

**SOCIOLOGY 566**

**THE SOCIOLOGY AND DEMOGRAPHY OF AGING**

**WINTER 1993**

*Instructor: Linda Waite*

*Meeting Time: Tuesday 2:00pm to 4:30pm*

*Classroom: SS*

*Office: NORC 162*

*Office Hours: immediately after class and by appointment*

*Telephone: 702-0784 (NORC) 708 835-8451 (home)*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

*This class will examine various demographic, social, economic, policy issues of living in an aging society. We will cover population changes that cause populations to become older, the implications of those changes for social relations between and within the generations, the economic demands of an aging society, and issues of social participation, intergenerational equity, health and health care.*

*The class will follow a seminar format, with discussion of the assigned readings by the class. Students must read all assignments prior to class; preparedness and participation in class discussions will be included in the grade for the course. Students will also complete several short critiques of assigned articles.*

*In addition, over the quarter students will select a topical area of special interest to them and prepare an annotated bibliography on that issue or topic. Students will also prepare a research paper--actually the first half of a research paper, including statement of the problem, background, hypotheses, and data.*



**SCHEDULE OF TOPICS :**

March 30 & April 1	<i>The causes of population aging: Past demographic change, Projections for the future</i>
April 6	<i>Aging in Other Times and Places</i>
April 8 & 13	<i>Social Consequences of Population Aging</i>
April 13 & 15	<i>Economic Consequences of Population Aging</i>
April 20 & 22	<i>Generational Conflict in an Aging Society</i>
April 27	<i>Widowhood and Loss</i>
April 29	<i>Midterm</i>
May 4	<i>Intergeneration Relations</i>
May 6	<i>Social and Political Participation</i>
May 11 & 13	<i>Work and Retirement</i>
May 18 & 20	<i>Health and Health Care</i>
May 25	<i>Memorial Day No Class</i>
May 27	<i>Public Policies: Social Security, Medicare, Manditory Retirement</i>
June 1	<i>Ethical Issues in an Aging Society</i>
June 3	<i>Final Exam</i>

**1. Causes of Population Aging: (March 30 & April 1)**

Myers, George, "Demography of Aging" in R.H. Binstock and L. George, Handbook of Aging and the Social Sciences, 3rd edition, pp. 19-44.

Soldo, Beth, and Emily Agree, America's Elderly, Population Bulletin, Vol. 43, No. 3, pp. 1-16.

Pifer, A., and L. Bronte, "Introduction: Squaring the Pyramid," in Pifer and Bronte (eds) Our Aging Society, 1986, pp. 3-13.

Siegel, J., and C Taeuber, "Demographic Dimensions of An Aging Population," in Pifer and Bronte (eds.), Our Aging Society, 1986, pp. 79-110.

**2. Aging in Other Times and Places (April 6)**

Hauser, Phillip, "Aging and World-Wide Population Change," in Binstock and Shanas (eds.), Handbook of Aging and the Social Sciences, 2nd edition.

Martin, Linda, "The Greying of Japan" *Population Bulletin*,

Soldo and Agree, America's Elderly, *Population Bulletin*, Vol. 43, No. 3, pp. 48-51.

**3. Social Consequences of Aging (April 8 & 13)**

Rossi, Alice, "Sex and Gender in an Aging Society," Our Aging Society, 1986, pp. 111-139.

Watkins, Susan, Jane Menken, and John Bongaarts, "Demographic Foundations of Family Change," American Sociological Review, Vol. 52, No. 3 (June):346-358.

Livi-Bacci, Massimo, "Social and Biological Aging: Contradictions of Development," Population and Development Review, Vol. 8, No. 4, December 1982, pp. 771-781.

**4. Economic Consequences of Aging (April 13)**

Levy, Frank. 1987. Chapter 8, "Households, Families, and the Government," pp. 151-191 in Dollars and Dreams: The Changing American Income Distribution. New York, Russell Sage.

Palmer, J., and S. Gould, "Economic Consequences of Population Aging," in Pifer and Bronte (eds.), Our Aging Society, pp. 367-390.

Easterlin, Richard, "The Economic Impact of Prospective Population Changes in Advanced Industrial Countries: An Historical Perspective," Journal of Gerontology, Vol. 46, No. 6, 1991, pp. S299-S307.

**5. Generational Conflict in an Aging Society (April 20 & 22)**

Preston, Samuel, "Children and the Elderly: Divergent Paths for America's Dependents," Demography, Vol. 21, No. 4, 1984, pp. 435-457.

Wynne, E., "Will the Young Support the Old?" in Pifer and Bronte, Our Aging Society, pp. 243-261.

Davis, Kingsley, and Pietronella van den Oever, "Age Relations and Public Policy in Advanced Industrial Societies," Population and Development Review, Vol 7, No. 1, March 1981, pp. 1-18.

