

GERONTOLOGY (GERO)

GERO 21. First Year Seminar: Becoming an Educated Person. 3 Units
General Education Area/Graduation Requirement: Understanding Personal Development (E)

Introduction to the nature and possible meanings of higher education, and the functions and resources of the University. Designed to help students develop and exercise fundamental academic success strategies and to improve their basic learning skills. Provide students with the opportunity to interact with fellow students and the seminar leader and to build a community of academic and personal support, as well as explore gerontological concepts needed to respond to demographic changes in today's world.

GERO 100. Aging Issues in Contemporary America. 3 Units
General Education Area/Graduation Requirement: GE AREA D

Introduction to the field of Gerontology and how the discipline addresses society's aging needs. An examination of current issues in gerontology using a life span perspective focusing on older adults' needs/concerns along life's continuum in various environments. Major topics include implications of the demographic imperative, common aging changes/conditions, myths and stereotypes, effects of health/illness on individual and family roles, basic social issues and policies arising from the graying of America, and media, cultural and gender influences.

GERO 101. Elder Care Continuum Services and Strategies. 3 Units

Exploration and analysis of the "elder care service continuum" within the context of changing diverse societal needs, service availability and accessibility, current public policy, and administrative and management issues facing care providers. A multidisciplinary examination of the spectrum of services and programs targeted for older adults and their families. Includes information and referral processes and agencies, recreational and social options, housing alternatives, in-home, residential and skilled care options, health care eligibility criteria, funding sources, and adult protective services.

Note: This is a service learning course.

GERO 102. Social Policy for an Aging Society. 3 Units

Prerequisite(s): GOVT 1 or GOVT 150 or equivalent.

Explores context and process for policy making by national and California state governments including ethical dimensions. Applications are developed from students' and instructor's areas of interest including K-12 and higher education, land-use policy, and aging issues such as elder advocacy, Social Security, and Medicare/Medicaid. Provides background and skills for entry level positions in public or non-profit organizations. Cross Listed: PPA 100; only one may be counted for credit.

GERO 103. Applied Care Management in Gerontology Practice. 3 Units

Analysis of issues, services, methods, and interventions related to "practice" with older adults and application of strategies for identifying and accessing services targeted for older adults and their families. Outcomes include understanding: unique characteristics/needs of elders; relationship of the systems approach to working with elders; issues affecting service delivery to this population (diversity, gender, ethics, special health and mental health needs); basic practice skills for effective service delivery to elders and families/caregivers; student's attitudes and roles when working with this population.

Note: This is a service learning course.

GERO 121. Models for Successful Aging. 3 Units

In depth interdisciplinary, holistic exploration of health promotion and adaptation paradigms that facilitate successful, productive longevity. Hardiness and self-efficacy theories along with expectations and experiences enhancing quality of life are explored. Interactions among such variables as activity, diet, exercise, work/leisure, attitudes/beliefs, humor, living environments, spirituality, and social networks are investigated within the contexts of gender, economic and cultural perspectives.

GERO 122. Managing Disorders in Elders. 3 Units

Prerequisite(s): GERO 121

Study and analysis of prevalent pathophysiological-based diseases and psychological disorders commonly experienced by older adults and frail elder populations. Disease/disorder causes and the effects of chronic illness on individuals' activities of daily living, sexuality, relationships, and coping abilities with changing lifestyles are examined using a life course framework and evidenced-based research. Assessment tools, lab value changes, medication needs, complications/disabilities, traditional/alternative treatments and ethical issues rising from meeting needs are investigated along with implications for caregivers.

GERO 130. Gerontology Practicum. 3 Units

Prerequisite(s): 24 Major units including GERO 101, GERO 102, GERO 103, GERO 121, GERO 122 and instructor permission.

Supervised practicum experience in a community agency planning for or delivering professional services to older adults. This practicum experience is part of two culminating courses for the major and focuses on application of the interdisciplinary nature of the discipline while affording students direct, hands on experiences. Includes a field seminar. Seminar discussions focus on the application of gerontological concepts derived from all gerontology courses and are applied to each student's specific practicum area.

Note: This is a service learning course.

Credit/No Credit

GERO 131. Gerontology Capstone Practicum. 3 Units

Prerequisite(s): 36 Major units including GERO 101, GERO 102, GERO 103, GERO 121, GERO 122, GERO 130 and instructor permission.

Supervised internship experience in a community agency planning for or delivering professional services to older adults. This capstone practicum experience builds on the first internship course and is the final culminating course for the major and focuses on advanced application of the interdisciplinary nature of the discipline while affording students direct, hands on experiences. Includes a field seminar. Seminar discussions focus on the application of gerontologic concepts derived from all gerontology courses and are applied to each student's specific Practicum area.

Note: This is a service learning course. Minors may take this course without taking GERO 130

Credit/No Credit

GERO 199. Special Problems. 1 - 3 Units

Prerequisite(s): Advanced approval of project goal and objectives by program director.

Independent research, project, or directed reading.

Note: Open to students who are capable of independent work. A maximum of 3 units may count toward elective major requirements.

Credit/No Credit

GERO 200. Adaptation To Age Related Changes, Illnesses and Caregiving. 3 Units

Exposure to and analysis of positive and negative functional consequences arising from age related changes and illnesses in elders. Content elucidates changes and their effects on elders' levels of wellness using interdisciplinary research and holistic, life course frameworks. Screening assessments, interventions, community resources and services, and ethical issues are addressed for each topic. Caregiving issues and solutions are explored within life span and problem solving frameworks.

GERO 221. Models for Successful Aging. 3 Units

In depth interdisciplinary, holistic exploration of health promotion and adaptation paradigms that facilitate successful, productive longevity. Hardiness and self-efficacy theories along with expectations and experiences enhancing quality of life are explored. Interactions among such variables as activity, diet, exercise, work/leisure, attitudes/beliefs, humor, living environments, spirituality, and social networks are investigated within the contexts of gender, economic and cultural perspectives.

GERO 222. Managing Disorders in Elders. 3 Units

Prerequisite(s): GERO 221

Offers in-depth study/analysis of prevalent pathophysiological-based diseases and psychological disorders commonly experienced by older adults and frail elder populations. Disease/disorder causes and the effects of chronic illness on individuals' activities of daily living, sexuality, relationships, and coping abilities with changing lifestyles are examined using a life course framework and evidenced-based research. Assessment tools, lab value changes, medication needs, complications/disabilities, traditional/alternative treatments and ethical issues rising from meeting needs are investigated along with implications for caregivers.

GERO 295. Internship/Project. 3 Units

Prerequisite(s): GERO 200, GERO 221, GERO 222.

Supervised fieldwork internship or project that is a culminating experience and applies learned gerontological theories and concepts in a community setting where planning, developing, or delivering services to older adults or their families occurs. Students choose an area of practice and negotiate their learning experiences or project with their faculty advisor and field supervisor. Advanced approval of project goal and objectives by program director are required.
Credit/No Credit

GERO 299. Special Problems. 1 - 3 Units

Prerequisite(s): Instructor permission.

Independent research, project, or directed reading. Open to students who are capable of independent work. A maximum of 3 units may count toward elective major requirements. Advanced approval of project goal and objectives by program director.
Credit/No Credit