

Aging Studies (Previously Gerontology)

College of Social & Behavioral Sciences

Aging Studies Program

113 Armstrong Hall • 507-389-1561

Website: sbs.mnsu.edu/gerontology

Donald Ebel, Director

Faculty: Michael Bentley (Biological Sciences); Donald Ebel (Sociology); Kathryn Elliott (Anthropology); Jeffrey Buchanan (Psychology); Norma Krumwiede (Nursing); Andrea Lassiter (Psychology); Judith Luebke (Health Science); Leah Rogne (Sociology); Mary Frances Visser (Human Performance); Mark Windschitl (Health Science); Jim Wise (Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services); Diane Witt (Nursing); Catharina Fritz (Sociology); Nadaragan Sethuraju (Corrections)

The study of aging has from its founding included the biological, psychological and social perspectives. The Minor in Aging Studies provides undergraduate students with the opportunity to explore these varied perspectives while gaining foundational knowledge of aging. Within the next two decades, elders over the age of 65 will make up 25% of the population in the United States. Understanding aging processes and issues will support work in any discipline which makes the Minor in Aging Studies an appropriate addition to any major. The University is a member of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education.

POLICIES/INFORMATION

All Gerontology students **must** register with the Gerontology Program director at the beginning of their program.

GPA Policy. Gerontology minors are urged to maintain a 3.0 or better GPA to maximize their options for professional employment and graduate study.

P/N Grading Policy. All coursework for the minor, with the exception of the internship and the practicum, must be taken for a letter grade.

AGING STUDIES MINOR

The study of aging has from its founding included the biological, psychological and social perspectives. The Minor in Aging Studies provides undergraduate students with the opportunity to explore these varied perspectives while gaining foundational knowledge of aging. Within the next two decades, elders over the age of 65 will make up 25% of the population in the United States. Understanding aging processes and issues will support work in any discipline which makes the Minor in Aging Studies an appropriate addition to any major. The University is a member of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education.

Core (Choose 3 credits)

GERO 200 Aging: Interdisciplinary Perspectives (3)

Health Core (Choose 3 credits)

ANTH 421W Health, Culture and Disease (3)
BIOL 417 Biology of Aging and Chronic Diseases (3)
HLTH 455 Health and Aging (3)

Social and Behavioral Science Core (Choose 6 credits)

ANTH 436W Anthropology of Aging (3)
PSYC 466 Psychology of Aging (3)
SOC 404 Sociology of Aging (3)
SOC 405 Sociology of Death (3)
SOWK 419 Social Work and Aging (3)

Required Internship (Choose 3 credits)

GERO 497 Internship (1-6)
GERO 498 Practicum: Nursing Home Administration (1-6)

Elective

Please note that students may not take both SOC 405: Sociology of Death and HLTH 441: Death Education for credit toward this Minor.

Elective Credits (Choose 6 credits)

FCS 474 Community Resources and Family Support (3)
GERO 450 Innovations in Aging Policy (3)
GERO 480 Nursing Home Administration (3)
GERO 485 Topics in Gerontology (1-3)
GERO 499 Individual Study in Gerontology (1-4)
HLTH 441 Death Education (3)
RPLS 482 Leisure and Older Adults (3)

AGING STUDIES MINOR FOR NURSING STUDENTS

The Minor in Aging Studies for Nursing Students provides undergraduate nursing students with the opportunity to explore the biological, psychological and social perspectives on aging while enhancing their specific knowledge of nursing in relation to older persons. Within the next two decades elders over the age of 65 will comprise 25% of the population in the United States leading to a shortage of over one million nurses to serve the aging population, making this minor particularly beneficial in supporting this career choice for nursing students. The University is a member of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education.

POLICIES/INFORMATION

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GPA Policy. Gerontology minors are urged to maintain a 3.0 or better GPA to maximize their options for professional employment and graduate study.

P/N Grading Policy. All coursework for the minor, with the exception of the internship and practicum, must be taken for a letter grade.

Note: These policies are related to the Gerontology Program only. Students choosing to minor in Gerontology must still adhere to any and all policies set forward by the School of Nursing. Students are advised to meet with their Nursing advisor prior to registering for the minor with the Gerontology Program director.

