

# BACHELOR OF ARTS IN GERONTOLOGY

Gerontology is the interdisciplinary study of aging and is a rapidly growing field. The gerontology major prepares the students for a career in the field of aging. Since aging is a multifaceted, complex phenomenon, an interdisciplinary training in gerontology will give students an edge in working with the aging population.

The field of aging provides diverse occupational opportunities in health professions, non-profit organizations, recreation and leisure, for-profit businesses, education, research, government, and service providers. Settings include community, human service and religious organizations, government agencies, health and long-term care facilities, retirement communities, academic and research settings, business, industry, legal, and professional organizations.

COURSE	TITLE	S.H.
General Education Requirements		
Core Competencies		
ENGL 1550	Writing 1	3-4
or ENGL 1549	Writing 1 with Support	
ENGL 1551	Writing 2	3
CMST 1545	Communication Foundations	3
Mathematics requirement (met with MATH 2623)		
Knowledge Domains		
Some courses are categorized in more than one knowledge domain. Courses can only be used once with the GE model.		
Arts and Humanities (6 s.h.)		
Natural Sciences (2 courses, 1 with lab) (6-7 s.h.)		
Social Science (6 s.h.)		
SOC 1500	Introduction to Sociology	3
PSYC 1560	General Psychology	3
Social and Personal Awareness (6 s.h.)		
GERO 3703	Aging and Society	3
GERO 3745	Sociology of Health, Illness, and Healthcare	3
First-Year Experience		
LASS 1510	Exploring Critical Questions in LASS	3
Foreign Language Requirement		
FNLG 1550	Elementary Foreign Language	4
FNLG 2600	Intermediate Foreign Language	4
Required Courses (38 s.h.):		
GERO 1501	Introduction to Gerontology	3
GERO 3703	Aging and Society	3
GERO 3755	Theories of Gerontology	3
GERO 3759	Physical Change and Aging	3
GERO 4821	Internship in Gerontology	7
GERO 4850	Research Methods	3
GERO 4851	Capstone in Gerontology	3
FNUT 3720	Nutrition, Health, and Aging	3
PSYC 3758	Lifespan Development	3
SOC 3701	Social Statistics	4
SOC 4801	Later Life Issues	3
Select one from the following policy courses:		
GERO 3757	Aging and Social Policy	
POL 3717	Health Care Policy	
SCWK 3730	Social Services and the Aged	
Select a minimum of 9 s.h. from the following program elective courses:		

ECON 1504	Economics of Aging	
FNUT 4873	Nutrition and Aging	
GERO 3745	Sociology of Health, Illness, and Healthcare	
GERO 3756	Aging and Ethnicity	
GERO 3757	Aging and Social Policy	
GERO 3758	Long-Term Care	
GERO 3790	Aging in Cross-Cultural Perspective	
GERO 4804	Family, Health, and Aging	
KSS 4870	Exercise and Aging for Health Professions	
PHLT 3757	Health and Disease	
PHLT 4828	Grant Writing	
POL 3717	Health Care Policy	
PSYC 3757	Adult Development	
PSYC 4857	Biopsychological Aspects of Health and Aging	
SCWK 3730	Social Services and the Aged	
SOC 3759	Sociology of Dementia	
SOC 3760	Sociology of Death and Dying	

**Total Semester Hours in the Major: 50 s.h.**

Elective hours to complete the degree:	28
Total Semester Hours	126-127

## Year 1

Fall		S.H.
ENGL 1550	Writing 1 <sup>1</sup>	3-4
or ENGL 1549	or Writing 1 with Support	
GERO 1501	Introduction to Gerontology	3
or PSYC 1560	or General Psychology	
LASS 1510	Exploring Critical Questions in LASS	3
Foreign Language 1550 <sup>1</sup>		4
SOC 1500	Introduction to Sociology	3
Semester Hours		16-17

## Spring

ENGL 1551	Writing 2 <sup>1</sup>	3
PSYC 1560	General Psychology	3
or GERO 1501	or Introduction to Gerontology	
CMST 1545	Communication Foundations	3
Foreign Language 2600 <sup>1</sup>		4
MATH 2623	Quantitative Reasoning	3
Semester Hours		16

## Year 2

Fall		S.H.
GERO 3703	Aging and Society (cross-listed)	3
or SOC 3703	or Aging and Society	
GE Arts and Humanities elective		3
General Education Natural Science elective		3
GERO 37XX Gerontology Elective		3
General Elective		3
Semester Hours		15
Spring		S.H.
FNUT 3720	Nutrition, Health, and Aging	3
GE Arts and Humanities elective		3
GE Natural Science Elective and Lab		4
Gerontology Program Elective		3
General Elective		3
Semester Hours		16

**Year 3****Fall**

PSYC 3758	Lifespan Development	3
GERO 3759	Physical Change and Aging	3
Policy Elective		3
GERO Program Elective		3
General Elective		3
Semester Hours		15

**Spring**

SOC 3701	Social Statistics	4
GERO 3755	Theories of Gerontology	3
GERO 3745 or SOC 3745	Sociology of Health, Illness, and Healthcare (cross-listed) or Sociology of Health, Illness, and Healthcare	3
General Elective		3
General Elective		3
Semester Hours		16

**Year 4****Fall**

GERO 4850	Research Methods	3
GERO 4821	Internship in Gerontology	4
General Elective		4
General Elective		3
Semester Hours		14

**Spring**

SOC 4801	Later Life Issues	3
GERO 4851	Capstone in Gerontology	3
GERO 4821	Internship in Gerontology	3
General Elective		3
Semester Hours		12

Total Semester Hours	120-121
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## Learning Outcomes

- Students can demonstrate understanding of the discipline of gerontology and its interdisciplinary approach to aging and society (Disciplinary Knowledge).
- Students can explain the diversity and complexity of aging in our society.
- Students can dispel ageist stereotypes about aging and older adults.
- Students can explain theories, fundamental principles, theories, and core concepts of gerontology.
- Students can assess the scientific process including various qualitative and quantitative methods. Students can synthesize theory and methods by completing an original empirical research project.