

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: HMS 236

Credits: 3

Course Title: Gerontology

Course Description: Examines the process of aging and its implications in relation to health, recreation, education, transportation, meaningful work or activity, and to community resources. Emphasizes experiencing the aging process, facilitating retirement, and application of the helping relationship to work with older adults. Prerequisites: None. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: (Who would benefit from taking this course?)

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisites: None

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Prepare for entry-level positions in nursing homes, homes for adults, etc.;
- b. Prepare for advanced studies in gerontology;
- c. Help in the provision of quality services to the aged;
- d. Increase the network of the research methods being practiced in the study of aging; and
- e. Aid in the training of paraprofessional and professional workers in career development.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. Gerontology: A field of knowledge and a vocation
- b. Examines aspects of aging in relation to health, recreation, education, etc.
- c. Application of the helping relationship to work with adults
- d. Process of aging and insight into death, dying, and retirement
- e. Geographical distribution and changes resulting from mass migration
- f. Demographic and historical factors

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