Course Description
This course identifies the central developmental tasks and inherent conflicts typical of adulthood. Young adults struggle with pregenital and genital aims, including the repetition of incestuous longings and the fear of intimacy. Middle-aged and older adults face new realities: limitations of possibility, physical and sexual changes, menopause, the departure of children, marital readjustments, and the awareness of death. Also examined are early conflicts that re-emerge in the aging process and transference/countertransference and resistance issues in the treatment of aging patients.

Objectives
Students will be able to:
- recognize primitive elements of the libidinal and aggressive impulses of adult behavior as they are presented through case material;
- describe the importance of the capacity to integrate emotions and perceptions with reality testing; and
- explain the relationship between the above developments and later developmental issues such as identity, love, hate, and other conflicts pertaining to “intimacy and aging.”

Method of Evaluation
Course objectives will be explored using assigned readings and analyses of class processes. Students are expected to produce:
- a weekly log; and
- a paper incorporating the readings, class discussion, and case presentations.

Assigned Readings
Class 1

Class 2

Class 3
Class 4

Class 5

Class 6

Class 7

Class 8

Class 9

Class 10

Class 11

Class 12
Class 13

Class 14

Additional readings