

CAS 421 Communication and Aging
Amber K. Worthington
MWF 10:10 – 11:00 (101 Electrical Eng West)
Office Hours: By Appointment
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Communication and Aging concentrates on the pivotal role that communication plays in the social process of aging. An understanding of the communicative behavior of older adults can result in significant improvements in our ability not only to describe the essential components of a quality life, but also to intervene in the various factors that help each of us adapt to the many physiological, psychological, social, and economic challenges of the aging process. Students will master the basic elements of physical aging, psychological aging, social aging, and the role communication plays in each of these interdependent processes. Special attention will be given to the significant decisions that older adults are confronted with in their family, friendship and their professional-health related relationships.

Required Texts:

Harwood, J. (2007). *Understanding communication and aging: Developing Knowledge and awareness*. Los Angeles, CA: Sage.

Nussbaum, J. F., Federowicz, M., & Nussbaum, P. D. (2009). *Brain health and optimal engagement in older adulthood*. Girona, Spain: Editorial Aresta. (order book on Editorial Aresta web site)

Nussbaum, J. F., Miller-Day, M. & Fisher, C. (2009). *Communication and intimacy in older adulthood*. Girona, Spain: Editoria Aresta. (order book on Editorial Aresta website)

Attendance and Participation

Each student is required to attend each class. You are also expected to actively participate in class discussions. Attendance will be taken each day. To earn an A, you cannot miss more than 3 classes. To earn a B, you cannot miss more than 5 classes.

Plagiarism/Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's ideas and/or work as your own. This will result in failure of the assignment and possibly the course. In very extreme cases, University action may be taken. Be sure to properly reference ideas and information that are not originally your own.

Access

The Pennsylvania State University encourages qualified persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation in this course or have questions about physical access, please tell the Professor as soon as possible.

University Sexual Harassment Policy

The Department of Communication Arts and Sciences is committed to the University Sexual Harassment Policy and will not tolerate violations of that policy.

GRADES

Keep Track Here

- Exam 1 100 points _____ x .10 = _____
- Exam 2 100 points _____ x .15 = _____
- Final Exam 100 points _____ x .20 = _____
- Book Report 1 100 points _____ x .10 = _____
- Book Report 2 100 points _____ x .10 = _____
- In Class Assignments:
 - Assignment 1 100 points _____ x .025 = _____
 - Assignment 2 100 points _____ x .025 = _____
 - Assignment 3 100 points _____ x .025 = _____
 - Assignment 4 100 points _____ x .025 = _____
 - Assignment 5 100 points _____ x .025 = _____
 - Assignment 6 100 points _____ x .025 = _____
 - Assignment 7 100 points _____ x .025 = _____
 - Assignment 8 100 points _____ x .025 = _____
 - Assignment 9 100 points _____ x .025 = _____
 - Assignment 10 100 points _____ x .025 = _____

Total (without participation) _____

A 94-100%
A- 90-93%
B+ 87-89%
B 83-86%
B- 80-82%
C+ 77-79%
C 70-76%
D 60-69
F < 60

COURSE SCHEDULE
Fall 2015

DATE		REMINDERS & WHAT'S DUE	AGENDA	TO READ
WEEK 1	Mon 08/24		Introduction to the Course	Syllabus
	Wed 08/26	See ANGEL for ppt slides	Perspectives on Aging	Article on ANGEL
	Fri 08/28	In Class Assignment	Perspectives on Aging	Chapter 1
WEEK 2	Mon 08/31	See ANGEL for ppt slides	A Communication Approach to Aging	
	Wed 09/02		A Communication Approach to Aging	Article on ANGEL
	Fri 09/04	In Class Assignment	A Communication Approach to Aging	Chapter 2
WEEK 3	Mon 09/07	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY	No Class Meeting	
	Wed 09/09	See ANGEL for ppt slides	Stereotypes and Attitudes	Article on ANGEL
	Fri 09/11	In Class Assignment	Stereotypes and Attitudes	Chapter 3
WEEK 4	Mon 09/14	See ANGEL for ppt slides	Aging and Identity	Book Report Assignment
	Wed 09/16		Aging and Identity	Article on ANGEL
	Fri 09/18	In Class Assignment	Aging and Identity	Chapter 4

DATE		REMINDERS & WHAT'S DUE	AGENDA	TO READ
WEEK 5	Mon 09/21	See ANGEL for study guide	Exam Review	
	Wed 09/23		Exam Review	
	Fri 09/25		Exam 1	Intimacy Book
WEEK 6	Mon 09/28	See ANGEL for ppt slides	Communication and Intimacy	
	Wed 09/30		Communication and Intimacy	
	Fri 10/02	Book Report Due	Communication and Intimacy	
WEEK 7	Mon 10/05	See ANGEL for ppt slides	Intra & Intergenerational Relationships	
	Wed 10/07		Intra & Intergenerational Relationships	Article on ANGEL
	Fri 10/09	In Class Assignment	Intra & Intergenerational Relationships	Chapter 5-6
WEEK 8	Mon 10/12	See ANGEL for ppt slides	Enhancing Communication	
	Wed 10/14		Enhancing Communication	Article on ANGEL
	Fri 10/16	In Class Assignment	Enhancing Communication	Chapter 7

DATE		REMINDERS & WHAT'S DUE	AGENDA	TO READ
WEEK 9	Mon 10/19	See ANGEL for ppt slides	Mass Communication Portrayals	
	Wed 10/21		Mass Communication Portrayals	Article on ANGEL
	Fri 10/23	In Class Assignment	Mass Communication Portrayals	Chapter 8
WEEK 10	Mon 10/26	See ANGEL for ppt slides	Uses and Effects of the Media	
	Wed 10/28		Uses and Effects of the Media	Article on ANGEL
	Fri 10/30	In Class Assignment	Uses and Effects of the Media	Chapter 9
WEEK 11	Mon 11/02	See ANGEL for ppt slides	Culture	Book Report Assignment
	Wed 11/04		Culture	Article on ANGEL
	Fri 11/06	In Class Assignment	Culture	Chapter 10
WEEK 12	Mon 11/09	See ANGEL for study guide	Exam Review	
	Wed 11/11		Exam Review	
	Fri 11/13		Exam 2	Brain Book

DATE		REMINDERS & WHAT'S DUE	AGENDA	TO READ
WEEK 13	Mon 11/16	See ANGEL for ppt slides	Brain Health and Communication	
	Wed 11/18		Brain Health and Communication	
	Fri 11/20	Book Report Due	Brain Health and Communication	
THANKSGIVING	Mon 11/23		NO SCHOOL	
	Wed 11/25		NO SCHOOL	
	Fri 11/27		NO SCHOOL	
WEEK 14	Mon 11/30	See ANGEL for ppt slides	Health Care	
	Wed 12/02		Health Care	Article on ANGEL
	Fri 12/04	In Class Assignment	Health Care	Chapter 11
WEEK 15	Mon 12/07	See ANGEL for ppt slides	Technology	
	Wed 12/09		Technology	Chapter 12
	Fri 12/11		Conclusion	Chapter 13