



MINOR

Undergraduate Minor

An undergraduate student from any department may earn a minor in gerontology. He or she must complete a minimum of 15 semester hours, at least 9 of which must be from the primary content area. She or he may take no more than 6 of the 15 semester hours from a single department. Credit hours applied to satisfy the requirements for a major may not be counted again to satisfy the requirements for an interdisciplinary minor.

Please contact Dr. Stolte or the Gerontology department in Wirtz Hall Rm. 227, 815-753-0031 for more information.

For complete course descriptions and prerequisites see current NIU Undergraduate Catalog.

REQUIREMENTS

Minor Requirements (15)

Primary Content Area (9 -12 hrs.)

- IDSP 465 Issues in Gerontology (3)

Course work from the following: (6 -9 hrs.)

- FCNS 486 Aging & the Family (3)
- IHHS 466 Seminar in Gerontology (3)
- IHHS 467 Fieldwork in Gerontology (3)
- KNPE 454 Exercise Gerontology (3)
- PSYC 425 Adult Development & Aging (3)

Other Courses Related to Gerontology (3 -6 hrs.)

- ANTH 465 Medical Anthropology (3)
- BIOS 109 Human Biology (3)
- FCNS 310 Applied Nutrition (3)
- IHHS 301 Ind. Study in HHS
- KNPE 493 Supervised Clinical Exp. In Exercise Gerontology (3)
- PHHE 410 Death Education (3)
- PHHE 433 Principles of Long Term Care Admin. (3)
- POLS 326 Government and Welfare (3)
- PSYC 465 Advanced Dev. Psychology (3)
- SOCI 356 Health, Aging & Society (3)
- SOCI 451 Medical Sociology (3)
- SOCI 460 Social Structure & the Life Course (3)
- SOCI 482 Sociology of Death & Dying (3)

Or one of the following:

- FCNS 280 Human Dev, the Family, & Soc. (3)
- PSYC 225 Lifespan Dev. Childhd - Adulthd (3)

Everyone should learn about aging.

Students in primary grades through college should study aging because it is relevant to their lives no matter what career they pursue. Whether they go into business, government, or education, they will need to understand the demography, psychology, biology, sociology, and public health aspects of age and aging. Knowledge of the aging experience will be almost as important as knowledge in the traditional academic subjects - reading, writing, computing, science, history, and social studies - in the coming years.

CAREERS

Careers in Gerontology

Education

Instructor in senior center
Instructor of gerontology or geriatric medicine

Employment/Retirement

Industrial gerontologist
Specialist in pre-retirement planning

Finance

Administrator/case worker/intake worker for
Social Security, Medicare etc.

Housing

Manager of public/private residential community

Legal Aid/Protective Service

Benefits/rights specialist in public agencies
Case manager/guardian
Lawyer/paralegal in private or public legal
services agency

Medical Service

Home health aide
Nursing home administrator
Nursing home ombudsperson
Physical therapist
Social worker/counselor in nursing home
Speech-hearing pathologist

Mental Health

Coordinator/specialist for day care program
Psychiatric social worker
Psychiatrist
Psychologist

Nutrition

Dietitian
Instructor of nutrition

Product/Service Consumption

Financial planning consultant
Travel agent/tour guide

Recreation/Social Activities

Activities specialist
Senior center director

Please note this is only a partial list of careers. For additional possible careers and information on the field of gerontology check: www.aghe.org

Career list prepared by the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education.

FACULTY

Gerontology Faculty Associates

Faculty members from departments across the NIU campus are affiliated with the gerontology program. Strongly represented among these departments are those concerned with the link between health and aging. Gerontology faculty associates are active teacher-scholars. They publish basic and applied research on health and aging in rigorous peer-reviewed journals and books. Among the departments at NIU with strong interests in health and aging are:

- Allied Health & Communicative Disorders
- Anthropology
- Biological Sciences
- Counseling, Adult and Health Education
- Educational Psychology and Foundations
- Family, Consumer, and Nutrition Sciences
- Kinesiology and Physical Education
- Nursing and Health Sciences
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology

GERONTOLOGY

Minor in Gerontology

PROGRAM



The Gerontology Program at NIU is designed to play an important part in meeting the health-related needs and challenges of the fastest growing segment of the American population: older adults.

www.chhs.niu.edu/gero

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