The University of Western Ontario  
School of Health Studies  
Health Sciences 4721B-001  
AGING & MARGINALIZED POPULATIONS

Instructor: Dr. Savundranayagam  
Email: msavund@uwo.ca  
Office Room Number: HSB219  
Office Hours: Thursday, 12:30-2:00 p.m.  
Course Meeting Times: Thursday, 2:30-4:30 p.m. plus an online component  
Location: TBA  
Prerequisite: HS 2711

Prerequisite Checking  
Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites. Please refer to the Western’s current Academic Calendar at www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca.

Course Information  
This course examines aging from the perspective of vulnerable, under represented and at-risk populations. Students will develop an understanding of the unique health experiences and challenges faced by older individuals who are relegated to, or find themselves on, the margins of society. Students will develop an understanding of how the intersection between age and other socio-demographic characteristics (e.g., gender, ethnicity, socio-economic status, and sexual orientation) contributes to marginality and challenging health experiences. Topics that will be covered include aging prisoners, LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered) older adults, poverty, homelessness, elder abuse, and aging with HIV/AIDS.

Learning Outcomes: Participation in this course will enable students to:  
a) Be aware of the heterogeneity among older adults associated with socio-demographic characteristics, such as gender, ethnicity, socio-economic status, and sexual orientation.  
b) Relate observed health disparities to socio-demographic characteristics among older adults.  
c) Articulate personal, cultural and societal attitudes affecting marginalization populations.  
d) Develop the ability to bring a life course lens when assessing the strengths and challenges facing marginalized populations.
# Course Materials

Course materials are available on OWL.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session: Date</th>
<th>Readings/Assignments</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online discussion</td>
<td>Aging Prisoners&lt;br&gt;• Documentary: Prisoners of Age (con’t)&lt;br&gt;• Annual Report of the Office of the Correctional Investigator, 2010-2011. <em>Special Focus on Elderly Prisoners</em>. (Read pages 20-25 only)&lt;br&gt;• Discussion: Should aging prisoners be placed elsewhere?</td>
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**LGBT Elders in nursing home: Case study analysis**

**Health of Transgendered Older Adults**  

**Topic due on OWL**

### 7: Sept. 27

**HIV/AIDS and Aging**  
- Discussion: case studies

**HIV/AIDS and Aging: Caregiving**  
- Discussion: case studies

### Online

**Online**

**HIV/AIDS and Aging: Resilience**  
- Documentary: Aging POZivitely (35 minutes)

### 9. Oct. 4

**Online**  
**Reflection**

**Exam 1 (in class)**

### 11: Oct. 11

**Fall Break**

### 12: Oct. 18

**Diversity Paper: Professor-Group Consultations**  
**Diversity Paper Discussion: Connecting with community agencies**  
*Please come prepared to discuss strategies to connect with community agencies that work with marginalized populations or populations at risk of marginalization.*

### 15: Oct. 25

**Diversity Paper: Professor-Group Consultations**  
**Diversity Paper Discussion: Connecting with community agencies**  
*Please come prepared to discuss strategies to connect with community agencies that work with marginalized populations or populations at risk of marginalization.*
Ethnocultural Minority Older Adults: Health care and service use

Online Class (and reflection) - Homeless Elders

17: Nov. 1
**Poverty:** The Retirement Income System in Canada

Elder Abuse
- Case studies: diverse situations of elder abuse
- Discussion: Abused Older Men
  Discussion: Identify patterns in diverse cases of elder abuse. What are unique circumstances that perpetuate abuse of older adults?

19: Nov. 8
**Exam 2 (in class)**

21: Nov. 15
**Work on Diversity Paper (no class)**

23: Nov. 22
**Presentations (4)** Please sign up on OWL

25: Nov. 29
**Presentations (4)**

27: Dec. 6
**Presentations (4)**

**Evaluation**
Class attendance is mandatory. There will one midterm examination and one final examination. These exams will be comprised of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions. The content of examinations will be facilitated through lecture material and assigned readings.

