



Course Outline

HCAGE3035 HEALTH AND AGEING

Title:	HEALTH AND AGEING
Code:	HCAGE3035
School / Division:	School of Health Sciences
Level:	Advanced
Pre-requisites:	Nil
Co-requisites:	(HCNUR3945)
Exclusions:	Nil
Progress Units:	15
ASCED Code:	060301

Objectives:

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

Knowledge:

- Understand the concepts of healthy ageing for individuals, groups, communities and populations;
- Know the current health care policy and approaches to an ageing population and the diverse needs of older individuals, groups, communities and populations;
- Discuss the role of the nurse in aged care nursing practice across diverse settings including in-home and in the community.

Skills:

- Assess the factors that influence the ability of individuals, groups, communities and populations to age well in today's society.

Values:

- Appreciate the impact of an ageing population upon health care, nursing practice and government policy.

Content:

Topics may include:

- Ageing theories.
- Ageing concepts including the ageing process, healthy ageing, and perceptions of ageing people including ageism.
- Ageing populations – epidemiology, demography, community indicators, impacts and responses.
- Government policies, legislation and strategies for an ageing population.



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- Common health conditions commonly experienced by older individuals, groups, communities and populations.
- Identifying health and nursing care needs of older individuals, groups, communities and populations.
- Nursing assessment of care needs of older people including mobility, pain management.
- Pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatments and interventions for health conditions commonly experienced by older individuals, groups, communities and populations.
- Issues related to ageing including ethics, law, poly-pharmacy, grief, loss, bereavement, abuse, neglect, restraint, end of life decisions. Relationships, family dynamics.
- Service and assistance availability across the aged care continuum including support for ageing in place in home-, community-, and facility-based settings.
- Contemporary approaches to aged care nursing practice.
- Best practice in aged care nursing.
- Specialist competencies in aged care nursing.
- Local government positive ageing strategies and plans and their impact upon individuals, groups, communities and populations.

Learning Tasks & Assessment:

Learning Task	Assessment	Weighting
Critical analysis of a current Australian health care strategy for older people	Debate (includes 1000 word individual written submission)	40%
Development of a care options education program for older people	Education Program (Essay) 2000 words	60%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA

Handbook Summary:

Australia has an ageing population with diverse health care needs. This course examines the concept of aged care nursing as a specialty practice sensitive to meeting the needs of an ageing population through evidenced-based, client-centred, best practice nursing care.