1. Goals

- Provide an overview of interdisciplinary perspectives on aging -- the biological, social, psychological, health/fitness/wellness aspects of the aging process
- Identify myths and stereotypes regarding aging.
- Provide an exposure to a variety of social structures related to aging
- Provide an introduction to theories of aging -- sociological, psychological, biological, economic
- Provide an introduction to issues of multiple jeopardy and aging
- Provide exposure to issues of living arrangements and caregiving for the elderly
- Provide an exploration of social policies and practices related to aging
- Recognize the psychological, cognitive, economic, social changes that occur with aging

Objectives

- describe the various social structures related to aging and how they interact with one another
- describe the various psychological dynamics related to aging and how they interact with one another
- recognize various health issues related to aging
- use one or more theories of aging to explain aging dynamics in the US (and perhaps in other locations in the world)
- analyze the facts of multiple jeopardy and the relation to social structures, caregiving and aging
- discuss and critique social policies and practices related to aging
- begin to understand the complexities of aging and differing responses to aging
- gain experiences in a service component providing opportunities to observe, interact with, learn from elders in gerontological settings.

2. At this point this is a minor and would be part of the assessment/self-study cycle for whatever department in which it is housed.

5/2/2007, #6, revised 2/07.