

**GMS 6484**  
**Geriatrics and Age-related diseases**  
**Course Syllabus**

**Instructors:**

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Preferred Contact Method is via Canvas. Please email through the course website:

<https://ufl.instructure.com/conversations>

**Course Website:**

The course will be delivered entirely via the UF e-Learning system (Canvas) at

<https://elearning.ufl.edu/>

Weekly assignments to be submitted for grading will be distributed via Canvas. Participation will take place through discussion groups held online.

**Course Communications:**

The online discussion board can be used to comment on the readings, videos and assignments, ask thoughtful questions, and explore related concepts. You may also use the online discussion board to ask specific questions about course content.

However, questions about your individual performance in the class should be sent via Canvas communications. All messages will be returned as soon as possible, but please allow 24 hours for a response.

**Technical Assistance:**

Please contact E-Learning Support or Taylor Greene ([tgreene740@ufl.edu](mailto:tgreene740@ufl.edu)) between 8 AM and 5 PM ET for assistance with the course web site. For a list of additional student support services links and information please visit: <https://distance.ufl.edu/current-students/>

**Required and Recommended Textbooks:**

Students will not be required to purchase a textbook for this course. All readings will be accessible via the Internet, posted on the course web site, and/or available through the UF library.

**Prerequisite:**

Students must be registered students in good standing at the University of Florida. The course is open to individuals from all disciplines.

**Purpose of Course:**

This course provides an overview of the practice for providing care to the geriatric population. This includes an understanding of common syndromes, conditions and diseases that are relevant to the quality of life in older adults.

**Course Objectives:**

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and differentiate between the syndromes, conditions, and diseases common in the geriatric population
2. Identify the medical, psychosocial, and environmental factors that contribute to these syndromes, conditions, and diseases.

**Weekly Discussion and Assignments:**

Each week will have an assignment or discussion relevant to that week's topic, with some weeks having both. Directions will be listed in each module. Please note points vary by task and are listed in the directions.

Responses to discussion topics must be thoughtful and show careful analysis. There is no minimum or maximum word limit that has been set. Grading will be based on the quality of response and insight into the questions that were asked.

Assignments will include readings from relevant journal articles, web sites, and other sources that will be freely accessible to all registered UF students.

Up to 20 points will be awarded per discussion/assignment (unless otherwise listed) (20 points for a comprehensive, in-depth response, 10 points for a moderately in-depth response, and 5 point for a response that includes very little depth and discussion). All assignments must be posted no later than Sunday at 11:59 PM ET each week.

Grades in this class are earned on the basis of points and then converted to letter grades (as shown in this chart). Letter-grade GPA equivalents are shown in the second table below.

<b>Percentage or points earned in class</b>	93%-100%	90%-92%	87%-89%	83%-86%	80%-82%	77%-79%	73%-76%	70%-72%	67%-69%	63%-66%	60%-62%	Be-low 60%				
<b>Letter Grade equivalent</b>	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E	WF	I	NG	S-U
	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	0.67	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

For greater detail on the meaning of letter grades and university policies related to them, see the Registrar's Grade Policy regulations at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/>

**Late Work Policy:**

All assignments/projects must be submitted via the deadline provided on the course web site. For assignments that require manual grading (e.g., research papers, projects), the following will apply: unless you have an approved excused absence, a 10% deduction will be applied for each week the assignment is late.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

**Copyright Information**

Please review the University policy regarding the use of copyrighted materials, which can be found on the Health Science Center Library's web page: <http://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/copyright>

**Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use Policy**

For this graduate level course, GMS6484 Geriatrics and Age-Related Diseases, it is imperative that all work submitted is your own. The use of AI tools, including but not limited to, generative language models, code generation tools, and automated essay writer, is strictly prohibited for all assignments. Any work found to have been produced with the aid of such AI tools will result in a zero for that assignment. This policy is in place to ensure the integrity of your learning experience and to respect the academic standards of this course. If you have any questions about this policy or need assistance with your work, please do not hesitate to reach out to your instructor.

**University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities:**

Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student, who must then provide this documentation to the Course Instructor when requesting accommodation. The student must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive; therefore, students should contact the Dean of Students Office as soon as possible in the term in which they are seeking accommodation. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

**University Policy on Academic Misconduct:**

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at

<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

Students are expected to abide by the University's Academic Honesty Policy, and to adhere to the following pledge:

"We, the member of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our

peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.”

On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

According to the UF Student Guide, Academic dishonesty includes the following:

- Cheating - copying another’s work for academic gain.
- Plagiarism - representing another’s work as your own.
- Bribery - offering, giving, soliciting, or receiving goods or services of value for academic gain.
- Misrepresentation - altering facts (e.g., signing an absent classmate’s name to an attendance sheet).
- Conspiracy - planning with others to commit academic dishonesty.
- Fabrication - making up information to avoid punishment or other difficulty.

**Counseling and Student Health:**

Students may occasionally have personal issues that arise in the course of pursuing higher education or that may interfere with their academic performance. If you find yourself facing problems affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and to seek confidential assistance at the University of Florida Counseling Center, 352-392-1575, or Student Mental Health Services, 352-392-1171. Visit their web sites for more information: or

<http://www.health.ufl.edu/shcc/smhs/index.htm#urgent>

Crisis intervention is always available 24/7 from: Alachua County Crisis Center: (352) 264-6789.

**Evaluations.**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online and you will be notified via Canvas when these evaluations are open for your input (typically during the last two weeks of the semester).