

# Secondary Major in Gerontology

The number of older adults in the US has increased by 36% since 2009, compared to an increase of 3% for the under 65 population. Are you looking for a career that needs people with a wide variety of skills, is challenging, improves the lives of others, and works with or on behalf of the fastest growing segment of the U.S. population? The field of aging is diverse and offers a multitude of employment options as well as the chance to develop new programs and services. Professionals in aging work in a variety of settings and experience strong job satisfaction.

The Secondary Major in Gerontology was developed to enhance job opportunities and develop new areas of specialty within a student's primary career path. It is a 24-credit-hour program of study which includes 9 credit hours of required courses and 15 credit hours of electives taken from a list of approved gerontology courses. Elective courses may overlap with courses taken for a primary major.

## **Required courses (9 credit hours):**

GERON 315 - Introduction to Gerontology (3)  
GERON 510 – Aging in America: Policy & Advocacy (3)  
GERON 600 -- Seminar in Gerontology (3)

## **Elective courses – (15 credit hours)**

Students may choose from a list of almost 40 options, allowing students to customize learning based on their interests and anticipated career path. Classes are offered within the following departments:

Conflict Resolution  
Food, Nutrition, Dietetics and Health  
Human Development and Family Studies  
Gerontology  
History  
Hospitality Management  
Interior Design

Kinesiology  
Personal Financial Planning  
Philosophy  
Psychological Sciences  
Social Work  
Theatre

*For more information or to declare the secondary major in gerontology please email [gerontology@k-state.edu](mailto:gerontology@k-state.edu) or stop by the Center on Aging in 253 Justin Hall.*



# Required and elective courses for Gerontology Minor or Secondary Major

## Health and Human Sciences

- GERON 315 Intro to Gerontology (3)
- GERON 400 Biogerontology (3)
- GERON 510 Aging in America: Policy & Advocacy (3)
- GERON 600 Seminar in Gerontology (3)
- GERON 605 Practicum in Gerontology (1-3)
- GERON 610 Seminar in Long-Term Care (3)
- GERON 615 Long-Term Care Internship (9)
- GERON 620 Problems in Gerontology (1-3)
- GERON 625 Health and Aging (3)
- GERON 630 Mental Health & Aging (3)
- GERON 705 Sexuality and Aging (3)
- GERON 710 Creativity and Aging (3)
- GERON 715 Aging Veterans (3)
- GERON 720 Design for Aging in Mod. World (3)

## Apparel, Textiles and Interior Design

- ID 651 Design for Supportive Environ. (3)

## Applied Human Sciences

- CNRES 530 Coping with Life Crises (3)
- CNRES 531 Core Conflict Resolution (3)
- CNRES 534 Organizational Conflict (3)
- CNRES 537 Elder & Family Decision Making (3)
- CNRES 539 Grief/Loss Across the Lifespan (3)
- HDFS 510 Human Development and Aging (3)
- HDFS 654 Death and the Family (3)

## Foods, Nutrition, Dietetics & Health

- FNDH 132 Basic Nutrition (3)
- FNDH 352 Personal Wellness (3)
- FNDH 400 Human Nutrition (3)
- FNDH 510 Life Span Nutrition (2)
- FNDH 720 Admin. Of Health Care Org. (3)

## History

- HIST 520 Death and Dying in History (3)
- HIST 534 Social History of Medicine (3)

## Kinesiology

- KIN 335 Physiology of Exercise (4)
- KIN 381 - Exercise & Chronic Disease (3)
- KIN 383 - Exercise and Older Adults (3)
- KIN 419 - Health Policy & Administration (3)
- KIN 612 – Policy, Built Environment and Physical Activity (3)

## Music, Theatre, and Dance

- THTRE 664 Creative Drama (3)
- THTRE 665 Drama Ther./Spec. Populations (3)
- THTRE 675 Drama Therapy/ Older Adults (3)

## Philosophy

- PHILO 365 Medical Ethics (3)

## Psychological Sciences

- PSYCH 518 Introduction to Health Psych (3)
- PSYCH 520 Life-Span Personality Dev. (3)
- PSYCH 715 Psychology of Aging (3)

## Sociology, Anthropology & Social Work

- SOCWK 320 Dynamics of Working with Older Adults (3)

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Other courses may be approved for gerontology credit on a case by case basis. Contact the Gerontology advisor for more information at 785-532-5945 or [gerontology@k-state.edu](mailto:gerontology@k-state.edu). See <https://www.hhs.k-state.edu/aging/academics/ugrad/course-schedule.html> for current course offerings.