COURSE SYLLABUS

Please read the following course syllabus carefully, especially the course dates, times and location. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to communicate with the IDEAL Program office, your academic advisor, or the instructor.

The IDEAL degree-completion program is designed with the adult learner in mind. Adult learners approach learning with specific goals, want to be able to directly apply new learning to their work and personal lives, and tend to learn best when the coursework is problem-centered so that they are actively engaged in the learning process. In addition, adults bring rich and varied experience to the classroom, which becomes a valuable learning resource for other students.

The IDEAL Program assumes joint responsibility in the learning process. The activities and assignments in the courses build on the shared experience of all learners in each class. This is why each student’s preparation, participation and interaction in class activities and discussions are critical to the success of each course. The accelerated format of each course requires a significant amount your time outside the classroom to prepare for and complete the course assignments. This varies between students and courses; however, students typically spend nine-twelve hours per week on course material.

To participate in the IDEAL Program, it is expected that you will do the following:

1. Attend every class session. Be on time.
2. Obtain the required course materials prior to the first class session.
3. Complete the first assignment prior to the first class session and all subsequent assignments to the best of your ability.
4. Participate in the class discussions and demonstrate respect and consideration to the instructor and other students when they express themselves in discussion.

If you cannot perform these four expectations, it is recommended that you drop the course. We look forward to your academic success in each course and the ultimate completion of your degree.
Course No. & Title: HUSV 101 Intro to Gerontology  
Semester and Term: FALL 2015  
Day and Dates: Thursdays 8/27/2015 – 9/24/2015  
Time: 6pm-10pm  
Campus Location: Bridgeport, Wahlstrom Library Room 500A

Course Description:
The Introduction To Gerontology is an interdisciplinary overview of the implications of aging in the United States. This course is designed to familiarize the student who is seeking a career in the study of Gerontology. The student will have an understanding of Gerontology through the exploration of topics in: psychology, sociology, economics, cultural groups, governmental programs, and the living environment of our aging population.

Instructor & contact information:
Barbara Howard, MBA, MA  
Phone: 203-733-832-  
Email: bahoward@bridgeport.edu or bhoward196@snet.net

Required Textbook:


To order textbooks, go to the bookstore website at ubcampusstore.com

Learning Outcomes:
Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge, skills, and techniques in the areas of:

* A comprehensive study of Gerontology in the American Society  
* Theoretical pioneers in the study of adult development and social gerontology  
* Facts vs. Myths as it relates to the aging population  
* The psychological, sociological, and biological functions of the aging  
* Stereotypes, stigma, and prejudice in the workforce  
* The Art of Retirement: finances, supplements, and living environments  
* Policies, Programs, and the Political Movements in support of the aging population  
* Understand Elisabeth Kubler-Ross: “5” different Stages of Dying
Writing Instructions:

- Cover Page: Your Name, Date, & Title of Paper
- The paper must be typed—hand written papers will not be accepted
- All resources must be cited and listed on a separate reference page.

Session #1: August 27, 2015

Chapter 1: Aging In America
Chapter 2: Stereotypes and Images
Chapter 3: Social and Psychological Theories in Later Life

1st Assignment Due (bring assignment to class)

Explain how the growing proportion of older adults in the United States may affect the nation economically, politically, residentially, and culturally.

Session #2: September 3, 2015

Chapter 4: Physical Health and Wellbeing
Chapter 5: Mental Health
Chapter 6: Friends, Family and Community
Chapter 7: Intimacy and Sexuality

2nd Assignment Due

How does memory and learning change with age? What can help maintain memory in old age?

Session #3: September 10, 2015

Chapter 8: Work & Leisure
Chapter 9: Finances & Lifestyles
Chapter 10: Living Environments

In class exam on chapters 1-7
Session #4 September 17, 2015

Chapter 11: The Oldest Old & Caregiving

Chapter 12: Special Problems

Chapter 13: Women and Ethnic Groups

4th Assignment Due

Interview

Interview someone aged 65 or older not related to you. If you do not know someone in this age range, go to a local senior center, senior housing, or ask a relative. Tell them the purpose of the interview. DO NOT BE DECEITFUL OR MISLEAD THEM IN ANY WAY! Identify yourself as a UB student and inform them that this interview will be the basis for a paper you will be submitting to a class. Assure them that their names will be kept confidential and that you will identify them in the paper as Ms. T or Mr. Y. You should also assure them that any identifying information such as their jobs, family information and other facts would be quoted without identifying information. For example if they worked for a specific company as CEO, you would indicate that they were CEO of Company X.

