

Aging And The Life Course 6th Edition

This classic text, now in its fifth edition, is distinguished by its emphasis on social context, social processes, and social structures as part of a broader understanding of the sociology of aging and the life course. Presenting an objective view of the realities of aging both positive and negative, the book examines aging from micro/macro, personal, community, societal, and global perspectives. This fifth edition describes important changes in the field of social gerontology and growth in such topics as diversity, global aging, and the life course. It addresses major shifts in public policy, social institutions, and aging-related programming initiatives. There is a strong focus on the changing landscape of aging, particularly in regard to social engagement, employment and lifelong learning, enhanced health and independence, and livable communities for people of all ages. Additionally, the book includes new information on the Affordable Care Act, and end-of-life issues.

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Presenting current research in an innovative text-reader format, *Aging: Concepts and Controversies*, Ninth Edition encourages students to become involved and take an informed stand on the major aging issues we face as a society. Not simply a summary of research literature, Harry R. Moody and Jennifer R. Sasser's text focuses on controversies and questions, rather than on assimilating facts or arriving at a single "correct" view about aging and older people. Drawing on their extensive expertise, the authors first provide an overview of aging in three domains: aging over the life course, health care, and the socioeconomic aspects of aging. Each section is followed by a series of edited readings, offering different perspectives from experts and specialists on that subject. New readings focus on whether current federal spending on the elderly is sustainable and fair to other groups, how older consumers are reshaping the business landscape, and the challenges of marketing and selling to customers 60 and over. More emphasis is placed on how social class and inequality earlier in life can shape our final years and the number of older Americans living in poverty. The section on Aging and Health Care has been thoroughly updated to reflect the latest data about chronic diseases that affect the elderly, government spending on health care, and policy changes to programs like Medicaid and Medicare. The section on the Social and Economic Outlook for an Aging Society gives the most current picture of the racial and ethnic diversity of older Americans, their participation in the labor force, and their income and wealth.

This groundbreaking text is the first to take a life course perspective, examining the relationship between the quality of one's life in old age and one's experiences, earlier choices, opportunities, and constraints. The text gives students a broad background for understanding current policy debates through a distinctive chapter entitled "Old Age and the Welfare State" (Chapter 11) and through boxed essays in every chapter called "An Issue for Public Policy." Each chapter also includes a box called "In Their Own Words" that allows older people to describe their own experiences. In addition, coverage of race, class, gender, and culture is integrated throughout and featured in the "Diversity in the Aging Experience" sections.

"With this collection of imaginative, wide-ranging essays, Stephen Katz secures his place as his generation's foremost proponent of cultural aging." - W. Andrew Achenbaum, University of Houston

This text brings together sociological, anthropological and social policy perspectives on the life course with a view to developing the conceptual rigour of the term as well as to exploring the rich range of debates and issues it encompasses. Linking traditional sociological and anthropological concerns with more recent postmodern debates centred on the self, identity and time, the book integrates theoretical debates about childhood, youth, middle age and later life with empirical material in an illuminating and innovative way.

Quadagno's groundbreaking text, *Aging and the Life Course: An Introduction to Social Gerontology*, examines the relationship between quality of life in old age and its experiential catalysts. Throughout the text an emphasis is placed on the intersectionality of race, class, gender, and culture, and how these classifications affect quality of life. Students will come away with a broad background for understanding crucial and current policy debates.

Digital • Connect®—The Connect Suite effectively engages students in the course so they are better prepared for class, more active in discussion, and achieve better results. Its innovative and adaptive technology addresses a wide variety of student and instructor needs with a rich database of assignable and assessable activities, each attached to learning objectives. Connect, part of the Connect suite, is a web-based assignment and assessment platform that features a number of powerful tools that make managing assignments easier for instructors and learning and studying more engaging and efficient for students.

