

CONTROVERSY 3: DOES OLD AGE HAVE MEANING?

Guided Autobiography.

<http://www.asaging.org/networks/learn/ol-086.html>

Successful Aging. For a critical examination of the idea of Successful Aging, see "The Meaning of Life and Meaning of Death in Successful Aging" by Paul T. P. Wong, on the website for the International Network on Personal Meaning at: http://www.meaning.ca/articles/successful_aging.html

See also Drew Leder's critique "The Trouble with Successful Aging" at: <http://www.parkridgecenter.org/Page108.html>

For an historical overview of the many uses of the term "successful aging" in gerontology, look at: <http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/fcs/pub/aging.html>

Conscious Aging. What is "Conscious Aging?" For one answer, read "Conscious Aging: A New Level of Growth in Later Life" available at: <http://www.hrmoody.com/art4.html>

For "Conscious Aging: Nurturing a New Vision of Longevity" by Robert Atchley visit: <http://www.asaging.org/at/at-231/Conscious.html>

Spirituality. For books and videos on "The Spiritual Dimensions of Conscious Aging" visit the website for Spirituality and Health Magazine: http://www.spiritualityhealth.com/newsh/items/blank/item_2974.html

For an article on "Aging as Spiritual Awakening" by Karen Turner, visit: http://www.kturneronline.com/aging_as_spiritual_awakening.htm

Research on Religion and Aging. An abstract of a recent research study on "Religion and Aging: Findings from a Sixty-year Longitudinal Study" is available at: http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/research/rapl/events/abstract_dillon.html

Personal Meaning. The search for meaning is likely to accelerate with population aging. For a global perspective look into the International Network on Personal Meaning at: <http://www.meaning.ca/>

Viktor Frankl. Viktor Frankl, the author of the influential book Man's Search for Meaning, was the creator of the psychotherapeutic system of logotherapy. Anyone interested in his ideas should visit the website of the Viktor Frankl Institute at: <http://logotherapy.univie.ac.at/>

Also don't miss "Viktor Frankl at Ninety: An Interview" available at: <http://www.firstthings.com/ftissues/ft9504/scully.html>

Life Story Writing. The "LifeBio" website offers 200 life story questions to help people craft their life history, and then creates a PDF file showing how that story will look. For details, visit:

<http://www.lifebio.com>

Wisdom. Read Eugene Bianchi's article "Living with Elder Wisdom" available at:

<http://www.emory.edu/COLLEGE/RELIGION/faculty/bianchi/wayart.htm>

Course Outlines on Meaning and Aging.

"Aging, Culture and Experience" is a course syllabus developed by anthropologist Jay Sokolovsky, available now at:

<http://www.stpt.usf.edu/~jsokolov/syllabi.htm>

A course outline for "Aging and Life Review" developed by E. Michael Brady can be found at:

<http://www.usm.maine.edu/~mbrady/tovhrd558.html>

A course outline for a class on the "Theology of Aging" is available at:

<http://www.lourdes.edu/Outline/Gerontology/GER446.htm>

Gerotranscendence. To read "Gerotranscendence from Young Old Age to Old Old Age" published by the Social Gerontology Group at the University of Uppsala in Sweden, Lars Tornstam's group, visit:

<http://www.soc.uu.se/publications/fulltext/gtransoldold.pdf>

See also the general website on Gerotranscendence:

<http://www.soc.uu.se/research/gerontology/gerotrans.html>

Religion and Aging. For an article on "The Soul of Gerontology: Recent Writing on Religion and Aging" see:

<http://www.hrmoody.com/art3.html>