Kingson, Eric, "Generational Equity: An Unexpected Opportunity to Broaden the Politics of Aging," The Gerontologist, Vol. 28, No. 6, 1988, pp. 765-772.

**6. Death, Widowhood and Loss** (April 27)

Marshall, Victor W., and Judith Levy, "Aging and Dying," in R. Binstock and L. George (eds.), Handbook of Aging and the Social Sciences, Third Edition, 1990, pp. 245-260.

Uhlenberg, Peter, "Death and the Family," Journal of Family History, 1980, Fall, pp. 313-320.

The Bereavement Gap, American Demographics ??

**7. Midterm** (April 29)

**8. Intergeneration Relations:** (May 4)

Hagestad, Gunhild, "The Family: Women and Grandparents as Kin Keepers," Our Aging Society, 1986, pp. 141-160.

Aquilino, William. 1990. "The Likelihood of Parent-Adult Child Coresidence: Effects of Family Structure and Parental Characteristics." Journal of Marriage and the Family. 52(2):405-419.

Crimmins, E., and D. Ingegneri, "Interaction Between Older Parents and Their Adult Children," Research on Aging, Vol. 12, 1990, pp. 3-35.

**9. Social and Political Participation:** (May 6)

Cutler, Stephen J. and Jon Hendricks, "Leisure and Time Use across the Life Course," in R. Binstock and L. George (eds.), Handbook of Aging and the Social Sciences, Third Edition, 1990, pp. 169-185.

Herzog, A. Regula, Robert L. Kahn, James N. Morgan, James S. Jackson, and Toni Antonucci, "Age Differences in Productive Activities," Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences, Vol. 44, No. 4, 1989, pp. S129-138.

**10. Work and Retirement:** (May 11 & 13)

Morrison, Malcolm, "Work and Retirement in an Older Society," Our Aging Society, 1986, pp. 341-365.

Matthews, A., and K. Brown, "Retirement as a Critical Life Event: The Differential Experience of Women and Men," Research on Aging, Vol. 9, No. 4, 1987, pp. 548-571.

Easterlin, R., C. Macdonald, and D. Macunovich, "Retirement Prospects of the Baby-Boom Generation," The Gerontologist, Vol. 30, No. 6, 1990, pp. 776-783.

11. **Health and Health Care:** (May 18 & 20)

A. Individual Health and Aging.

Verbrugge, Lois M., "Gender, Aging, and Health," in Kyriakos S. Markides (ed.), Aging and Health, 1989, Sage, pp. 23-78.

Longino, Charles F., George J. Warheit, and Julie Ann Green, "Class, Aging, and Health," in Kyriakos S. Markides (ed.), Aging and Health, 1989, Sage, pp. 79-111.

Jackson, Jacquelyne Johnson, and Charlotte Perry, "Physical Health Conditions of Middle-Aged and Aged Blacks," in Kyriakos S. Markides (ed.), Aging and Health, 1989, Sage, pp. 111-176.

B. Health Care

Davis, Karen, "Paying the Health Care Bills of an Aging Population," Our Aging Society, 1986, pp. 299-318

Shanas, E., and G.L. Maddox, "Health, Health Resources and the Utilization of Care," in R.H. Binstock and E. Shanas (eds.), Handbook of Aging and the Social Sciences, 1985, pp. 696-726.

Davis, Kingsley, "Health Care Policies and the Aged: Observations from the United States," in R. Binstock and E. Shanas (eds.), Handbook of Aging and the Social Sciences, 1985, pp. 727-744.

12. Memorial Day--no class

13. **Public Policies: Social Security, Medicare, Mandatory Retirement** (May 27)

Pifer, Alan, "The Public Policy Response," Our Aging Society, 1986, pp. 391-413.

Moon, M., "Introduction: Social Security in Short- and Long-Term Perspective," in AARP, Social Security and Economic Well-Being Across Generations, 1988, pp. 1-9.

Aaron, H., Economic Effects of Social Security, 1982, Chapters 2, 3, 4, pp. 10-52.

14. **Ethical Issues in an Aging Society** (June 1)

Callahan, D., "Health Care in an Aging Society: A Moral Dilemma," Our Aging Society, 1986, pp. 319-340.

Watts, David T., and Christine K. Cassel, "Extraordinary Nutritional Support: A Case Study and Ethical Analysis," Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, Vol. 32, 1984, pp. 237-242.

15. **Final Exam**

*Additional Readings for Graduate Seminar*

Getzen, Thomas E. "Population Aging and the Growth of Health Expenditures," Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences, Vol. 47, No. 3, May 1992, pp. S98-104.

Olshansky, S. Jay, Bruce A. Carnes, and Christine K. Cassel. "The Aging of the Human Species," Scientific American, April 1993, pp. 46-52.

Wiatrowski, William J. "Factors Affecting Retirement Income." Monthly Labor Review, March 1993, pp. 25-35.