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The modern welfare state is above all a welfare state for the elderly. An overwhelming proportion of its services and benefits go to them. The current crisis of the welfare state is also, therefore, a crisis of policy concerned with the aged. The essays in this volume examine not only interventions by governments on behalf of the old, but the very basis and history of the welfare state itself. From a variety of perspectives ranging from structural functionalism to neomarxism, they examine old age policy in six advanced industrial nations -- the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Italy, West Germany, and France. The essays in Part One deal with the process of making public policy on old age and changes in it during the current economic crisis. Contributions in the second part examine the impact of existing policies on older people. The focus of the essays on social, economic, and political aspects amounts to a new approach in gerontology that has been called by some the political economy of ageing. This book is unique in providing research on the relationship between old age policy and the larger class structure, economy, and state apparatus of more than one country. It will become a classic in the field, and an example of how sociology can be relevant to deal with our current social and economic crisis.' -- "Manuel Castells, University of California at Berkeley"

This title investigates the lifetime determinants of healthy ageing and their implications for policy and practice, bringing together authorities in ageing research and knowledge transfer from across the world.

The central aim of this book is to challenge to questions like 'Which gender copes better when a spouse dies? and Are women or men more independent on others as they grow older? Putting gender in a lifespan context, Hatch (Sociology, U. of Kentucky) atypically accents the gains as well as losses of aging and sex differences in adaptation overall, to the death of a spouse, and to retirement. A number of controversies surrounding gender and aging are addressed.

Across the life course, new forms of community, ways of keeping in contact, and practices for engaging in work, healthcare, retail, learning and leisure are evolving rapidly. This book examines how developments in smart phones, the Internet, cloud computing, and online social networking are redefining experiences and expectations around growing older in the twenty-first century. Drawing on contributions from leading commentators and researchers across the world, this book explores key themes such as caregiving, the use of social media, robotics, chronic disease and dementia management, gaming, migration, and data inheritance, to name a few.

Decades of research have demonstrated that normal aging is accompanied by cognitive change. Much of this change has been conceptualized as a decline in function. However, age-related changes are not universal, and decrements in older adult performance may be moderated by experience, genetics, and environmental factors. Cognitive aging research to date has also largely emphasized biological changes in the brain, with less evaluation of the range of external contributors to behavioral manifestations of age-related decrements in performance. This handbook provides a comprehensive overview of cutting-edge cognitive aging research through the lens of a life course perspective that takes into account both behavioral and neural changes. Focusing on the fundamental principles that characterize a life course approach - genetics, early life experiences, motivation, emotion, social contexts, and lifestyle interventions - this handbook is an essential resource for researchers in cognition, aging, and gerontology.

"This book is exemplary in amassing demographic, policy, and sociopsychological data from around the world to refute both premises: that countries' aging is not occurring in developing nations and that aging of the population presents intractable predicaments. The content of the book is rich with current information seldom accumulated into one source. For a scholar of aging studies, the topics are comprehensive, including demographics, political systems, health and long-term care provision, employment/retirement, and formal and informal support systems. Structurally, the book adds value with the inclusion of Web resources and a robust index. The design is conducive for a classroom setting by incorporating discussion questions and key words at the end of each chapter." -- Dr. Carol A. Gosselink, PsycCritiques Using a comparative, cross-national perspective, *Global Aging: Comparative Perspectives on Aging and the Life Course* explores the major topics in social gerontology worldwide and the demands that the aging population places on a society. This comprehensive and timely guide includes contributions from international gerontology scholars and illustrates both universal and socioculturally unique aspects of aging across nations. It is organized thematically for ease of use and includes an abundance of photographs and illustrations to highlight key points. Key features: Discussions on various nations' policies and programs designed to meet the unique needs of an older population An essay on pension and income maintenance policies and programs An analysis of the role of local and national governments, as well as non-governmental organizations, in serving older adults Case studies on specific aspects of aging: family life, caregiving, policies and politics, health and long-term care, and work and retirement The most current demographic data on aging around the world

