



Nursing and Health Professions Division  
1400 Tanyard Road, Sewell, NJ 08080  
856-468-5000

## **SOC 227 Introduction to Gerontology**

Syllabus

Lecture Hours/Credits: 3/3

### **Catalog Description**

*Prerequisites ENG 104 or RDG 099, SOC 101*

This course delineates the realities of aging through the comprehensive exploration of the social, psychological and physiological issues associated with the aging process. For each topic discussed, the developmental stages of early, middle, late and their various characteristics are explored, as they impact upon the ethos of aging in the U.S.A.

### **Textbook and Course Materials**

It is the responsibility of the student to confirm with the bookstore and/or their instructor the textbook, handbook, and any other materials required for their specific course and section.

Click here to see current textbook prices at [rcgc.bncollege.com](http://rcgc.bncollege.com).

### **Evaluation Assessment**

#### **Online Proctoring**

All courses offered at RCSJ, whether they are web-enhanced, hybrid, or fully online, may include assessments that make use of Online Proctoring. To find out more about Online Proctoring, and to learn about the minimum technical requirements, visit [rcsj.edu/elearning/online-proctoring](http://rcsj.edu/elearning/online-proctoring).

#### **Grading Distribution**

Grading to be determined by individual instructors.

Individual instructors may include the following assessment(s):

- Projects
- Portfolios
- Exams
- Presentations and/or Papers

#### **Grading**

The grading scale for each course and section will be determined by the instructor and distributed the first day of class.

## Rowan College of South Jersey Core Competencies

(Based on the NJCCC General Education Foundation - August 15, 2007; Revised 2011; Adopted 2014)

This comprehensive list reflects the core competencies that are essential for all RCSJ graduates; however, each program varies regarding competencies required for a specific degree. Critical thinking is embedded in all courses, while teamwork and personal skills are embedded in many courses.

1. **Written and Oral Communication:** Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.
2. **Quantitative Knowledge and Skills:** Students will use appropriate mathematical and statistical concepts and operations to interpret data and to solve problems
3. **Scientific Knowledge and Reasoning:** Students will use the scientific method of inquiry, through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.
4. **Technological Competency:** Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals
5. **Society and Human Behavior:** Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.
6. **Humanistic Perspective:** Students will analyze works in the fields of art, history, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language
7. **Historical Perspective:** Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.
8. **Global and Cultural Awareness:** Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.
9. **Ethical Reasoning and Action:** Students will understand ethical issues and situations.
10. **Information Literacy:** Students will address an information need by locating, evaluating, and effectively using information.

### SOC 227 Core Competencies

This course focuses on three of RCSJ's Core Competencies:

- Society and Human Behavior
- Global and Cultural Awareness
- Information Literacy

## Student Learning Outcomes: Introduction to Gerontology

| Successful completion of SOC 227 will help students:                                                                                      | RCSJ Core Competencies                                                              | Evaluation / Assessment<br>(Additional means of evaluation may be included by individual instructors)                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Identify several factors which lead to and perpetuate the abundant myths about the aged                                                   | Society and Human Behavior<br>Global and Cultural Awareness<br>Information Literacy | Paper with Power Point Presentation<br>Projects<br>Exams<br>Biopsychosocials<br>Additional Presentations and/or Papers |
| Discuss sociological and psychological theories of aging                                                                                  | Society and Human Behavior<br>Global and Cultural Awareness<br>Information Literacy | Paper with Power Point Presentation<br>Projects<br>Exams<br>Biopsychosocials<br>Additional Presentations and/or Papers |
| Identify sex physiological changes in the aging individual                                                                                | Society and Human Behavior<br>Global and Cultural Awareness<br>Information Literacy | Paper with Power Point Presentation<br>Projects<br>Exams<br>Biopsychosocials<br>Additional Presentations and/or Papers |
| Identify and discuss ten cultural similarities and differences within the aged cohort which impact upon individual values and norms       | Society and Human Behavior<br>Global and Cultural Awareness<br>Information Literacy | Paper with Power Point Presentation<br>Projects<br>Exams<br>Biopsychosocials<br>Additional Presentations and/or Papers |
| Discuss the impact that our increasing aging population will have on future generations, economic, social policy and values and decisions | Society and Human Behavior<br>Global and Cultural Awareness<br>Information Literacy | Paper with Power Point Presentation<br>Projects<br>Exams<br>Biopsychosocials<br>Additional Presentations and/or Papers |

## Topical Outline

- The Growth of Social Gerontology
- Aging in Other Countries and Across Cultures in the United States
- The Social Consequences of Physical Aging
- Managing Chronic Diseases and Promoting Well-Being in Old Age
- Cognitive Changes with Aging
- Personality and Mental Health in Old Age
- Love, Intimacy, and Sexuality in Old Age
- Social Theories of Aging
- The Importance of Social Supports: Family, Friends, Neighbors, and Communities
- Opportunities and Challenges of Informal Caregiving
- Living Arrangements and Social Interactions
- Productive Aging: Paid and Nonpaid Roles and Activities
- Death, Dying, Bereavement, and Widowhood
- The Resilience of Elders of Color
- The Resilience of Older Women
- Social Policies to Address Social Problems
- Health and Long-Term Care Policy and Programs

## **Affirmative Action Statement**

The Board of Trustees is committed to providing a work and academic environment that maintains and promotes affirmative action and equal opportunity for all employees and students without discrimination on the basis of certain enumerated and protected categories. These categories are race, creed (religion), color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, age, sex (including pregnancy and sexual harassment), marital status, domestic partnership or civil union status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, genetic information, liability for military service, or mental or physical disability, including AIDS and HIV related illnesses.

