

Academic Year 2017-18

Module Title	SS4830 – Ageing Societies (15 ECTS)
Description	This course will run throughout Michaelmas and Hilary terms. The purpose of the course is to explore the sociology and social policies of ageing societies (social gerontology). The module will provide students with an opportunity to discuss a range of substantive topics that are relevant to both individual and population ageing, and to both ‘young’ and ‘older’ people. In order to help students acquire a critical understanding of both the opportunities and challenges that demographic ageing presents, the module will introduce students to issues relating to the social construction of ageing, long-term care systems, inter-generational relationships, theories of ageing, and ideas of ‘active’ and ‘successful’ ageing.
Learning Outcomes	Students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Differentiate between and critically discuss theories of ageing • Outline how ageing and old age are socially constructed • Outline the contributions of older people to families, societies and economies • Demonstrate an awareness of diversity among older people, and of the main causes of this diversity • Critically examine prevailing views on population ageing and the implications they have for both social policy design and older people themselves • Apply theoretical and conceptual debates on ageing to the analysis of social policy documents and texts which relate to social policy and ageing • Demonstrate their written and verbal ability to communicate concise and theoretically grounded arguments as they relate to social policy and ageing
Recommended Reading	Preparatory reading: Phillipson, C. (2013) <i>Ageing</i> . Cambridge: Polity Press.
Instructor	Professor Virpi Timonen – timonenv@tcd.ie
Assessment	<p>Michaelmas term: Assignment 1 (Critical reflection: 1,500 words plus references) = 10% - due <u>end of Study Week</u> Assignment 2 (Presentation with slides, individually or in pairs) = 20% - <u>DURING LAST TWO WEEKS of MT</u> Assignment 3 (Essay: 3,000 words plus references) = 20% - due <u>end of term</u></p> <p>Hilary term: Presentation (individually or in pairs) with slides = 20% Essay (4,000 words plus references) = 30%</p> <p>The assignments that form the continuous assessment are expected to be based on <i>extensive</i> independent reading, in addition to <i>consistent</i> class attendance.</p>
Penalty for late submission	A penalty of 10% will be applied to students who submit essays late without an authorised extension.