The "third age" is described as the period in the life course that occurs after retirement but prior to the onset of disability, revealing a period in which individuals have the capacity to remain actively engaged. This book serves as a comprehensive discussion about how the emergence of the third age has changed the way we think about and examine traditional frameworks regarding aging issues and the life course. It introduces the discussion of the unique challenges and opportunities that older adults face while moving through this early phase of later life, proposing new frameworks, concepts, and methods to re-examine later life in the context of the era of the third age. This book proposes new ways of thinking about how we conceptualize the life course, think about the role of the welfare state in the lives of older people, negotiate social roles in later life, make meaning of our lives as we age, and cultivate relationships with others during later life. It brings together theoretical concepts and frameworks, methodological advances, and emerging themes and controversies that are redefining gerontology in the era of the Third Age. Highlighting important issues that warrant further exploration and discussion, this book advances our understanding of the Third Age and focuses attention on critical issues that should be addressed in future Third Age research and scholarly development. Key Features: Includes up-to-date description and analysis of the third age as a concept, life phase, and social status Addresses multiple perspectives to illustrate the impact of the third age on the way we examine later life Uses disciplinary perspectives such as social policy, demography, gerontology,

sociology, social work, anthropology, and social psychology Examines mechanisms that stratify the older population in the context of the third age

"The Life Course in Context" introduces undergraduate and graduate students to the main themes and concepts of the life course perspective. It shows how these concepts are applied to the analysis of life course events and provides insight into the importance of considering cultural and historical context when examining the life course. The studies in the collection have been grouped into four sections. Section one introduces the life course perspective as a dynamic theoretical approach and illustrates how it can be applied to studying the multiple connections between neighborhoods and individuals' health. Section two incorporates a multicultural perspective to shed light on the early years of the life course. In section three students gain a deeper understanding of family and employment patterns and expectations during adulthood, and in Section four the studies explore aging and dying as they are viewed within a cultural context. "The Life Course in Context" is well suited to courses that address social issues related to life course transitions. It is also a useful supplement to gerontology courses that examine aging from a life course perspective. Kyong Hee Chee holds a Ph.D in sociology from Iowa State University. She is an associate professor of sociology at Texas State University, where she participated in the creation of the university's new master's of science program in dementia and aging studies, which is the first of its kind in the United States. Her research interests include aging and the life course and community development. Her work has been published in "The Gerontologist," the "International Journal of Sociology of the Family," and "Sociological Spectrum." In 2008 the Gerontological Society of America awarded her its Civic Engagement in an Older America Project Senior Scholar Award."

In this Fifth Edition of her acclaimed text, Elizabeth D. Hutchison uses her multidimensional framework to examine the influences that can impact human behavior across time. Thoroughly updated to reflect the most recent developments in the field, the book weaves its hallmark case studies with the latest innovations in theory and research to provide a comprehensive and global perspective on all the major developmental life stages, from conception through very late adulthood. The companion text, Dimensions of Human Behavior: Person and Environment, Fifth Edition, examines the multiple dimensions of person and environment and their impact on individual and collective behavior. Together, these two texts provide the most comprehensive coverage available for Human Behavior courses. Order the books together with bundle ISBN: 978-1-4833-8097-1. "Overall, I believe Elizabeth Hutchison has done an outstanding job in addressing the unique biopsychosocial aspects associated with each stage of development along the life course." —David Skiba, Niagara University "The explicit focus on and reiteration of social work competencies throughout is particularly impressive and helps students preparing for licensure to draw concrete connections between the knowledge in the text and what they will be expected to know." —Jamie Mitchell, Wayne State University "The use of cases and questions offered the connection to context that we were looking for." —Gwenelle S. O'Neal, West Chester University "Great introductory textbook covering material related to Human Behavior in the Social Environment at an appropriate depth and breadth." —Lisa M. Shannon, Morehead State University

Stress and Brain Health: Across the Life Course, Volume 150, examines up-to-date knowledge on how stress effects brain health. The book's wide-ranging topics include the effects of pre-natal and childhood stress on neurodevelopment and aging. Chapters cover What is stress, how to measure it and effects on brain function, Pre-natal effects of stress on brain development and vulnerability, Stress in childhood, sensitive periods and regulatory mechanisms, The impact of childhood poverty on brain health, Adverse childhood experiences (ACE) on the brain, Stress, aging and epigenetics, The effects of chronic stress on the prefrontal cortex, Neurobiology of resilience to stress, and more. Comprises diverse evidence from world-leading researchers in each area Provides a readily accessible introduction to the topics covered, including basic guidance on stress theory and measurement Essential reading for those in the fields of neuroscience, psychophysiology, psychoneuroendocrinology, health psychology, developmental psychology, neuro-rehabilitation and clinical research

This series provides a variety of different discussions on topics within the field of current perspectives on ageing and the life cycle.