Some suggested questions are listed below; however, please feel free to ask your own questions. You do not need to ask all of them. Think of this as a conversation where you get to know someone.

Ask them about their life history. Where were they born? What was it like growing up compared to life today? What they are proud of about their lives. Ask about how they feel about their aging, how aging has affected their day-to-day activities. What are the good things about aging and what are the challenges? Have they experienced age discrimination? Are they treated more respectfully?

The interview should be 3-5 pages in length and must be written as a narrative. Papers submitted in a question and answer format will be penalized. (15% of grade).

Session #5: September 24, 2015

Chapter 14: Death & Dying

Chapter 15: Politics, Policies, & Programs

In class exam
Grading Criteria:

Attendance/Participation 15%

Paper #1 15%

Paper #2 15%

Interview 15%

Midterm and final exam 20% (each)

*Assignments that are not turned in the night they are due will automatically receive half credit. If they are not received by midnight of the due date they will not be accepted.

Letter Grading Scale:

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ACADEMIC POLICIES

Attendance Policy

Classroom attendance is an integral part of the academic experience; therefore, students are expected to attend all class sessions. If an absence is unavoidable, the student, prior to class, should advise the instructor. Arrangements should be made at that time for additional assignments if appropriate. It is also expected that students arrive on time and not leave until the class is dismissed. Tardiness will result in a reduced grade for the course. If you cannot attend every class session you should consider dropping the course.

IMPORTANT:

- Missing one class session will drop the final grade by one letter grade (for example if the student earned a grade of “B” in the course, the final grade would be a “C”).
- Missing two or more class sessions will be cause for a failing grade.
- Note: For 15 week courses; missing two class sessions will result in a letter grade drop and three or more will cause a failing grade.
Incomplete grade

An incomplete may be given, at the discretion of the instructor, to those students who fail to complete assignments due the last day of your course. These would include absence from a final examination or inability to complete terminal assignments (papers, presentations) due to illness, employment conflicts, etc.

Incompletes will not be given to a student who fails to complete any assignment during the term. At the discretion of the instructor, these assignments could be completed no later than the last scheduled day of your class.

Drop Procedures

To drop a course, you must complete and submit a Schedule Change Request Form. The form can be accessed at the following web page:

http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2595.asp

Starting Fall 2012

- Add and/or Drop a course after the start date............$30.00 per transaction
- Drop prior to the start of classes........................................100% Tuition Refund
- Drop prior to the second class session..............................75% Tuition Refund
- Drop prior to the third class session.................................50% Tuition Refund
- Drop after the third class session........................................0% Tuition Refund

**Please note students will not be automatically dropped for missing the first class. Missing one class session will drop the final grade by one letter grade. If you have to miss the first class, or the first week of class for online classes, you must contact your instructor in writing before or after the first class/first week. However, a grade reduction will apply.

Please print and complete the form and fax the form to the IDEAL Office: 203-576-4537. Prior to dropping a course, the student should contact their IDEAL Academic Advisor to understand the implications to financial aid and/or degree plan progress.

Please review the Academic Calendar to see the fees for a drop and the impact on tuition. The Academic Calendar can be found at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2595.asp

Cell Phones

Cell phones must be turned off while in the classroom. A cell phone call is disruptive and disrespectful to the other students in the class.

Academic Dishonesty
We are committed to intellectual integrity in our academic pursuits; therefore, the IDEAL program prohibits all forms of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is normally defined as, but not limited to, the following two categories:

Cheating – Using inappropriate sources of information in an assignment or on a test. The following are examples of cheating taken from real student experiences:

Case #1: A student is enrolled in an introductory computer-programming course. He has co-workers who program in the same language as his final project. As the end of the term approaches, he wonders how he will find the time to get the project finished, and asks one of his co-workers for help. His co-worker hands him a disk with a complete program similar to the kind required for the course project. The student makes minor modifications to the program, and submits it under his own name.

Case #2: A student enrolled in a religious studies course has never taken a humanities or history course, and is unsure about how to structure a research paper. She is doing research on the World Wide Web, and comes across a paper written by a student from another university. Using her computer mouse, she copies and pastes the document into her word processor. She goes to great lengths to re-word the paper in her own style, but essentially leaves the content and organization the same.

Plagiarism – Intentional as well as unintentional failure to acknowledge sources as well as the use of commercially available so-called “research papers” without full recognition of the source. Presenting as one’s own, the ideas, words, or products of another. The following are examples of plagiarism taken from real student experiences:

Case #3: A student is conducting research for a Civil War research paper. He has reviewed work on the Internet as well as in the library. Finding helpful information, he has summarized his findings without citing his sources. He believes that minor paraphrasing is all that is necessary.

