

GERONTOLOGY

Degree Programs Offered

- Gerontology, PhD (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/graduate/degree-programs-certificates-minors/gerontology/gerontology-phd>)
- Social Gerontology, MA (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/graduate/degree-programs-certificates-minors/gerontology/gerontology-social>)
- Gerontology Certificate (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/graduate/degree-programs-certificates-minors/gerontology/gerontology-certificate>)

GERO 8020 INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS (3 credits)

An introduction to research methods and statistical procedures in the social and behavioral sciences.

GERO 8106 EDUCATIONAL GERONTOLOGY (3 credits)

An introduction to the field of education for and about the aging. The institutions and processes of education will be analyzed to determine their relationships and value to persons who are now old and those who are aging. (Cross-listed with GERO 4100).

GERO 8280 COUNSELING OLDER ADULTS AND THEIR FAMILIES (2 credits)

A study of issues related to the counseling of older adults and their families.

GERO 8356 ISSUES IN AGING (3 credits)

This course is intended for students in gerontology and in other fields who are interested in a humanistic approach to understanding significant issues which affect the lives of older people. (Cross-listed with GERO 4350).

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate.

GERO 8426 RECREATION FOR THE AGING (3 credits)

Role of leisure services as related to understanding and working with elders. Emphasis on recreation programming as a mode of intervention. Analysis and study of the phases of aging, with reference to psychomotor, affective, and cognitive changes; introduction to the theories of aging and how they relate to the lifestyle of this population; recreational therapy intervention, activity adaptation and program design; leisure education and issues and trends. (Cross-listed with GERO 4420, RLS 4420, RLS 8426).

GERO 8466 PSYCHOLOGY OF ADULT DEVELOPMENT AND AGING (3 credits)

The focus of this course is on the major social and psychological changes that occur as a function of aging. Both normal and abnormal patterns of developmental change are examined, along with their implications for behavior. (Cross-listed with GERO 4460, PSYC 4460)

GERO 8476 MENTAL HEALTH AND AGING (3 credits)

The goal of this courses is to survey the mental health needs of older adults. Consideration is given to identifying both positive mental health and pathological conditions. Treatment interventions effective with older adults and their families are also discussed. (Cross-listed with GERO 4470, PSYC 4470, PSYC 8476).

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior or senior.

GERO 8486 COMPARATIVE GERONTOLOGY (3 credits)

The study of aging around the world by a comparative method in a cross-cultural and cross-national framework. An explanation of some practical experiences and developments in Europe, Asia and Africa will be examined. (Cross-listed with GERO 4480).

GERO 8500 POLITICS IN AGING (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide an understanding of the role of the political process in the emergence of public policy towards older adults in the United States, particularly during the past century.

GERO 8506 LEGAL ASPECTS OF AGING (3 credits)

Consideration of the legal concerns which are likely to arise as people age. Includes introduction to American legal system, and emphasis on underlying legal concepts and issues of special importance to older persons. (Cross-listed with GERO 4500).

GERO 8516 LONG-TERM CARE ADMINISTRATION (3 credits)

An investigation of the broad range of policy issues, theoretical concerns and practical management strategies influencing the design, organization and delivery of long-term care services. (Cross-listed with GERO 4510, PA 4510, PA 8516).

GERO 8526 SENIOR HOUSING (3 credits)

The senior housing course is designed to provide students with an in-depth understanding of the various housing options available to older adults including aging in place to hospice. At the end of the course students will have a working knowledge of the needs of older adults and how this is used in making decisions about housing. (Cross-listed with GERO 4520.)

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate student

GERO 8556 HEALTH ASPECTS OF AGING (3 credits)

This course emphasizes health promotion for older adults. Special health needs of older Americans are compared and contrasted with health needs for other age groups. Prevention or delaying of chronic diseases and disorders are emphasized. (Cross-listed with GERO 4550, HED 4550, HED 8556, WGST 4550).

GERO 8566 NUTRITION AND AGING (3 credits)

The goal of this course is to provide an understanding of the relationship between nutrition and successful or usual aging. This course will review the basics of good nutrition and relate them to the usual food intake of older adults. It will identify the impact of poor nutrition. This course will also look at the role nutrition plays in various disease processes that are associated with aging. It will provide information about support services that are available to assure good nutrition into old age for those living independently. (Cross-listed with GERO 4560).

GERO 8596 DISORDERS OF COMMUNICATION IN OLDER ADULTS (3 credits)

This course is designed to familiarize the student with the identification and symptomatology, basic assessment and intervention strategies associated with disorders of communication affecting older adults and geriatric patients. It is beneficial to students majoring in gerontology or speech pathology, as an elective course, or as a professional enrichment course for persons working in these or related fields. Graduate: Students are assigned contacts with and written reports of contacts with an older adult who manifests a disorder of communication. (Cross-listed with GERO 4590).

GERO 8676 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY (3 credits)

This course is provided to give the student a historical overview of programs for the elderly; examine the national policy process as it relates to the older American; and review the principles and practices relative to the existing national programs for the aged. (Cross-listed with GERO 4670, PA 8676).

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Not open to non-degree graduate students.

GERO 8696 WORKING WITH MINORITY ELDERLY (3 credits)

This course is designed to provide the student with knowledge of the differing status, attitudes and experiences of the elderly within minority groups. This course examines various service systems and practice models in terms of their relevance and effectiveness in meeting needs of the minority elderly. (Cross-listed with GERO 4690, SOWK 4040, SOWK 8046).