In this interdisciplinary study of the human life course as a unit, scholars examine aspects of the life course, looking at several features over a short span and at a few traits over a longer period. provides an overview from disciplines (e.g., history, demography, sociology) that are concerned with understanding the human life course; contains studies of special populations in which integration of a variety of experiences over time can be accomplished. Based on these approaches, new methods appropriate to a science of human life are proposed and discussed in a form suitable for students, faculty, and professionals in human development (sociology, anthropology, psychology), demography, and gerontology.

One of the prevailing myths about the American family is that there once existed a harmonious family with three generations living together, and that this "ideal" family broke down under the impact of urbanization and industrialization. The essays in this volume challenge this myth and provide dramatic revisions of simplistic notions about change in the American family. Based on detailed research in a variety of sources, including extensive oral history interviews of ordinary people, these essays examine major changes in family life, dispel myths about the past, and offer new directions in research and interpretation. The essays cover a wide spectrum of issues and topics, ranging from the organization of the family and household, to the networks available to children as they grow up, to the role of the family in the process of industrialization, to the division of labor in the family along gender lines, and to the relations between the generations in the later years of life. While discussing family relations in the past and revising prevailing notions of social change, these interdisciplinary essays also provide important perspectives on the present.

This edition details the impact of societal forces on the aging process. Fully reorganized with the addition of new materials, the book focuses on the diversity of the older population, examining it from macro/micro perspectives to understand aging and the life course as a social phenomenon.--[book cover]

"At last: a book that melds research on family ties in later life inclusively. Connidis' book is not simply a research compendium but a theoretical synthesis of value to both scholars

and students. Connidis' clear writing style makes it an excellent choice for students... I recommend this book both to teachers and researchers in the areas of family and aging." -- JOURNAL OF MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY Presenting a broad examination of the issues surrounding family ties and aging, this advanced textbook provides an integrated and thorough representation of current research in the field. Whereas books on families and aging have traditionally focused on ties to a spouse and to children and grandchildren, Connidis's coverage is more extensive and more reflective of contemporary society. She includes groups and relationships that have typically been neglected, such as single, divorced, and childless older people and their family relationships, as well as sibling relationships among the elderly, live-in partnerships not formalized by marriage, and the family ties forged by gays and lesbians over their life course. *Family Ties and Aging* weaves the vast range of information we now have about the many facets of family relationships and aging into a critical, comprehensive, and integrated whole.

This book examines the relevance of modern medicine and healthcare in shaping the lives of elderly persons and the practices and institutions of ageing societies. Combining individual and social dimensions, *Planning Later Life* discusses the ethical, social, and political consequences of increasing life expectancies and demographic change in the context of biomedicine and public health. By focusing on the field of biomedicine and healthcare, the authors engage readers in a dialogue on the ethical and social implications of recent trends in dementia research and care, advance healthcare planning, or the rise of anti-ageing medicine and prevention. Bringing together the largely separated debates of individualist bioethics on the one hand, and public health ethics on the other, the volume deliberately considers the entanglements of envisioning, evaluating, and controlling individual and societal futures. So far, the process of devising and exploring the various positive and negative visions and strategies related to later life has rarely been reflected systematically from a philosophical, sociological, and ethical point of view. As such, this book will be crucial to those working and studying in the life sciences, the humanities, and the social sciences, particularly in the areas of bioethics, social work, gerontology and aging studies, healthcare and social service, sociology, social policy, and geography and population studies.

This book, the third in a series on the life course, has significance in today's world of research, professional practice, and public policy because it symbolizes the gradual reemergence of power in the social sciences. Focusing on "self-directedness and efficacy" over the life course, this text addresses the following issues: * the causes of change * how changes affect the individual, the family system, social groups, and society at large * how various disciplines--anthropology, sociology, psychology, epidemiology--approach this field of study, with consideration given to common themes and differences Finally, an effort is made to develop a multidisciplinary perspective unique to the study of self-directedness and efficacy.

