HLTH AGE 4C03: REPRESENTATIONS OF HEALTH AND ILLNESS ACROSS THE LIFE COURSE
Fall 2018

Instructor: Dr. James Gillett
Email: gillett@mcmaster.ca
Lecture: Tuesday 7:00 – 10:00 LRW 1056
Office: KTH 234, ext.24825
Office Hours: by appointment

Contents
Course Objectives ............................................................................................................... 3
Required Materials and Texts ............................................................................................... 3
Class Format ......................................................................................................................... 3
Course Evaluation .................................................................................................................. 3
  Written Assignments ....................................................................................................... 3
  Weekly Presentations (25%) ............................................................................................ 3
Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings ............................................................ 4
  Week 1 (Sept 4) .............................................................................................................. 4
  Week 2 (Sept 11) .......................................................................................................... 4
  Week 3 (Sept 18) .......................................................................................................... 4
  Week 4 (Sept 25) .......................................................................................................... 4
  Week 5 (Oct 2) ............................................................................................................. 4
  Week 6 (Oct 9) ............................................................................................................. 5
  Week 7 (Oct 16) .......................................................................................................... 5
  Week 8 (Oct 23) .......................................................................................................... 5
  Week 9 (Oct 30) .......................................................................................................... 5
  Week 10 (Nov 6) ......................................................................................................... 6
  Week 11 (Nov 13) ....................................................................................................... 6
  Week 12 (Nov 20) ....................................................................................................... 6
  Week 13 (Nov 27) ....................................................................................................... 6
  Week 14 (Dec 4) ......................................................................................................... 7
Course Policies .................................................................................................................... 7
Grades ............................................................................................................................... 7
Late Assignments .............................................................................................................. 7
University Policies ........................................................................................................... 7
Academic Integrity Statement .......................................................................................... 7
Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities ............................................... 8
Religious, Indigenous and Spiritual Observances (RISO) .............................................. 8
Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy ............................................. 8
Course Modification ...................................................................................................... 9
Course Objectives
This course uses an inquiry-based approach to engage students in critical debates regarding the portrayal of people across the life span with a particular attention to the condition of later life and forms of aging. Students will engage in conceptual knowledge on myth making in contemporary late modern societies, looking critically at the intersection between meaning and power. A specific focus will be on the use of narrative and visual images in research on representations. Over the term, students will explore a series of different themes on the misrepresentation of older adults including their health and illness. In partnership with the “Seniors in Canada” in groups students will construct their own portrayal of an older adult in Hamilton in conjunction with the Royal Botanical Gardens. This activity will be incorporated into the “Seniors in Canada” project.

Required Materials and Texts
There is no text in this course. The schedule below lists the readings for each week. All are available through the McMaster library system.

Class Format
Each class will feature a combination of lecture, group work and discussion. In each class, there is an expectation that students will contribute to learning. The nature of this contribution will vary as the course enfolds.

Course Evaluation
Please submit all written assignments double-spaced with one-inch borders in 12-pitch font. Please include a list of references and a title page that includes your name, ID number and date. Please use APA style or another standardized style found in a scholarly journal.

Written Assignments
Students will write two critical analysis papers. The first (worth 35%; due October 23; five to eight pages) discusses key concepts and methods used in research on understanding the representation of aging. In the second (worth 40%; due early December; ten to twenty pages) students working in groups will draw on the course material to develop their own portrayal of an older adult in text of their life course. More guidance will be available in class.

Weekly Presentations (25%)
In each class, there are mandatory informal presentations and group work. The presentations will be marked pass or fail. For inadequate or missed presentations, students can submit a two page written summary. A mark in the A range will be given once students have provided an adequate presentation or summary for each week.
Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings

Week 1 (Sept 4)
Overview
No Readings

Week 2 (Sept 11)
Ageism and Aging
Readings:
• Jönson, H. (2012). We will be different! Ageism and the temporal construction of old age. The Gerontologist, 53(2), 198-204.


Week 3 (Sept 18)
Myths and Meaning
Readings:


Week 4 (Sept 25)
Photo Voice and Narrative
Readings:


Week 5 (Oct 2)
Intergenerational
Readings:


Week 6 (Oct 9)
Reading Week

Week 7 (Oct 16)
Intersectionality
Readings:


Week 8 (Oct 23)
Health and Well Being
Readings:


Notes: Assignment 1 due

Week 9 (Oct 30)
Form of Aging
Readings:


Week 10 (Nov 6)
Print Media and Advertising
Readings:

Week 11 (Nov 13)
Electric Media
Readings:

Week 12 (Nov 20)
Arts Based
Readings:

Week 13 (Nov 27)
Photography and Images
Readings:

Week 14 (Dec 4)

Conclusion
Readings:


Course Policies

Grades
Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MARK</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85-90</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
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<td>50-52</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-49</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Late Assignments
Please contact the professor if you have a late assignment or anticipate that an assignment will be late.

University Policies

Academic Integrity Statement
You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behavior in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.
Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behavior can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at [www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity](http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity).

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

**Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities**

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail sas@mcmaster.ca. For further information, consult McMaster University’s Policy for Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities.

If you require this course outline in an alternate/accessible format, please contact the Department of Health, Aging & Society (ext. 27227 | e-mail: hasdept@mcmaster.ca).

**Religious, Indigenous and Spiritual Observances (RISO)**

The University recognizes that, on occasion, the timing of a student’s religious, Indigenous, or spiritual observances and that of their academic obligations may conflict. In such cases, the University will provide reasonable academic accommodation for students that is consistent with the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Please review the [RISO information for students in the Faculty of Social Sciences](http://www.mcmaster.ca/has/riso) about how to request accommodation.

**Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy**

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student’s own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster
account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

Course Modification
The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.