Case #4: A student is writing a paper that requires her to address specific topics and problems in the assigned course textbook. She takes the information directly from the textbook with slight modification, without giving any citation. She thinks that since it is the course textbook, she doesn’t have to use quotations or citations.
Academic dishonesty applies to all courses, assignments or exams completed by students and submitted as their own original work, whether in person or by electronic means. The University does not tolerate cheating in any form. It is a serious breach of conduct with serious consequences. Instructors have the right to determine the appropriate penalty for academic dishonesty in their own classes; generally, however, such acts will result in a failing grade for the assignment and/or the course. The penalty for subsequent acts of academic dishonesty may include expulsion.

More information on how to recognize plagiarism can be found at this site:
http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/plagiarism_test.html

ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

The Academic Resource Center is available for IDEAL students seeking help in their studies. The Center is staffed by writing professionals and peer tutors. More information can be found at:
http://myub.bridgeport.edu/academics/academicrescenter/Pages/default.aspx

The Center is located in the Wahlstrom Library, Room 506. Hours of operation are Mondays –Thursday 9am – 6pm and Fridays 9am – 1pm. Make an appointment or walk-in: Telephone: 203-576-4290.

Online Tutoring is available at:
www.etutoring.org. To use this free service you must have a UBNet account.

Obtaining a UBNet Account

Every registered student should obtain a UBNet Account. The account allows you to access your grades, access library services, access online tutoring, access the computers in computer labs, and provides an email account in which the University sends out information. Go to: http://www.bridgeport.edu/ubnet - Click on “New UBNet Account” and follow the instructions.

The @bridgeport.edu email address is the official email the University uses to send information to you. You can have your Bridgeport.edu email forwarded to any other email account you use. Following the activation of your UBNet account (takes 24 hours), login at:

http://www.bridgeport.edu/email and click on “forwards” at the top of the page. Follow the directions to forward email messages to your other account.

Accessing Your Grades & Schedule Online

The WebAdvisor online information system allows students to search for available classes, check grades, view semester class schedule and verify your personal profile. Grades are generally posted 2-3 weeks following the end of a course. Information on WebAdvisor is password protected and requires you to use your UBNet username and password. To access WebAdvisor, go to:
http://www.bridgeport.edu/webadvisor

1. Login in with your UBNet username and password.
2. Click on “Student Menu.”
3. Click on “My Grades.”

If you are carrying a financial balance, access to WebAdvisor will be restricted.

Using the Library
You can access the library through the library’s website: [http://www.bridgeport.edu/library](http://www.bridgeport.edu/library).

Research tools available:

- Search for books held at the library.
- Search the online databases for your academic field; business, counseling, human services, psychology, etc.
- Send questions to the Reference Librarian for assistance in research topics and searching strategy.

To access the online journals for research purposes, you will need a UBNet account (see above).

**Using Computers**

Open access computer labs are available at three campuses:

- Bridgeport – 1st floor of the Wahlstrom library. Check library hours of operation at: [http://www.bridgeport.edu/library](http://www.bridgeport.edu/library).
- Stamford – Room D; Check open hours at: [http://www.bridgeport.edu/stamford](http://www.bridgeport.edu/stamford)
- Waterbury – Computer Lab; Check open hours at: [http://www.bridgeport.edu/waterbury](http://www.bridgeport.edu/waterbury)

**Course Cancellations/ Weather Policy**

Any emergency necessitating the canceling of courses will be announced by the University through the Emergency Notification Telephone Line, (203) 576-4159. Please call this number for information on course cancellations. Also, information will be posted under “Latest News” on the UB home page, [www.bridgeport.edu](http://www.bridgeport.edu). Canceled classes will be made up either the week following the end of the course or in consultation between the instructor and the students as to day and time availability. Course cancellations are also announced on television and radio stations.

Please note each campus makes weather cancellations independently. You should always check with the specific campus staff. It is best to call the campus emergency phone.

Bridgeport – 203-576-4159
Waterbury - 203-573-8501
Stamford – 203-358-0700

**IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION**

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<th>Office</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridgeport Campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Security</td>
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<td>(203) 576-4911</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ubsecurity@bridgeport.edu">ubsecurity@bridgeport.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bursar</td>
<td>Robinson Hernandez</td>
<td>(203) 576-4692</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bursar@bridgeport.edu">bursar@bridgeport.edu</a></td>
</tr>
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</table>
To fill out your financial aid report to the Federal Government, please go online to [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). The school code for the University of Bridgeport is 001416.

Federal Student Aid Information: 1-800-433-3243.