to function at the level they are currently. Get to know these folks and then be able to describe them in terms of developmental level, strengths and weaknesses, etc. These observation papers will be due on December 1, 2009. Length of these papers is up to the student, but they should be thorough, documented and well thought out.**

**3. Extra credit papers, observations, etc. are welcome. However, they are to be complete and professionally done. No last minute down-loads or brief notes.**

**4. To maximize the meaningfulness of this course, as much exposure as you have time for with the elderly population is essential. Just to read the text is really not enough to get a real understanding of the adult developmental process and the multiple pitfalls, as well as the rewards of aging. Good luck, enjoy the course and I am sure you will all do well.**