

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 |