For questions concerning discrimination, contact Almarie J. Jones, Special Assistant to the President, Diversity and Equity/Title IX and Compliance, 856-415-2154 or [ajones@rcsj.edu](mailto:ajones@rcsj.edu) or (Cumberland) Nathaniel Alridge, Jr., JD, Director, Diversity and Equity/Title IX and Judicial Affairs, 856-691-8600, ext. 1414 or [nalridge@rcsj.edu](mailto:nalridge@rcsj.edu). For disability issues or any barriers in the learning or physical environment related to a document condition/disability please contact: Gloucester campus – Carol Weinhardt, Director, Department of Special Services, ADA/504 Officer at 856-415-2247 or [cweinhar@rcsj.edu](mailto:cweinhar@rcsj.edu); or Cumberland Campus – Meredith Vicente, Senior Director, Department of Special Services/Project Assist at 856-200-4688 or [mvicent1@rcsj.edu](mailto:mvicent1@rcsj.edu).

## **Department of Special Services**

The Department of Special Services is committed to providing support services and ensuring equal access to eligible students with documented conditions/disabilities as outlined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act with Amendments Act (ADAAA).

### **(Gloucester Campus Location and Contact)**

Location: Instructional Center, room 425A.

Primary Contact: Director, Carol Weinhardt, (email) [cweinhar@rcsj.edu](mailto:cweinhar@rcsj.edu); or (phone) 856-415-2247.

### **(Cumberland Campus Location and Contact)**

Location: Center for Academic & Student Success (CASS)

Primary Contact: Senior Director, Meredith Vicente, (email) [mvicent1@rcsj.edu](mailto:mvicent1@rcsj.edu); or (phone) 856-200-4688.

## Reporting Allegations of Sexual Assault and Resource Referrals (08/2021) Gloucester Campus

There are multiple safe places for students to report allegations of sexual assault, both on and off campus. Reports of sexual assault can be made to any of the following offices listed in the chart below.

All students are encouraged to report alleged crimes on campus. Crimes that pose a threat to the campus community must be reported to **9-1-1**, Security, the Sheriff's Office or the Deptford Township Police Department. All employees, including Security staff, must report incidents of discrimination, harassment or sexual misconduct to the Title IX Office

| Service                                                        | Resource                                                                                                                                                                       | Phone Number/Location/Website                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Non-Confidential Reporting</b><br><br>Local Law Enforcement | Gloucester County Sheriff's Office                                                                                                                                             | 856-681-2200                                                                                                                                            |
|                                                                | Deptford Township Police Dept.                                                                                                                                                 | 856-845-2220                                                                                                                                            |
|                                                                | Gloucester Co. Prosecutor's Office                                                                                                                                             | 856-384-5500                                                                                                                                            |
|                                                                | Sexual Assault Response Team                                                                                                                                                   | 856-384-5555                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Non-Confidential Reporting 9-1-1 and Campus Security</b>    | <b>9-1-1</b> Gloucester County<br>Emergency Management Dispatch<br><br>Campus Security<br><b>Blue Light</b> Emergency Phones <u>or</u><br>ext. 4444 from any campus desk phone | <b>9-1-1 or push RED button on Campus Blue Light</b> Emergency Phones<br><br>856-681-6287                                                               |
| <b>Non-Confidential On-Campus Reporting Support Services</b>   | Almarie J. Jones<br>Special Assistant to the President<br>Diversity and Equity/Title IX and Compliance<br><br>John F. Ryder<br>Director,<br>Student and Veteran Affairs        | 856-415-2154<br>College Center, Room 116<br><i>ajones@rcsj.edu</i><br><br>856-468-5000, ext. 6456<br>College Center, room 202<br><i>jryder@rcsj.edu</i> |
| <b>Confidential On-Campus Counseling and Support Services</b>  | Lois Y. Lawson-Bridgell, Ph.D.<br>MSW, LSW, Director<br>Counseling & Wellness Services Center                                                                                  | 856-464-5236<br><i>llawsonb@rcsj.edu</i><br>College Center, Room 206                                                                                    |
|                                                                | William Leonard, Ph.D.<br>Intervention Teams Consultant                                                                                                                        | 856-415-2119 <i>wleonard@rcsj.edu</i><br>College Center, STEM Office C-168                                                                              |
|                                                                | Crystal Noboa, LSW, MSW<br>Director, The Center for<br>People in Transition (PIT)                                                                                              | 856-415-2264 <i>cnoboa@rcsj.edu</i><br>Career & Technical Education Center,<br>Room 809, 1492 Tanyard Road                                              |
|                                                                | Diane Mussoline, EdS, LMFT<br>Executive Director of Behavioral Services                                                                                                        | 856-494-5665 <i>dmussoli@rcsj.edu</i><br>Rowan University Center, Room 200A                                                                             |
| <b>Confidential Off-Campus Full-Service Support</b>            | Center for Family Services/<br>Services Empowering<br>Rights of Victims (SERV)                                                                                                 | 1-866-295-7378<br>Camden and Gloucester counties<br><a href="http://www.centerffs.org/serv">www.centerffs.org/serv</a>                                  |
| <b>Hospitals with Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners</b>           | Inspira Medical Center                                                                                                                                                         | 700 Mullica Hill Road, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062<br>856-508-1000                                                                                           |
|                                                                | Jefferson Washington<br>Township Hospital                                                                                                                                      | 435 Hurffville-Crosskeys Rd.,<br>Turnersville, NJ 856-582-2500                                                                                          |