Aging and the Life Course: an Introduction to Social Gerontology

The dominant narratives of both science and popular culture typically define aging and human development as self-contained individual matters, failing to recognize the degree to which they are shaped by experiential and contextual contingencies. Our understandings of age are thereby "boxed in" and constricted by assumptions of "normality" and naturalness that limit our capacities to explore possible alternative experiences of development and aging, and the conditions – both individual and social – that might foster such experiences. Combining foundational principles of critical social science with recent breakthroughs in research across disciplines ranging from biology to economics, this book offers a scientifically and humanly expanded landscape for apprehending the life course. Rejecting familiar but false dichotomies such as "nature vs. nurture" and "structure vs. agency", it clarifies the organismic fundamentals that make the actual content of experience so centrally important in age and development, and it also explores why attention to these fundamentals has been so resisted in studies of individuals and individual change, and in policy and practice as well. In presenting the basic principles and reviewing the current state of knowledge, Dale Dannefer introduces multi-levelled social processes that shape human development and aging over the life course and age as a cultural phenomenon – organizing his approach around three key frontiers of inquiry that each invite a vigorous exercise of sociological imagination: the Social-Structural Frontier, the Biosocial Frontier and the Critical-Reflexive Frontier.

Newly revised and updated, this classic text examines the impact of social forces on the aging process. It considers aging from personal, family, community, societal, and global perspectives. The sixth edition reflects significant changes in the field of social gerontology. It delves deeply into the life course paradigm to demonstrate how aging experiences are shaped by individuals'; pasts and by a sweeping range of social factors. It uses a diversity, equity, and inclusion lens to underscore how social and economic advantages and disadvantages can accumulate with aging. Chapters reflect the richness and complexity of family life, work and retirement, health, and community engagement. The book addresses landmark changes in laws and policies and highlights innovative developments to enhance the independence of elders. It emphasizes what an aging society means for people of all ages and generations, and the causes and consequences of pervasive ageism. Provocative essays explore contemporary ethical, legal, and social issues. Especially written for courses in social gerontology and sociology of aging, the book is also valuable for curricula in social work, allied health, and the ever-growing range of disciplines and professions that are affected by individual and population aging. The sixth edition offers several new features to enhance the teaching and learning experiences, including Stop and Think boxes to foster curiosity, critical thinking, and personal connections to the ideas; bullet-point summaries to reinforce chapter takeaways; and an updated and expanded Instructor's Manual. Purchase includes digital access for use on most mobile devices or computers. New to the Sixth Edition: Draws attention to the influence of the life course on aging Discusses how aging impacts people of all ages and generations Explores what the changing behaviors and attitudes of younger cohorts might mean for the future of aging Leverages a diversity, equity, and inclusion lens to understand variability and inequality in aging Provides updated knowledge about family life, work and retirement, health, community engagement, and ageism Highlights landmark changes in laws and policies that affect aging, such as evolving health care policies and laws related to intergenerational obligations Describes innovative models and interventions to enhance the independence and integration of elders in their communities Incorporates new

content and provocative essays on contemporary ethical, legal, and social issues
Key Features: Presents information in straightforward, engaging prose that seamlessly integrates bodies of evidence
Highlights how aging is often a shared experience resulting from interactions with a complex set of social forces
Demonstrates how the aging of individuals and entire generations occurs within layers of social context
Probes causes of variability and inequality in aging across social categories
Reveals the presence and consequences of ageism for individuals and societies
Looks in-depth at aging in America with an eye to a global context
Introduces and applies contemporary theories of aging to specific topics to demonstrate their utility for aging science and practice

