Undergraduate Lower-Division Courses

GERO 100. Introduction to Gerontology (3). A multidisciplinary overview of the field of aging, with attention to cultural, social, psychological, biological, and economic factors which influence the circumstances of the elderly.

GERO 150. Workshop in Gerontology (1–3). Provides specialized instruction, using a variable format in a gerontologically relevant subject. Repeatable for credit.

Undergraduate Upper-Division Courses

GERO 401. Aging, Work, and Retirement (3). Examines the basic implications of population aging on work life and retirement opportunities, now and in the future. Explores factors that may place individuals at-risk for economic insecurity as they grow older.


GERO 481. Cooperative Education (1–3). Provides practical field experience, under academic supervision, that complements and enhances the student's academic program. Repeatable up to 6 hours. Offered Cr/NCr only. Prerequisites: GERO 100 and instructor's consent.

Courses for Graduate/Undergraduate Credit

GERO 501. Field Experience (3–6). A supervised field experience in an agency or organization planning or providing services to older people, individually designed to enhance each student's skills and knowledge of the aging service network. Repeatable for 6 hours credit. Prerequisites: 12 hours of gerontology credit and instructor's consent.

GERO 512. Issues in Minority Aging (3). Cross-listed as ETHS 512. Addresses the needs of students interested in (1) providing services to; (2) exploring the "issues" of; (3) becoming familiar with the rights of; (4) learning the legal procedures for resolving specific problems of; and (5) offering practical solutions for the difficulties encountered by ethnic older persons. Prerequisites: ETHS 100, GERO 100, SOC 111 or instructor's consent.

GERO 513. Sociology of Aging (3). Cross-listed as SOC 513. Analysis of the social dimensions of old age, including changing demographic structure and role changes and their impact on society. Prerequisite: SOC 111.

GERO 515. Women and Aging (3). Introduces students to issues in aging that are unique to women, to women's diverse developmental patterns, and to research methods appropriate for studying aging women and their life experiences. Topics include physical change, role transitions, and adaptation from a lifespan perspective.

GERO 518. Biology of Aging (3). Cross-listed as BIOL 518. An introduction to the phenomenon of aging, including a survey of age-related processes and mechanisms of senescence, emphasizing
human. Students earning graduate credit produce a term paper based on the technical literature on a

Prerequisite: a basic course in biology that satisfies the general education requirements.

**GERO 520. Family and Aging (3).** Cross-listed as SOC 520. An analysis of the families and family systems of older people. Emphasizes demographic and historical changes, widowhood, caregiving, and intergenerational relationships as these relate to the family life of older people. Prerequisites: GERO 100, SOC 111, or junior standing.

**GERO 543. Aging and Public Policy (3).** Cross-listed as SOC 543. Seminar-style course explores the impact of an aging population on social institutions, covers the history of American aging policies, the organization and financing of health care for the elderly, and discusses policy analysis as an evaluation tool for comparing public approaches to responding to the needs of an increasingly diverse aging population. Considers the process of policy formation, identifies key players and interest groups and contrasts political ideologies regarding federal, state and private responsibilities for older people. Emphasizes Social Security, the Older Americans Act, Medicare, and Medicaid as policy examples. Also looks at the potential contributions of the older population to society (volunteer services, provision of family care, etc.) as affecting and affected by policy. Prerequisite: SOC 111 or GERO 100 or junior standing.

**GERO 550. Selected Topics in Gerontology (1–6).** Study in a specialized area of gerontology with the focus upon preprofessional programs and current issues in the field of aging. Emphasizing knowledge and skills in applied areas of gerontology as they relate to an emerging area of research and application. Repeatable up to 6 hours. Prerequisite: instructor's consent.

**GERO 551. Workshop (3).** Specialized instruction using a variable format in relevant gerontology subjects. Repeatable for credit up to 6 hours.

**GERO 560. The Aging Network (3).** An overview of federal, state, and local programs concerned with planning, managing, or direct delivery of services to the older population. Prerequisite: 9 hours of gerontology credit or instructor's consent.

**GERO 663. Economic Insecurity (3).** Cross-listed as ECON 663. Personal economic insecurity, such as unemployment, old age, health care, disablement, and erratic economic fluctuations. Includes costs and benefits of government action to aid in meeting such insecurities. Prerequisites: ECON 202 or instructor's consent, and junior standing.

