

AGING STUDIES, CERTIFICATE

Elevate your expertise in aging through the Certificate in Aging Studies. This certificate addresses the urgent need for professionals trained to support the growing population of older adults and enhance students' marketability in the field. It provides undergraduate students with comprehensive knowledge of the aging process from biological, psychological, and social perspectives. Designed to complement various degree programs, the certificate offers an interdisciplinary approach, allowing students to tailor their studies to their career interests with guidance from academic advisors.

HOW TO GET IN

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Any undergraduate regardless of major or college affiliation may earn this certificate. Students must contact the certificate program advisor to declare the certificate.

REQUIREMENTS

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Code	Title	Credits
Core Courses (complete one of the following):		3
PSYCH 464	Adult Development and Aging	
SOC WORK/ SOC 422	Social Issues in Aging	
SOC 575	Sociological Perspectives on the Life Course and Aging	
Policies and Systems (complete one of the following):		2-4
ECON 355	The Economics of Growing-up and Getting Old	
ECON/R M I 530	Insuring Life's Risks: Health, Aging, and Policy	
ECON/ POP HLTH/ PUB AFFR 548	The Economics of Health Care	
PUB AFFR 201	Introduction to Health Policy in the United States	
PHILOS/ MED HIST 505	Justice and Health Care	
SOC WORK/ NURSING/ S&A PHM 105	Health Care Systems: Interdisciplinary Approach	
Depth of Study (complete 6 credits):		6-7
Complete additional Core Courses or Policy & Systems Courses or any of the following:		
ANTHRO 265	Introduction to Culture and Health	
BIOCHEM/ NUTR SCI 645	Molecular Control of Metabolism and Metabolic Disease	
B M E/I SY E 662	Design and Human Disability and Aging	

SOC/
C&E SOC 343 Sociology of Health and Medicine

SOC/
C&E SOC 532 Health Care Issues for Individuals, Families and Society

COM ARTS 318 Introduction to Health Communication

COUN PSY 531 Prevention and Intervention in Mental Health Across the Lifespan

HDFS 263 Development from Adolescence to Old Age

HDFS 516 Stress and Resilience in Families Across the Lifespan

I SY E 417 Health Systems Engineering

KINES 116 First Aid and Basic Life Support

KINES 150 Foundations of Health Behavior and Health Equity

KINES 225 Introduction to Physical Activity Programming for Diverse Abilities

KINES 521 Physical Activity and Health

LEGAL ST 473 Health Impacts of Unmet Social Needs

PHILOS/
MED HIST 558 Ethical Issues in Health Care

NURSING 433 Nursing Care of the Older Adult

NURSING 511 Community Supports for People with Dementia

NUTR SCI 655 Nutrition in Aging

SOC WORK 648 Social Work Practice in Palliative Care

Total Credits **12**

RESIDENCE AND QUALITY OF WORK

- Minimum 2.000 GPA in all certificate courses
- At least 6 certificate credits must be completed in residence

CERTIFICATE COMPLETION REQUIREMENT

This undergraduate certificate must be completed concurrently with the student's undergraduate degree. Students cannot delay degree completion to complete the certificate.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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1. Understand the interdisciplinary nature of aging as a combination of psychological, social, and biological processes.
2. Identify and dispel commonly held myths and stereotypes regarding older adults and aging.
3. Recognize how older adults are impacted by evolving intersecting identities such as age, race, ethnicity, gender, income, class, sexual orientation, and ability.
4. Compare and contrast current theory and research in interdisciplinary gerontology both in the U.S. and globally.

5. Evaluate how individual and compounded biopsychosocial issues can affect an older adult's overall health and wellbeing, as well as those who work with and care for them.

ADVISING AND CAREERS

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Please contact one of the School of Social Work academic advisor with your questions and to declare this certificate.

Advising appointments for current UW-Madison students are made through Starfish or by calling 608-263-3660.

This certificate will better prepare students to meet the evolving needs and opportunities of an aging society. Students who earn this certificate may consider careers in health care, social services, policy making, and community organizations.

SUCCESSWORKS

SuccessWorks (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/>) at the College of Letters & Science helps you turn the academic skills learned in your classes into a fulfilling life, guiding you every step of the way to securing jobs, internships, or admission to graduate school.

Through one-on-one career advising, events, and resources, you can explore career options, build valuable internship and research experience, and connect with supportive alumni and employers who open doors of opportunity.

- What you can do with your major (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/what-you-can-do-with-your-major/>) (Major Skills & Outcomes Sheets)
- Make a career advising appointment (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/>)
- Learn about internships and internship funding (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/finding-a-job-or-internship/>)
- Try "Jobs, Internships, & How to Get Them," (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/canvas/>) an interactive guide in Canvas for enrolled UW-Madison students