Exam 1 = 25% (Oct. 4, 2018; includes content from sessions 1-9)
Group Project (Total = 45%)
- Topic (Sept. 20, 2018, please see Appendix A on OWL)
- Diversity Paper = 25% (Nov. 20, 2018, please see Appendix A on OWL)
• Peer evaluation of individual contributions = 5% (Complete Group and Peer Assessment from 24 hours after group presentation)
• Presentation = 15% (scheduled between Nov. 22 – Dec. 6, 2018, please see Appendix B on OWL)
Participation = 5% (please see Appendix C on OWL)
Exam 2 = 25% (Nov. 8, 2018; includes content after Exam 1)

No Final Exam

Note: Examinations must be taken on the day and time they are scheduled unless other arrangements are made due to health reasons that can be fully documented according to the requirement of the School of Health Sciences program and the University of Western Ontario. If an examination is missed without appropriate documentation as required, no make-up examination will be offered and the student will forfeit that portion of the exam weighting. All approvals for make-up exams must be processed through the School of Health Studies; once approved, they will notify the instructor as to whether a make-up exam is to be scheduled.

The university-wide descriptor of the meaning of letter grades, as approved by Senate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>Superior work that is clearly above average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>Good work, meeting all requirements and eminently satisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>Competent work, meeting requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>Fair work, minimally acceptable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 50</td>
<td>Fail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is expected that the grades for this course will fall between 74% and 80%. In the event that the course average falls outside this range, a constant may be added (or subtracted) from each student’s grade, by the instructor, to bring the class average in line with school policy.

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

During Exams: Unless you have medical accommodations that require you to do so, or explicit permission from the instructor of the course, you may not use any of the following electronic devices during ANY of the tests, quizzes, midterms, examinations, or other in-class evaluations: cellphones, smart phones, smart watches, smart glasses, audio players or recorders of any sort, video cameras, video games, DVD players, televisions, laptop/notebook/netbook computers, flashlights or laser pointers.

During Lectures and Tutorials: Although you are welcome to use a computer during lecture and tutorial periods, you are expected to use the computer for scholastic purposes only, and refrain from engaging in any activities that may distract other students from learning. From time to time, your professor may ask the class to turn off all computers, to facilitate learning or discussion of the material presented in a particular class. Unless explicitly noted otherwise, you may not make audio or video recordings of lectures – nor may you edit, re-use, distribute, or re-broadcast any of the material posted to the course website.
ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

Student Code of Conduct

The purpose of the Code of Student Conduct is to define the general standard of conduct expected of students registered at The University of Western Ontario, provide examples of behaviour that constitutes a breach of this standard of conduct, provide examples of sanctions that may be imposed, and set out the disciplinary procedures that the University will follow. For more information, visit http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/board/code.pdf.

English Proficiency for the Assignment of Grades

Visit the website http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/english.pdf.

Accommodation for Medical Illness or Non-Medical Absences

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

The University recognizes that a student’s ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student’s overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required where a student is seeking academic accommodation. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician or walk-in clinic. An SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Documentation is required for non-medical absences where the course work missed is more than 10% of the overall grade. Students may contact their Faculty Academic Counselling Office for what documentation is needed.

Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner. Documentation for any request for accommodation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the appropriate Academic Counselling Office of the student’s Faculty of registration. For BHSc students, you may go to the School of Health Studies Office in HSB room 222.
**Scholastic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

Additionally,
1. All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (http://www.turnitin.com).
2. Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

**Support Services**

There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:
1. Student Development Centre -- http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/
3. Registrar’s Office -- http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/
4. Ombuds Office -- http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/

**Health and Wellness**

As part of a successful undergraduate experience at Western, we encourage you to make your health and wellness a priority. Western provides several on-campus health-related services to help you achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing your degree. For example, to support physical activity, all students receive membership in Western’s Campus Recreation Centre as part of their registration fees. Numerous cultural events are offered throughout the year. Please check out the Faculty of Music web page (http://www.music.uwo.ca/), or the McIntosh Gallery (http://www.mcintoshgallery.ca/). Further information regarding health and wellness-related services available to students may be found at http://www.health.uwo.ca/.

If you are in emotional or mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. To help you learn more about mental health, Western has developed an interactive mental health learning module, found here: https://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/education/module.html.