**GERO 700. Grant Proposal Preparation (3).** Concerned with the process of research and project proposal development, including response to published guidelines, project planning, and proposal development and submission. Examines grant funding, including types of funding sources and their purposes and methods and processes of proposal evaluation. Students write and evaluate proposals.

**GERO 702. Research Methods (3).** Cross-listed as PADM 702. Acquaints students with applied public policy research methods. Emphasizes locating, collecting, appraising, and using both primary and secondary sources of data of the type used in policy, planning, and administrative research. Students must complete several short research projects.
GERO 715. Adult Development and Aging (3). Explores theory and research related to the development of adults and to the aging process. Using an interactive, interdisciplinary perspective, the course examines the process of change, transition, growth, and development across the adult life span. Prerequisite: GERO 798 or 6 hours of gerontology.

GERO 720. Independent Readings in Gerontology (1–3). Directed study in a specialized topic in gerontology. Repeatable up to 6 hours. Prerequisites: 12 hours of gerontology credit and departmental consent.

GERO 750. Workshop in Gerontology (1–3). Provides specialized instruction, using a variable format in a gerontologically relevant subject. Repeatable for credit.

GERO 781. Cooperative Education (3–6). Provides practical field experience, under academic supervision, that is suitable for graduate credit and complements and enhances the student's academic program. Repeatable up to 6 hours. These 3 to 6 hours may meet degree requirements (if approved by the academic adviser) in place of GERO 810. GERO 781 is graded Cr/NCr, while GERO 810 is letter graded. Prerequisites: 12 hours of gerontology and instructor's consent.

GERO 798. Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Aging (3). Introduction to the advanced study of the process of aging from a multidisciplinary point of view. Not open to students with an undergraduate major or minor in gerontology. Prerequisite: admission to Graduate School.

Courses for Graduate Students Only

GERO 801. Field Research in Gerontology (3). An examination of the methods of participant observation and interview as approaches to understanding aging and the aged. Students gain practical experience in these methods through individual fieldwork projects. Prerequisite: GERO 798, 12 hours of gerontology credit, or instructor's consent.

GERO 802. Quantitative Methods for Public Sector Professionals (3). Cross-listed as CJ 802. Uses standard microcomputer statistical software and analysis to introduce statistics and quantitative analysis for organizational and policy decision making. Emphasizes the application of statistics and writing with quantitative evidence to real public sector policy questions. Assumes little or no background in statistics and software applications.

GERO 803. Program Planning and Evaluation in Aging Services (3). Examines the process of developing service programs in response to a defined community need in aging services. Includes assessment of need; identification and development of community resources; and development and evaluation of program goals, objectives, and methods of implementation. Prerequisite: 12 hours of gerontology or instructor's consent.

GERO 804. Aging Programs and Policies (3). Analyzes and evaluates policies and programs related to aging and old age. Emphasizes the importance of social values and historical context for understanding current policies, programs, and practices. Prerequisite: GERO 798, 12 hours of gerontology, or instructor's consent.
GERO 810. Advanced Gerontology Internship (3–6). Integrates academic gerontology and practical experience through supervised placement of students in an agency or organization engaging in planning, administering, or providing direct services to older people. Internship requires 200 contact hours for each 3 hours of credit. An internship paper also is required. GERO 810 is a letter-graded course. Students may substitute the Cr/NCr course GERO 781, Cooperative Education, for GERO 810. Prerequisites: 12 hours of gerontology credit and instructor's consent prior to registration.

GERO 850. Selected Topics in Gerontology (1–6). Advanced study in a specialized area of gerontology focusing upon professional programs and current issues in the field of aging. Emphasizes knowledge and skills in applied areas of gerontology as they relate to an emerging area of research and application. Repeatable up to 6 hours. Prerequisite: instructor's consent.

GERO 897. Advanced Research Methods (3). Cross listed as CJ 897. Advanced research course. Studies the selection and formulation of research problems, research design, hypothesis generation, scale construction, sampling procedures, and data analysis and interpretation.

GERO 898. Applied Research Paper (1–3). Original research project under a faculty member's direction. Project requires a written report and defense of that report before a faculty committee. Must be an individual effort, not a group project. Intended to be a major project or capstone activity completed at the end of a student's program of study. Repeatable. Prerequisite: graduate-level research methods class.

GERO 899. Thesis (1–3). Repeatable, but total credit hours counted toward degree shall not exceed 4 hours.