Fall Semester 2020
Psychology 4331
Psychology of Aging

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

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Phone: 325-896-1607 – Home (preferred)

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Office: 201 D Academic Building

Office hours: 1:00 – 1:00 Mon & Wed and by appointment

Course Description: A study of psychological perspectives of aging and applications. Topics include cognitive and biological changes, psychopathologies and physiological maladies that are unique to this population. Healthy ways to manage these developmental stages and intervention strategies.

Course Credits: 3 Hours

Prerequisite Course: Psychology 2301

Prerequisite skills: Doing basic research, using ASU Library resources, the internet and appropriate professional resources.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be familiar with the major mental and physical health issues of the elderly. He/she will also be familiar with the assessment and treatment of the mental health maladies encountered by this population. The student will be familiar with the multiple end-of-life issues that each elderly person will experience.
Assignments will include two (2) research papers to explore a topic in the area and demonstrate the student’s comprehension of the subject matter. One of the papers will address a specific mental disorder suffered by the elderly patient; and one paper will address a physical illness typically suffered by this population. Student will be expected to keep up with all reading assignments.

Course Delivery: This is a face-to-face course and learning resources and supplemental materials will be provided in class by the instructor.

Recommended Texts and Materials:


Sagar, P. 2020 *Depression and Anxiety: Your Annual Guide to Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment*. University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health White Papers.


Technology Requirements:

Student should be able to access all available research tools and to avail themselves of the use of the University Writing Lab. Student should be familiar with the instructional aid Blackboard.

Topic Outline:

The course will address the mental health maladies and physical maladies of the elderly population, to include: description, assessment and treatment. The course schedule will consist of covering appropriate assignments in the Zarit & Zarit text, the two White papers and any additional information provided by the instructor.
COMMUNICATION:

All phone calls and e-mail messages will be responded to in a timely manner. Preferred phone and e-mail are the instructor’s home contact information, due to his limited time on campus, two days per week. Some e-mail communication will be done via the ASU system and Blackboard.

GRADING:

Evaluation and grading: The course grades will be determined as indicated below:

- **Class Participation:** 20 points
- **Research Papers:** 100 points (50 points each)
- **Examinations (3):** 150 points (50 points each)
- **Total Possible Points:** 270 points

The following grading scale is in use for this course:

- A = 270 – 243
- B = 242 – 216
- C = 215 – 189
- D = 188 – 162
- F = 161 and below

TEACHING STRATEGIES

Students will be expected to avail themselves of current professional literature and other applicable resources pertinent to this course of study. For example, professional sites on the internet, peer-review journals and clinical experiences.

ASSIGNMENT AND ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS

There are two primary out-of-class assignments for this class. There will be one 10 page research paper, addressing a psychiatric malady of the elderly of your
choice. There will also be one 10 page research paper addressing a physical malady of the elderly of your choice. The papers will be double-spaced and have 10 pages of content! The cover page, abstract page and references DO NOT count as part of the 10 pages. There will also be a minimum of 5 appropriate references to support the content of the paper. Attention should be made to grammar, spelling and sentence and paragraph structure. This is a professional paper! The papers will be written and referenced utilizing the APA format. If you are not familiar with this, just look in your text or any psychology book or journal. The writing lab has this format and it is also available on-line. Particular attention should be paid to the proper way to reference a source in the body of the paper. These are important aspects of the course. Each paper is worth 50 points, more than 1/3 of your grade, so do well!

The research papers will be submitted directly to the instructor in class. Important due dates to remember:

**Psychological Malady** – 9--21--2020

**Physical Malady** – 10--26--2020

**Extra Credit Points**

Extra credit submissions will be worth a maximum of 5 points each and there are several ways you can earn them. Participation in research projects, book review, clinical experience, etc. Participating in extra credit point activities are expected and are an essential part of meeting the stated goals of the class. Please note, these opportunities are in addition to any assigned reports, exercised, etc., NOT in lieu of them!

**Late work, Missed Assignments or Missed Exams Policy**

Due dates on major assignments will be made on the first day of class, as will the exam schedule. They are also spelled out in this syllabus. Due date are expected to be adhered to and there will be a 5-point deduction from your
GRADE FOR LATENESS. NO ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED 
MORE THAN TWO WEEKS PAST THE ASSIGNED DUE DATES. MISSED 
EXAMS MUST BE MADE UP WITHIN TWO WEEKS OF THE EXAM DATE. 
THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM IN THIS COURSE AND THERE WILL BE NO 
MAKE-UP FOR THE THIRD EXAM DUE TO RESTRICTIONS PLACE ON 
ASSIGNMENTS DURING DEAD WEEK BY THE UNIVERSITY.

GENERAL POLICIES RELATED TO THIS COURSE

ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO FOLLOW THE POLICIES AND 
PROCEDURES PRESENTED IN THESE DOCUMENTS:

ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT HANDBOOK
ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY CATALOG

ATTENDANCE WILL BE TAKEN DAILY, AS REQUIRED BY ANGELO 
STATE UNIVERSITY. EXCESSIVE ABSENCES WILL ADVERSELY 
AFFECT YOUR GRADE.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY

IT IS THE STATED POLICY THAT INCOMPLETE GRADES BE RESERVED 
FOR STUDENT ILLNESS OR PERSONAL MISFORTUNE. PLEASE 
CONTACT FACULTY IF YOU HAVE SERIOUS ILLNESS OR A PERSONAL 
Misfortune that would keep you from completing assigned 
course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU 
OPERATING POLICY 10.11 GRADING PROCEDURES FOR MORE 
INFORMATION.