"Quadagno's groundbreaking text, *Aging and the Life Course: An Introduction to Social Gerontology*, examines the relationship between quality of life in old age and its experiential catalysts. Throughout the text an emphasis is placed on the intersectionality of race, class, gender, and culture, and how these classifications affect quality of life. Students will come away with a broad background for understanding crucial and current policy debates. Digital Connect -- The Connect Suite effectively engages students in the course so they are better prepared for class, more active in discussion, and achieve better results. Its innovative and adaptive technology addresses a wide variety of student and instructor needs with a rich database of assignable and assessable activities, each attached to learning objectives. Connect, part of the Connect suite, is a web-based assignment and assessment platform that features a number of powerful tools that make managing assignments easier for instructors and learning and studying more engaging and efficient for students. Connect Insight™ -- As part of the Connect Suite, Insight™ puts real-time analytics in your hands so you can take action early and keep struggling students from falling behind. Designed for your tablet or desktop computer, Insight is a series of visual displays providing at-a-glance information regarding how your section, students, and assignments are doing. SmartBook -- As part of the Connect Suite, SmartBook is the first and only adaptive reading and learning experience that changes the way students read. It creates a personalized, interactive reading environment like no other by highlighting important concepts, while helping students identify their strengths and weaknesses. This ensures that he or she is focused on the content needed to close specific knowledge gaps, while it simultaneously promotes long term learning. LearnSmart -- As part of the Connect Suite, LearnSmart is an adaptive learning program designed to help students learn faster, study smarter, and retain more knowledge for greater success. Millions of students have answered billions of questions in LearnSmart, making it the most widely used tool that's proven to strengthen memory recall, retain student attendance, and boost grades"--

Building on the success of the 2003 *Handbook of the Life Course*, this second volume identifies future directions for life course research and policy. The introductory essay and the chapters that make up the five sections of this book, show consensus on strategic "next steps" in life course studies. These next steps are explored in detail in each section: Section I, on life course theory, provides fresh perspectives on well-established topics, including cohorts, life stages, and legal and regulatory contexts. It challenges life course scholars to move beyond common individualistic paradigms. Section II highlights changes in major institutional and organizational contexts of the life course. It draws on conceptual advances and recent empirical findings to identify promising avenues for research that illuminate the interplay between structure and agency. It examines trends in family, school, and workplace, as well as contexts that deserve heightened attention, including the military, the criminal justice system, and natural and man-made disaster. The remaining three sections consider advances and suggest strategic opportunities in the study of health and development throughout the life course. They explore methodological innovations, including qualitative and three-generational longitudinal research designs, causal analysis, growth curves, and the study of place. Finally, they show ways to build bridges between life course research and public policy.

The life course method compares an individual's long-life and late-life behaviors to gauge one's mental decay. Arguing the life course approach is the best and simplest model for tracking mental development, Lawrence J. Whalley unlocks the mysteries of brain functionality, illuminating the processes that affect the brain during aging, the causes behind these changes, and effective coping strategies. Whalley identifies the genetic factors that determine the pace of aging and the behaviors, starting in childhood, that influence how we age. Through vignettes, charts, and tables, he composes an accessible book for patients, family members, and caretakers struggling to make sense of a complex experience.

This book brings together prominent investigators to provide a comprehensive guide to doing life course research, including an "inside view" of how they designed and carried out influential longitudinal studies. Using vivid examples, the contributors trace the connections between early and later experience and reveal how researchers and graduate students can discover these links in their own research. Well-organized chapters describe the best and newest ways to: *Use surveys, life records, ethnography, and data archives to collect different types of data over years or even decades. *Apply innovative statistical methods to measure dynamic processes that result in improvement, decline, or reversibility in economic fortune, stress, health, and criminality. *Explore the micro- and macro-level explanatory factors that shape individual trajectories, including genetic and environmental interactions, personal life history, interpersonal ties, and sociocultural institutions.

Explores and challenges dominant interpretations of transitions as they relate to ageing and the life course. This book takes a perspective that draws together ideas about late life as expressed in social policy and socio-cultural constructs of age with lived experience.

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Rapid population aging, once associated with only a select group of modern industrialized nations, has now become a topic of increasing global concern. This volume reframes aging on a global scale by illustrating the multiple ways it is embedded within individual, social, and cultural life courses. It presents a broad range of ethnographic work, introducing a variety of conceptual and methodological approaches to studying life-course transitions in conjunction with broader sociocultural transformations. Through detailed accounts, in such diverse settings as nursing homes in Sri Lanka, a factory in Massachusetts, cemeteries in Japan and clinics in Mexico, the authors explore not simply our understandings of growing older, but the interweaving of individual maturity and intergenerational relationships, social and economic institutions, and intimate experiences of gender, identity, and the body.

