# Common Course Outline
## HUSC/SOCL 122
## Aging in a Global Society
### 3 Credits

# The Community College of Baltimore County

## Description

**HUSC/SOCL 122 – Aging in a Global Society** emphasizes six themes: psychosocial stages of development through the lifespan, person/environment interaction, optimal quality of life, cross-cultural factors, how aging is studied, and growing older in a new age of urbanization and technology. This is a course in social gerontology that addresses theories of "normal" aging, and the many challenges and opportunities faced when aging in a post-modern, and aging global society.

## 3 Credits

**Prerequisites:** ESOL 052 and ESOL 053 or ACLT 052 or ACLT 053

## Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:
1. define social gerontology;
2. discuss origins of social gerontology and related areas;
3. evaluate the impact of access to, and successful use of, modern technology on the relationship between older persons and the larger society;
4. distinguish between facts and myths of aging;
5. summarize the biological and physiological changes related to aging, especially chronic illness among the old-old;
6. integrate the theoretical perspectives on aging with the realities of the aging process;
7. analyze diverse populations through population pyramids, and other appropriate data tables, in terms life expectancy, life span and longevity as they relate to health and disease within advanced technological public health care systems;
8. evaluate the cognitive changes that are linked with aging;
9. compare and contrast the theories on aging that explain cognitive changes and adaptations in the modern technological age;
10. identify strategies to resolve social inequality that older adults experience in the modern age, in areas such as access to technology, living arrangements, employment, family/social supports and institutional discrimination;
11. analyze the predictors and critiques of successful aging and active aging/resilience;
12. evaluate current treatment models for alcohol and other substance abuse among older populations;

13. describe the current patterns of polypharmacy among the older population, while examining coordinated efforts to support healthy use of prescription and over the counter medications/drugs;
14. dissect retirement as a status and a social process that affects economic well-being, roles, and activities in old age;
15. evaluate diverging, global attitudes toward death and end of life ethics in our diverse culture, as well as explore bereavement, grief, and mourning;
16. find, evaluate, use and cite appropriate academic resources to research aging populations using appropriate technology; and
17. examine social policies and social problems affecting older adults in the U.S. among diverse populations, including increasing immigrant populations.

## Major Topics
   I. Historical issues in aging
   II. Sociological theories of aging
   III. Physical and social changes with aging
   IV. Personality and mental health among varied populations
   V. Diverse living environments
   VI. Love and sexuality in aging
   VII. Medications and substance use
   VIII. Death and dying within cultural and ethical contexts
   IX. Race/ethnicity and aging
   X. Productive aging
   XI. Access to and use of new technologies for aging well
   XII. Gender and aging
   XIII. Public policies and the aged
   XIV. Careers and aging populations

## Course Requirements

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

## Grading/exams
   A minimum of three written assessments
   A living history interview assignment
   A presentation

Written Assignments: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources.

### *Other Course Information*
This course is a program elective in the Human Services Counseling degree program, and may also be taken by students in other programs or majors.  This course is an approved General Education course in the Social and Behavioral Sciences. This course is also an approved General Education Diversity course.

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