STUDENT ABSENCE FOR OBSERVANCE OF RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS

A STUDENT WHO INTENDS TO OBSERVE A RELIGIOUS HOLY DAY 
SHOULD MAKE THAT INTENTION KNOWN IN WRITING TO THE 
INSTRUCTOR PRIOR TO THE ABSENCE. SEE ASU OPERATING 
POLICY 10.19 STUDENT ABSENCE FOR OBSERVANCE OF 
RELIGIOUS HOLY DAY FOR MORE INFORMATION.

COPYRIGHT POLICY

STUDENTS OFFICIALLY ENROLLED IN THIS COURSE SHOULD MAKE 
ONLY ONE COPY OF THE GIVEN ARTICLES AND/OR CHAPTERS. YOU 
ARE EXPRESSLY PROHIBITED FROM DISTRIBUTING OR REPRODUCING 
ANY PORTION OF COURSE READINGS IN PRINTED OR ELECTRONIC
Syllabus Changes

The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary during this course, the faculty member will notify students of such changes by e-mail, course announcements and/or via discussion board announcement. It is the student’s responsibility to look for such communications about the course on a daily basis.

Title IX at Angelo State University

ASU is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working and living environment where students, faculty, staff and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with title VII, Title IX, the violence Against Women Act, the Campus Sexual Violence Eliminations Act, and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which included pregnancy and other type of sexual misconduct. Sexual misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence and any misconduct based on sex, sexual violence and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:
Online: [WWW.ANGELO.EDU/INCIDENT-FORM](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form)

Face-to Face: Mayer Administration Building, room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022

E-mail: [MICHELLE.BOONE@ANGELO.EDU](mailto:michelle.boone@angelo.edu)

**Note:** As a faculty member at ASU, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-hour crisis helpline (325-484-6345) or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct Title IX of ASU police, please visit: [WWW.ANGELO.EDU/TITLE-IX](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

Course Schedule:

**Weekly Assignments**

**Week 1** Zarit & Zarit Chaps. 1 & 2  Pp 1-10 Memory white pages

**Week 2** Zarit & Zarit Chap. 3  Pp. 14 - 23 Memory White Pages

**Week 3** Zarit & Zarit Chap. 4  Pp. 1 – 17 & 52 – 59 Depression White Pager

**Week 4** Zarit & Zarit Chap. 5  TEST # 1

**Week 5** Zarit & Zarit Chaps. 6 & 7

**Week 6** Zarit & Zarit Chap. 8

**Week 7** Zarit & Zarit Chap. 9  Pp. 19 – 52 Depression White pages

**Week 8** Zarit & Zarit Chap. 10  Pp 60 – 69 Depression white pages  TEST # 2

**Week 9** Zarit & Zarit Chap. 11
Week 10 Zarit & Zarit Chap. 12  Pp. 52 – 66 Memory White Pages

Week 11  Zarit & Zarit Chaps. 13 & 14

Week 12 Zarit & Zarit Chap. 15  TEST # 3

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER: PAPERS DUE DATES & EXAM DATES:


Exams: # 1 Week 4   # 2 Week 8   # 3 Week 12

Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course

Students will be given an opportunity to evaluate the course and faculty. ASU uses the IDEA system administered Through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers the IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion.

Student Learning Objectives for this Course

1. Gaining a basic understanding of the subject matter of this course.

2. Developing knowledge and understanding of diverse perspectives, especially of the elderly population

3. Learning to apply course material

4. Developing specific skills, competencies and points of view needed by professionals in the field of geriatric psychology

5. Developing skills in expressing oneself orally and in writing about the subject matter covered in this course

6. Learning how to find, evaluate, and use resources to explore a topic in depth
7. Developing ethical reasoning/or ethical decision making
8. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments and points of view
9. Learning to apply knowledge and skills to benefit others and/or serve the public good

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject to academic disciplinary action and possible expulsion form ASU. The College of Health and Human Services adheres to the University’s statement of Academic Integrity.

Plagiarism is a serious issue, especially with writing research papers. It is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. In your discussions and/or papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas, giving appropriate credit to the source, both in the body of your paper and in the references.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the University. The University is in complete compliance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act on 1990 and its amendments in 2008.

Student Disability Services is in the Office of Student Affairs and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a
disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request.

Contact person for student disabilities services is:

Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112
325-942-2047

** NOTE**  THE USE OF CELL PHONES, SMART PHONES, I-PADS, TABLETS, OR ANY OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES, EXCEPT THOSE AUTHORIZED, WILL NOT BE TOLERATED IN THIS CLASS. Unless they are being utilized in the making of notes, recording the lectures or as an aid to facilitate a handicap, they are distracting and disrespectful of the instructor and other students. If you have an emergency call, please step out of the class to take the call. I realize that being out of contact contact with the outside world for an hour might cause some anxiety and I apologize in advance for any discomfort.