

Gerontology Minor Proposal:
Proposed Wording for the University Catalog

I. To be placed in the following catalog section: *Interdisciplinary Studies*

Gerontology

Dr. Deborah Altus, Coordinator
Benton 311
(785) 670-2116

Degree Offered
Optional Minor

Gerontology is an interdisciplinary program of study that builds on existing course offerings in a range of departments. The Gerontology minor incorporates a bio-psycho-social approach to studying aging and is open to all undergraduate students across the university.

Students who are interested in this optional minor should refer to the School of Applied Studies section of the catalog. This program is administered by the School of Applied Studies.

II. To be placed in the following catalog section: *School of Applied Studies* and then *Gerontology*:

MINOR OFFERED

Minor in Gerontology

Coordinator
Dr. Deborah Altus
Benton 311
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Mission

This minor is constructed around the premise that a broader understanding of Gerontology is critical to meet the needs of an aging society. The minor is also based on the premise that Gerontology is, by its nature, an interdisciplinary course of study requiring education in bio-psycho-social issues. Expanded career opportunities in gerontology are forecast in many areas, including healthcare, the helping professions, public policy and more. As a result, this minor is open to all undergraduate students across the university and includes courses from a variety of disciplines. This minor will prepare students to meet increasing workforce needs of an aging society and/or to pursue graduate study in Gerontology or related fields.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students minoring in Gerontology, upon graduation, will be able to:

- Describe biological, psychological, and social changes that occur as the result of aging;
- Describe societal changes that are associated with an aging population;
- Describe ways in which aging is intersected by race, ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status, and other important social variables; and
- Use evidence-based information, effective logic and accurate vocabulary to communicate about Gerontology.

Study Plan

To obtain the optional minor students will complete at least 18 credit hours of coursework. In addition to nine credit hours of required coursework, students must complete at least nine credit hours of elective courses. At least six hours must be upper division coursework. Some elective courses require completion of prerequisites. The list of electives may be modified as new courses with Gerontology content become available. The coordinator will provide advising, review requests for substitutions with a petition from the student, and will serve in the role of department chair to certify that a student has successfully met the requirements for this optional minor. Students wishing to obtain elective credit for a directed study or internship course must obtain prior approval from the coordinator.

Courses Required for the Minor:

	<u>Last Offered</u>
HS378 - Theories on Aging	Fall 2014
PY212 - Psychology of Adulthood and Aging (prerequisite: PY100)	Spring 2016
BI260 - Biology of Aging (prerequisite: BI100 - health emphasis section recommended) or pre-approved substitution if the course is not offered	

Elective Courses Include:

AL101 - Foundations of Healthcare	Fall 2014
AL366 - Legal and Regulatory Issues in Healthcare (prerequisite: consent)	Fall 2014
AL420 - Current Issues in Healthcare (prerequisite: consent)	Fall 2014
AR291/391 - Art Therapy	Fall 2014
CN306 - Health Communication (prerequisite: CN 101)	Spring 2014
CN351 - Interpersonal Communication (prerequisite: CN 101)	Fall 2014
HS131 - Human Development	Fall 2014
HS371 - Aging and Mental Health	Fall 2013
HS372/NU335 - Death and Dying	Spring 2014
HS390 - Strategies in Lifespan Resilience	Summer 2014
HS390 - Disability Studies	Fall 2013
HS411 - Family Issues	Fall 2014
HS477 - Morita Methods in Counseling	Spring 2014
LG220 - Wills & Estate Administration (prerequisites: LG 100 or 200, or consent)	Fall 2014
LG320 - Elder Law (prerequisites: LG 100 or 200, or consent)	Spring 2014
KN248 - Wellness Concepts and Application	Fall 2014
NU335 - Interdisciplinary Community Health (2 credit hours)	Fall 2014
PO305 - Public Policy (prerequisite: consent)	Fall 2013
PY326 - Health Psychology (prerequisite: PY 100)	Fall 2014
SO/AN312 - Culture, Health and Illness (prerequisite: SO100, AN112 or consent)	Fall 2012
SO/AN326 - Aging and Society (prerequisite: SO 100 or consent)	Fall 2014
SW390 - Geriatric SW Practice (prerequisite: SW100, SW250 or consent)	Fall 2014
An internship or practicum in a setting approved by the coordinator (up to 3 credit hours)	
A directed study course approved by the coordinator (up to 3 credit hours)	