GERO 8726 BABY BOOMERS AND THE 21ST CENTURY (3 credits)

Marketing decisions and strategies apply to all businesses and are influenced by the target market. The economic realities and the character of America will change due to shifting demographics of baby boomers. Businesses that understand the power of the baby boomers will succeed; failure to understand that power may lead to economic consequences. Students from many disciplines will benefit from this cross-referenced course blending the realities of gerontology with the predictions of baby boomer behavior and the resulting impact to all businesses. (Cross-listed with GERO 4720).

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior, Senior and Graduate Level Standing.

GERO 8730 DYING, DEATH & GRIEVING (3 credits)

An examination of theory and research relevant to interaction with the older, terminally ill person, focusing on communication with widows and other survivors as well as the dying patient. (Cross-listed with HED 8730).

GERO 8756 MID-LIFE, CAREER CHANGE, PRERETIREMENT PLANNING (3 credits)

This course is designed to involve candidates in the exploration of the developmental tasks of mid-life, myths and realities related to career change as well as the implication of preretirement planning. Factual information, as well as model examination and evaluation are presented to aid the candidate in becoming better equipped to understand some of the forces which affect the well-being of middle aged persons as they prepare for the later years. (Cross-listed with COUN 8756, GERO 4750).

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior, permission of instructor. Not open to non-degree graduate students.

GERO 8800 GRADUATE SEMINAR IN THE AGING BRAIN (3 credits)

The Graduate Seminar in the Aging Brain is a graduate level gerontology course focused on understanding the changes to the brain due to normal aging and aging-related diseases. This is an elective course for the Gerontology graduate program at UNO. The content matter of this course also makes it a relevant fit for graduate students from disciplines such as biology, psychology, geriatric medicine, nursing, social work, and exercise science. By the end of the course, students should have a thorough understanding of the changes to the brain in healthy aging and aging-related disease that affect cognitive and emotional functioning. (Cross-listed with PSYC 8800).

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate level standing

GERO 8856 HOSPICE & OTHER SERVICES FOR THE DYING PATIENT/FAMILY (3 credits)

This course examines the hospice concept and other related services available in the community. The student will learn that hospice is an alternative to the traditional medical model. (Cross-listed with GERO 4850, SOWK 4850, SOWK 8856).

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOWK 8130 or advanced standing

GERO 8920 SPECIAL STUDIES IN GERONTOLOGY (1-3 credits)

Special studies designed around the interests and needs of the individual student in such areas as the psychology, sociology, economics or politics of aging, as well as operation of various service systems. The studies may be either a literature review project or a field project in which experience is gained in the community identifying and analyzing needs and services related to older people.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Six hours of gerontology, or permission

GERO 8940 GRADUATE PRACTICUM (3 credits)

This course provides the opportunity to students to share field experiences; to obtain guidance concerning various relationships with agency, staff and clients; and to develop a broadly based perspective of the field of aging.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Nine hours in gerontology and permission. Students must be enrolled in the certificate or degree program (MA, PhD) as well as have a minimum GPA of 3.0. Not open to non-degree students.

GERO 8960 DIRECTED READINGS COUNSELING AND GERONTOLOGY (1-3 credits)

A study of recent and current literature on counseling with older people.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): GERO 8986 or COUN 8986, counseling major, or permission

GERO 8970 PERSONAL VALUES AND AGING (1 credit)

Course designed to increase students' self-awareness of personal values and feelings related to aging and the aged.

GERO 8986 COUNSELING SKILLS IN GERONTOLOGY (3 credits)

This course is intended to help develop basic counseling skills for application in gerontology. (Cross-listed with COUN 8986, GERO 4980).

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Not open to non-degree graduate students.

GERO 8990 THESIS (1-6 credits)

Independent research project required of all students working toward the Master of Arts degree. The thesis is written under the supervision of the thesis adviser and the thesis committee.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Permission from adviser.

GERO 9020 GRADUATE SEMINAR IN STATISTICAL APPLICATIONS (3 credits)

Provides an introduction to statistical methods and data management used in the social, behavioral and health sciences.

GERO 9110 APPLIED SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY (3 credits)

An overview of social gerontology with an emphasis on the interplay between social, psychological and physical elements in later life. Restricted to graduate students only; required of gerontology students. (Cross-listed with SOC 9110).

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate.

GERO 9460 SEMINAR IN AGING AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR (3 credits)

This course will examine in detail age-related changes in psychological processes and explore the implications of these changes for behavior. The course is intended primarily for graduate students in psychology and gerontology. (Cross-listed with PSYC 9460).

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate standing in gerontology or psychology or permission of the instructor.

GERO 9480 GEROPSYCHOLOGY (3 credits)

To become familiar with the psychology of aging from a research perspective. The focus will be on psychological research in the middle years and in later years. (Cross-listed with PSYC 9480).

GERO 9560 SEMINAR: THE OLDER WOMAN (3 credits)

This course is designed to provide students with a critical understanding of older women. Primary focus will be directed towards an exploration of lifestyles, needs and interests of women in the later half of life. Reading and discussion of current literature will provide a basis for continued exploration through the preparation, administration and analysis of a group research project.

GERO 9990 DISSERTATION (1-6 credits)

This course provides doctoral students pursuing the PhD in Human Sciences with a specialization in gerontology to complete a dissertation research plan. The course learning activities will focus on the completion of an approved dissertation.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Admittance to the PhD in Human Sciences with a specialization in gerontology. Not open to non-degree graduate students.