Praise for the first edition: "This book is exemplary in amassing demographic, policy, and sociopsychological data from around the world... The content of the book is rich with current information seldom accumulated into one source I recommend this volume to gerontologists, aging studies undergraduate and graduate students... demographers, and global studies scholars." Dr. Carol A. Gosselink, *PsycCritiques* Written by leading scholars, this esteemed text on global aging is distinguished by its unique perspective on universal similarities and sociocultural differences across nations. Fully revised,

updated, and reorganized, the second edition presents comprehensive coverage of major topics in social gerontology and expands its treatment of health behavior, health care, families, caregiving, older workers, and retirement. It delivers new information on living environments, religious beliefs and practices; environmental threats; cross-cultural views of dementia; ageism in advertising; age-friendly communities; global immigration and cultural assimilation, and end-of-life caregiving. The second edition also offers additional case studies, first-person narratives and focused essays to enhance core material and a greater number of non-Western contributors. The topical essays reflect changing mores and current issues affecting societies and the aging experience. Discussion questions conclude each chapter, and an Instructor's Manual and PowerPoint slides are available to instructors. Print version of the book includes free, searchable, digital access to entire contents. New to the Second Edition: Expanded content on health beliefs and health behavior, religious belief and practice, environmental threats, housing and living environments, physical security, consumer control of health care, family life, and more Additional topics on global immigration and cultural assimilation, age portrayals in advertising, voluntarism, and the use of social media in caregiving Abundant new and expanded essays New case studies and first-person narratives Many more non-Western contributors Key Features: Delivers comprehensive coverage of major topics in gerontology Uses a unique comparative, cross-national perspective Authored by world-renowned aging scholars Includes case studies/essays/personal narratives to enliven core information Provides the most comprehensive demographic data on aging around the world "[This] book's unfading preoccupation with social context, social processes, and social structures distinguishes itself and greatly contributes to the discourse in gerontology." -The Gerontologist This classic text, now in its fifth edition, is distinguished by its emphasis on social context, social processes, and social structures as part of a broader understanding of the sociology of aging and the life course. Presenting an objective view of the realities of aging, both positive and negative, the book examines aging from micro/macro, personal, community, societal, and global perspectives. This fifth edition describes important changes in the field of social gerontology and the growth in such topics as diversity, global aging, and the life course. It addresses major shifts in public policy, social institutions, and aging-related programming initiatives. There is a strong focus on the changing landscape of aging, particularly in regard to social engagement, employment and lifelong learning, enhanced health and independence, and livable communities for people of all ages. Additionally, the book includes new information on the Affordable Care Act and end-of-life issues. The text is uniquely organized, featuring theoretical discussions in each chapter and topical essays between chapters. Critical thinking and review questions foster an in-depth understanding of the material. Written in an engaging style, the text is for graduate and upper-level undergraduate students; it is also used effectively in introductory gerontology classes. In addition to an Instructor's Manual, the fifth edition now includes Power-Point slides

NEW TO THE FIFTH EDITION: Provides updated data on aging and baby boomers in the United States and worldwide Presents expanded focus on baby boomers' impact on the larger society Discusses major public policy changes and innovative services and programs affecting older adults Uses detailed examples to illustrate the challenges of sorting out age, period, and cohort effects in research on aging Covers the Affordable Care Act and up-to-date information on Medicare Features new information on end-of-life issues Presents provocative essays on positive and contemporary issues not typically covered, including love, sex, creativity, media representations, LGBT aging, and crime Focuses on enhanced health and independence and aging-in-place initiatives Provides learning objectives in each chapter and web-based extracurricular activities Includes PowerPoint slides in addition to an Instructor's Manual

Invitation to the Life Course: Toward New Understandings of Later Life discusses in depth the challenges of age, time, and social contexts for the study of aging and later life. Understanding aging (as a process) and later life (as a period) must be accompanied by serious attention to the life course. This brings significant challenges related to time, as gerontologists must describe and explain life patterns over many decades. It also brings significant challenges related to place, as gerontologists must examine how social contexts structure pathways into and through later life, and how those contexts affect the nature and meaning of experiences along the way. This book is a natural extension of the editor's previous work, ""Lives in Time and Place: The Problems and Promises of Developmental Science"" (Baywood, 1999).

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