**GERONTOLOGY**

**Gerontology**  
College of Social & Behavioral Sciences  
Gerontology Program  
113 Armstrong Hall • 507-389-1561  
Web site: www.mnsu.edu/dept/gero

Faculty: Michael Bentley (Biological Sciences); Mary Bliesmer (Nursing);  
Kathryn Elliott (Anthropology); Marilyn Frank (Social Work); Jeffrey Buchanan  
(Psychology); Norma Krumwiede (Nursing); Shirley Murray (College of Allied  
Health and Nursing); Bikash Nandy (Health Science); Leah Rogne (Sociology);  
Regina Smith (Nursing); Mary Frances Visser (Human Performance);  
Bob Widner (Psychology); Jim Wise (Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services);  
Diane Witt (Nursing)

The field of Gerontology focuses upon the scientific study of the biological,  
psychological and social aspects of human aging and the application of this  
knowledge in the service of older adults. The Gerontology Program coordinates  
the delivery of the gerontology curriculum and conducts programs including  
the undergraduate Minor in Gerontology, the Master of Science in Gerontology,  
the Graduate Certificate of Study in Gerontology, and an approved course of study  
for nursing home administration licensure. The Gerontology Program also  
cooperates with the Minnesota State Mankato Center on Aging and the Minnesota  
Area Geriatric Education Center South on continuing education, research and  
resource development. Minnesota State Mankato is a member of the Association  
for Gerontology in Higher Education. All programs require registration with  
the Gerontology Program director.

**GERONTOLOGY MINOR**

**Required Total: 18 credits**

* Appropriate substitutions for required core or elective courses can be  
negotiated with the Director of the Gerontology Program.

I. All Gerontology minors must take GERO 200 Aging: Interdisciplinary  
Perspectives (3)

II. Minors must also take 3 out of the following 4 core courses (9 credits):  
SOC 404 Sociology of Aging (3)  
PSYC 466 Psychology of Aging (3)  
HLTH 455 Health and Aging (3) OR  
BIOL 417 Biology of Aging and Chronic Diseases (3)  
POL 464 Aging: Policy Issues (3)

III. Minors must also complete at least 6 credits of electives, to be chosen from  
among the list of aging-related, elective courses already approved by the  
Gerontology Program. Any core course that a student does not count as  
part of his/her 3 core categories may also be taken and counted as an  
acceptable elective. A 3-credit aging-related internship can be done as an  
elective as well. Additionally, students who complete an internship for their  
major with an older population can use that internship to satisfy both the  
requirement for their major and for 3 elective credits in the Gerontology  
minor.

Approved Electives for Minor:  
To be selected from Gerontology Courses—specific courses offered by particular  
department and/or courses offered by the Gerontology Program.

Elective courses include:  
GERO 480 Nursing Home Administration (3)  
GERO 485 Topics in Gerontology (1-3)  
GERO 499 Individual Study in Gerontology (1-4)  
ANTH 436 Anthropology of Aging (3)  
FCS 474 Residential Mgmt. for Families and Special Needs People (4)  
HLTH 441 Death Education (3)  
RPLS 482 Leisure Needs of the Aging (3)  
SOC 405 Sociology of Death (3)  
SOWK 419 Social Work and Aging (3)

**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.

**Nursing Home Administration Licensure.** This is an approved program of  
specific coursework and practicum that fulfills educational requirements for a  
Minnesota nursing home administrator license. It may be pursued at either the  
undergraduate or graduate level either as part of degrees or in addition to them.  
Students seeking licensure must register with the Gerontology Program director  
the beginning of their program, and must contact the Minnesota State Board  
of Examiners for Nursing Home Administrators, 2829 University Avenue S.E.,  
Suite 440, Minneapolis, MN 55414-3245; telephone 612-617-2117. Web site:  
www.benha.state.mn.us

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**GERO 200 (3) Aging: Interdisciplinary Perspectives**

Introduction to human aging. Overview of social, psychological, and physical  
changes and social policy considerations.  
Fall, Spring  
GE-7 CD-Core

**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**

**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**

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