SO 337 : Aging and the Life Course

This course makes a critical examination of the facts, fictions, and theoretical frameworks for understanding aging in its multicultural social contexts and considers the implications for people's social and personal lives. We will examine perceptions of older individuals and the process of aging from social constructionist and life course perspectives, exploring our beliefs, values, and cultural traditions regarding aging. We will also look at the various social institutions impacting the lives of older Americans, such as work and the economy, government and politics, the healthcare system, and families. Major components of this class include service hours at a local senior home and the development of a proposal for elder-positive changes in Jacksonville, Illinois.

Credits 4.0 Prerequisite Courses SO 101: Introduction to Sociology Notes (See PS 337.)