

Gerontology

The populations of the United States and the world are growing older, precipitating important changes in health and social policies. At present, one in eight Americans are 65 or older. These growing numbers will increase demand for individuals with gerontological skills and knowledge. The Gerontology Certification requires 20 credits, or

equivalent, and includes a required core and practicum through which students study aging as an interactive process of physical, social and psychological forces. Two credits of field experience with aging-related content will be required in the student's own major area of study.

Requirements for the Specialization

Intended Outcome	Learning Activity	Evaluation
1. Comprehend the social, political and economic aspects of aging.		
2. Recognize and discard stereotypes associated with aging.		
3. Understand the reciprocal nature of family caregiving.	HDFS-340/540 Human Development: Late Adulthood 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
4. Identify major biological theories of aging.		
5. Identify normal and pathological changes that occur with aging.	BIO-125 Biology of Aging 3 HDFS-340/540 Human Development: Late Adulthood 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
6. Evaluate human physiology, emphasizing integration of nervous, muscular, cardiovascular, immune, renal, respiratory, digestive, and endocrine system.		
7. Recognize normal and pathological changes that occur in organ systems with age.	BIO-562 Advanced Physiology (<i>graduate students only</i>) 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
8. Work in direct or indirect service to the older population.	Field study arranged in any department.	Evaluation of field experience
9. Identify and understand the ethical issues related to health care for the elderly.	HDFS-345/545 Health Care Dilemmas and Decisions for Families 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
10. Understand the process of grief for older adults.		
11. Recognize personal and cultural attitudes toward death	HDFS-332/532 Death and Bereavement..... 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
12. Understand lifespan concept of development and demonstrate an integrated knowledge of the aging individual within the context of society.	HDFS-255 Lifespan Human Development..... 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
13. Demonstrate the ability to plan and develop nutritious meals and programs for older individuals which take into account physical and financial limitations.	FN-380 Community Nutrition 3 FN-415/615 Nutritional Issues in Gerontology 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
14. Identify nutrition concepts and understand concerns associated with each lifespan stage.	FN-310/510 Lifespan Nutrition 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
15. Identify architectural barriers confronted by the disabled traveler.	HT-360/560 Tourism for Persons with Disabilities..... 2	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
16. Explain the psychological and physiological dimensions and impact of disability from a developmental perspective	BIO-220 Physiology of Disabilities 3 REHAB-230 Psychosocial Aspects of Disability 3 REHAB-482/682 Sexuality and Disability 2	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
17. Identify and describe absorption and metabolism of medications in the elderly.	BIO-358 Introductory Pharmacology 2	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
18. Understand counseling approaches and techniques for working with aging families in order to construct models for older individuals and their families.	COUN-494/694 Counseling Older Persons..... 2-3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
19. Identify needs and difficulties unique to older disabled workers.	REHAB-355/555 Rehabilitation of the Older Disabled Worker 2	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
20. Understand the range of technological options available to assist frail and/or disabled elderly.	REHAB-360/560 Assistive Technology 2	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
21. Analyze the effects of exercise upon the older individual.	HLTH-365 Physiology of Exercise..... 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
22. Investigate the human nervous system at the molecular, cellular, and system level.	BIO-360/560 Introduction to Neuroscience..... 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
23. Assess marketing models and trends relevant to the older population.	BUMKG-346/546 Target Marketing..... 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average

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24. Investigate the cultural and societal factors influencing minority, disabled and aging populations to purchase retail products and services.	BURTL-350/550 Marketing to Aging and Minority Consumers 2	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
25. Understand food patterns and personal lifestyle in relation to optimal physical and mental well-being.	FN-102 Nutrition for Healthy Living <i>or</i> FN-212 Nutrition..... 2-3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
26. Apply a system to learn word parts used to construct or analyze medical terms.	FN-207 Medical Terminology..... 1	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
27. Demonstrate ability to screen individuals for nutritional risk.	FN-312/512 Nutritional Assessment..... 2	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
28. Become proficient in individual and group client-centered nutritional counseling skills and techniques.	FN-360/560 Nutritional Counseling: A Team Approach..... 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
29. Identify the significance of human sexuality in later life utilizing an individual and family perspective.	HDFS-257 Lifespan Sexuality 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
30. Discuss late life development of women; recognize the influence of race, class and sexual orientation.	HDFS-350/550 Women's Relationships in Later Life..... 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
31. Understand applications, assets and limitations of a variety of alternative healing modalities.	HDFS-395/595 Body, Mind and Spirit Conference Course <i>or</i> PSYC-401/601 Body, Mind and Spirit Conference Course 1-2	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
32. Evaluate various types of experiences that individuals perceive and interpret as spiritual throughout the different stages of the life cycle.	HDFS-423/623 Spirituality Across the Lifespan 2	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
33. Assess the dynamics of families in various stages of the family life cycle, particularly as relevant to older family members.	HDFS-742 Lifespan Family and Human Development Seminar 2-3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
34. Identify and understand the value in participation in fitness and recreational activities in the future development of a wellness lifestyle.	HLTH-101 Discovering Wellness 1	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
35. Apply principles of body movement to functional and fitness concerns of the elderly.	HLTH-355 Kinesiology 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
36. Be able to perform basic life support.	HLTH-346 ARC Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation 0.5	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
37. Understand how the study of failures in perception in normal individuals, as well as special populations (<i>e.g. individuals with brain damage, individuals with genetic abnormalities and normal elderly individuals</i>) can enhance the understanding of normal perceptual processes.	PSYC-432/632 Perception 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
38. Understand how the study of failures in cognition for special populations (<i>e.g. individuals with brain damage, individuals with genetic abnormalities and normal elderly individuals</i>) can enhance the understanding of normal cognitive processes.	PSYC-442/642 Cognitive Processes 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
39. Understand and assess person's needs related to independent living, such as functional adaptive aids, safety, home health, or personal care.	REHAB-350/550 Independent Living..... 2	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
40. Utilize manual communication of persons who are deaf.	REHAB-305/505 Sign Language I..... 3 REHAB-306/506 Sign Language II..... 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
41. Identify techniques used to assist persons with hearing or visual impairment or both.	REHAB-325 Rehabilitation and Sensory Disability..... 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
42. Evaluate historical and contemporary definitions, forms, values and roles of leisure.	SOC-325 Sociology of Leisure 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
43. Differentiate among the various listening demands each communication situation places on the individual.	SPCOM-236 Listening 2	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
44. Identify the elements of language development for individuals with and without disabilities and how it relates to learning and communication.	SPCOM-310 Introduction to Communication Disorders 3	Exam, papers, reports, 2.0 grade point average
45. Analyze, from an interdisciplinary perspective, new information and ideas in a selected area of significance to women's studies.	WS-311 Topics in Women's Studies 1-3 <i>(with permission of Director of Gerontology Certification)</i>	