Gerontology
College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
Gerontology Program
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Website: sbs.mnsu.edu/gerontology

Donald Ebel, Director

Faculty: Michael Bentley (Biological Sciences); Mary Bliesmer (Nursing); Donald Ebel (Sociology); 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); Donald Ebel, Director

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. 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.

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.

GERONTOLOGY MINOR

Required Total (21 credits)

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

Interdisciplinary Core

GERO 200 Aging: Interdisciplinary Perspectives (3)

Health Core (choose 3 credits)

HLTH 455 Health and Aging (3) OR
BIOL 417 Biology of Aging and Chronic Diseases (3)

Social & Behavioral Core (choose 6 credits)

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

Internship Core (choose 3 credits)

GERO 497 Internship (1-6)
GERO 498 Practicum: Nursing Home Administration (1-6)
Select Electives (choose 6 credits) May not take both SOC 405 and HLTH 441.

soc 405 Sociology of Death (3) OR
HLTH 441 Death Education (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 8 - Information Uses: MGMT 200, Introduction to MIS
- Practicum: GERO 498 / GERO 698, Practicum: Nursing Home Administration

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

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. Spring

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

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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.