

**EDUCATION 496-4**

**SPECIAL TOPICS: TEACHING THE OLDER ADULT**

Spring 1988  
Wednesdays 4:30 - 8:20  
Location: MPX 8651

Instructor: S. Cusack (Fedorak), M.A.  
Educational Gerontology

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**PREREQUISITES:**

60 credit hrs.; Gero 300 or some experience with older adults is recommended.

**DESCRIPTION:**

This is a course for those working (or preparing to work) with older adults to assist them in developing more effective strategies for meeting the needs of an expanding population of elders through education. It is also appropriate to older adults involved in learning and/or teaching.

**OBJECTIVES:**

To better understand the learning lives of older adults and the variety of styles/methods of learning/teaching as a basis for developing more effective programs.

**TOPICS:**

Facts about the elderly relative to participation in education: participation patterns, needs and barriers, cognitive and non-cognitive age-related changes.

Non-traditional styles and methods: self-directed learning, collaborative learning, learning partnerships, peer counselling.

Program development: Principles of curriculum development, adult learning theory, community program development, health promotion.

**EVALUATION:**

Will be based on a review of a selected article, a min-literature review on a selected topic, a takehome class midterm, an individual project, and a personal journal to be handed in at the end of the semester. There will be no final examination.

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

Peterson, D. A. (1983). Facilitating education for older Learners. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. ISBN. 0-87589-565-4 (approx. \$40).

**RECOMMENDED TEXT:**

Lumsden, D. Barry. (1985). The Older Adult as Learner. North Texas State University. ISBN 0-89116-291-7.

On 3-day reserve at the library:

Cross, K. P. (1981). Adults as Learners  
Knowles, M. (1975). Self-directed Learning.  
Knowles, M. (1978). The Adult Learner: A Neglected Species