

COMMUNITY REHABILITATION PRACTICE
AND THE AGING PROCESS

Calendar Description

Theoretical models, practice frameworks and current research issues related to supporting older persons with disabilities in their communities.

Content/Objectives

- Physical, social and psychological features of aging with a disability.
- Mental health issues in aging.
- Informal supports (i.e. family caregiving) and formal supports (i.e. long-term care, outreach).
- Ethical issues and decision-making.
- Relevant theories (social support theory, systems theory).
- Social policy issues related to aging and disability.

Outcomes/Competencies

- Through case studies students will translate the theory of aging with a disability into practice and understand the experience of aging with a disability from a variety of perspectives.
- Through a critical research paper and class presentation students will demonstrate knowledge of disability and the aging process, identify critical issues and suggest areas for future knowledge building.
- Through an examination students demonstrate an awareness of the physical, social and psychological features of aging with a disability.

Assignments

Outline of research paper	5%
Critical research paper	30%
Case study	25%
Class presentation	10%
Exam	30%

Resources

Class readings and on-line resources

Details for current course offerings are available at: www.crd.s.org

Instructor and Course Information

COURSE:	CORE 475	INSTRUCTOR:	Carla Hamarsnes
TERM:	Winter 2004	TELEPHONE:	220-2416
SECTION:	L01	FAX:	220-6494
TIME:	Tuesday @ 1:00 – 3:50 p.m.	EMAIL:	chamarsn@ucalgary.ca
LOCATION:	CHE 202		

Course Content

Topics to be covered

- Myths and realities of aging, demographic characteristics of the elderly population,
- Current research trends in aging (e.g. ethnicity in aging, international perspectives), psychological aspects of aging (e.g. personality), Interventions - environmental considerations (e.g. accommodations, assistive technology)
- Academic writing, critical reading
- Mental health issues in aging (e.g. dementia, depression), interventions: reminiscence, life review, counseling
- Persons with disabilities and their aging families
- Social support theory, research and practice frameworks, community development
- Family caregiving issues (burden, stress, abuse, “connecting for care”)
- Ethical considerations
- Formal and informal supports
- Ageism, valued roles for seniors
- Social policy

Additional Resources

Relevant class material will be posted on-line (blackboard) at <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca>. No other textbooks required.

Assignments

Assignment #1

Critical research paper

Outline – Due February 10, 2004

5%

Prepare an outline of your research paper, including: main topic, major headings (supporting topics) and 5 references.

Paper- Due March 9, 2004

30%

Write an 8-10 paged critical paper on a topic related to disability and the aging process. A minimum of 10 references, 5 of which must be post 1998. APA format required.

Grading Criteria for Term Paper

Introduction and framing of ideas

1 mark

Major context of paper

- a) Expansion of ideas in introduction
- b) Review of current literature

15 marks

Implications for Community Rehabilitation Practice

8 marks

Conclusion

1 mark

Presentation/Style

- a) Organization (e.g. use of headings)
- b) Flow of ideas
- c) Grammar

3 marks

Adherence to APA

2 marks

Total

30 marks

Assignment #2

Case study – Due March 30, 2004

25%

Conduct an interview with an older person (65+) with a disability and possibly their family. Use the format provided to explore their personal circumstances and to develop possible intervention/support strategies.

Case Study Format

Capture their personal story and collect relevant information about their past and present circumstances (5 marks).

- Who is this person? (i.e. age, family history, children, etc.)
- What are their interests, hobbies, strengths, passions, etc?
- What are their personal circumstances? (Where do they live? Are they involved with services? What are their community, cultural or spiritual activities? Comment on their current support network)

Describe their disability (5 marks)

- Nature of disability
- Impact of disability (i.e. on daily functioning, attitude)
- Current adaptation and coping strategies

What are their expectations for the future? (2 marks)

Summarize findings (2-3 pages) and assuming you are a resource person for this individual analyze the situation and develop a support plan using the follow guidelines:

1. How will you ensure that the process remains individualized and that the individual remains involved in each and every stage of the process? (3 marks)
2. What informal (natural supports) and formal (paid/professional) resources would you use? Provide a rationale for your choice. (3 marks)
3. Who will be enrolled to support the individual with each component of the action plan? (3 marks)
4. How will you ensure that; a) the plan leads to action? b) the plan is successful/meaningful to the person? (3 marks)
5. What are some potential issues that may arise with this individual's intervention/support plan? (3 marks)

Readability and Grammar (2 marks)

References to support work (1 mark)

Provide course and/or other references to support your work.

Assignment #3

Group Presentation – April 6, 2004

10%

Present in a group for 20 minutes on a vignette that will be handed out in class. Each vignette will reflect a different aspect of supports to older persons and their families. Presentation to include; how the group would approach the situation described, what formal and informal resources would be recommended (and provide a list of applicable resources), and how support could be delivered to the person/family. Presentations will be marked based on content and creativity.

Assignment #4

30%

Registrar Scheduled Exam

Multiple choice, short answer, essay question.

Marking Scheme

95 – 100	A+	80 – 84	B+	65 – 69	C+	50 – 54	D+
90 – 94	A	75 – 79	B	60 – 64	C	45 – 49	D
85 – 89	A-	70 – 74	B-	55 – 59	C-	Below 44	F

NOTE: The last day to change/register for courses without pre-session study and pay balance of fees for the Winter session is January 23, 2004. The last day to cancel with \$100.00 deposit refunded is January 9, 2004. The last day to withdraw is April 16, 2004.

All assignments will be held at the Community Rehabilitation Studies office for only one (1) year after last day of term.

Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre, MC 295, telephone 220-8237. Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. It is a student's responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre, and request academic accommodation, if required.