Core

Gerontology and Nursing Core (Choose 5 credits)

GERO 200 Aging: Interdisciplinary Perspectives (3)
NURS 340 Gerontological Nursing (2)

Social and Behavioral Science Core (Choose 6 credits)

ANTH 436W Anthropology of Aging (3)
PSYC 466 Psychology of Aging (3)
SOC 404 Sociology of Aging (3)
SOWK 419 Social Work and Aging (3)

End of Life Core (Choose 3 credits)

Both courses may not be taken for credit counting toward the Minor
HLTH 441 Death Education (3)
SOC 405 Sociology of Death (3)
Required Internship (Choose 3 credits)
NURS 341 Gerontological Clinical (3)

Elective

(Choose 3 credits)

Elective courses may be chosen from the following list or from the Social and Behavioral Science core that they have not already taken for credit to satisfy that core requirement

FCS 474 Residential Management for Families and Special Needs People (3)
GERO 450 Innovations in Aging Policy (3)
GERO 480 Nursing Home Administration (3)
GERO 485 Topics in Gerontology (1-3)
GERO 499 Individual Study in Gerontology (1-4)
RPLS 482 Leisure and Older Adults (3)

Minnesota State Mankato's Nursing Home Administration Track for Licensure in the State of Minnesota. A license is required to administer a nursing home in each of the 50 states.

In order to complete all academic course work for licensure, students must complete one class from each subpart (of which there are eight) and a practicum. Program consists of 24-25 credits.

- Subpart 1 - Organizational Management: HLTH 659, Health Care Administration or MGMT 330, Principles of Management
- Subpart 2 - Managerial Accounting: ACCT 210, Managerial Accounting
- Subpart 3 - Gerontology: GERO 200, Aging: Interdisciplinary Perspectives or SOC 404 / SOC 504, Sociology of Aging
- Subpart 4 - Health Care and Medical Needs: HLTH 455 / HLTH 555, Health and Aging or NURS 340, Gerontological Nursing
- Subpart 5 - Nursing Facility Services, Programs and Issues, Subpart 7 - Regulatory Management: GERO 480 / GERO 580, Nursing Home Administration
- Subpart 6 - Human Resources: POL 463 / POL 563, Public Personnel Administration or MGMT 340, Human Resource Management or POL 662, Seminar: Human Resource Management
- Subpart 8 - Information Uses: MGMT 200, Introduction to MIS
- Practicum: GERO 498 / GERO 698, Practicum: Nursing Home Administration

GERO 497 (1-6) Internship

Pre: Consent
Fall, Spring

GERO 498 (1-6) Practicum: Nursing Home Administration

For students following plan of study for nursing home administration licensure only.

Pre: by application and Consent only
Fall, Spring

GERO 499 (1-4) Individual Study in Gerontology

The School and community health programs prepare health professionals with expertise in health promotion and disease prevention for employment in public health and community health agencies, health care facilities, business, industry and schools.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

GERO 200 (4) Family Dynamics of Aging

Introduction to human aging. Overview of social, psychological, and physical changes and social policy considerations.

Fall, Spring

GE-7

Diverse Cultures - Purple

GERO 200W (4) Family Dynamics of Aging

This course will answer the question "Why should I care about getting old when I am young?" through an exploration of the life course perspective, service learning opportunities, and written reflection and exploration.

WI

Diverse Cultures - Gold

GERO 398 (0) CPT: Co-Operative Experience

Curricular Practical Training: Co-Operative Experience is a zero-credit full-time practical training experience for one summer and on adjacent fall or spring term. Special rules apply to preserve full-time student status. Please contact an advisor in your program for complete information.

Pre: At least 60 credits earned; in good standing; instructor permission; co-op contract; other prerequisites may also apply.

Fall, Spring, Summer

GERO 450 (3) Innovations in Aging Policy

Engaging with the practice of policy development, understanding critical policies impacting the experience of aging, and learning how to become a policy entrepreneur will be the focus for this course. The course will also explore innovations in aging policy globally.

Spring

GERO 480 (3) Nursing Home Administration

Issues and trends, programs and services, funding mechanisms and regulations. Meets state educational requirements for specific content areas.

Spring

GERO 485 (1-3) Topics in Gerontology

Topics vary as announced in class schedule. May be retaken for credit if topic is different.

GERO 491 (1-6) In-Service