

Gerontology

The Field of Gerontology

Gerontology is the study of aging. Our nation's steadily increasing older population is creating a unique demand for well educated individuals to understand the field of aging and competent professionals to work with elders.

The study of gerontology is based upon many important concepts of aging, which are presented through an organized course of study. Gerontology courses are designed to present comprehensive biological, psychological, cultural, and sociological theories related to the life-long aging process. Concepts related to the influence of heritage, multicultures, wellness, exercise and creativity are emphasized.

Career Opportunities

The development of employment opportunities in the field of gerontology has emerged in response to the needs of a steadily increasing older population. Many occupational roles are available in different sites. These include but are not limited to: federal, state, county, and city agencies, senior citizens centers, adult day care centers, skilled nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities, acute care hospitals, medical centers, senior housing sites, retirement communities, home health agencies, hospices, legislative bodies, and community planning agencies.

High School Preparation

Students should meet California State University's admission requirements in terms of college preparatory course requirements, grade point average, and test scores.

College Program

Students should consult the university's *General Catalog* for specific major and university requirements. Community college transfers should consult their catalog to ensure that courses taken are CSU transferable (baccalaureate level). Coursework designed to enhance leadership skills and hands-on experiences in recreational or leisure services agencies significantly contribute to the student's professional growth and development.

General Education

Students should complete as many of the Fresno State General Education requirements as possible during the freshman and sophomore years, whether they are attending Fresno State or a community college. Community colleges can certify up to 39 of the units required in Fresno State's General Education pattern. Many gerontology courses fulfill both General Education requirements and Gerontology Minor requirements (GERON 10S, 100, 111, 161).

Gerontology Minor

The Gerontology Minor (study of aging) is open to students in any major. It is designed to serve undergraduate majors in business; communication sciences and disorders; child, family, and consumer science; public health; nursing; kinesiology; physical therapy; psychology; recreation administration; social work education; and sociology. It is also designed to serve those currently working in the field of aging as well as older individuals who are interested in gaining greater insight into this period of their lives.

The minor consists of 15 semester units of credit. Students should register in the Gerontology Program Office and meet with the Gerontology Adviser if they plan to request a minor.

A special major in Gerontology may be designed. The process for this is initiated through the Office of Advising Services, 559.278.2924, Joyal Administration, Room 121.

California State University, Fresno

Gerontology Program

559.278.7253 or

559.278.3992

Minor in Gerontology

Certificate in Gerontology

A bachelor's degree in gerontology is available through a special major. See Gerontology Program director.

FRESNO STATE

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Gerontology

Gerontologist Specialist Certificate

The certificate in Gerontology will be awarded to students who complete 21 units of upper-division courses in gerontology, including an internship. Students admitted to the program are expected to have completed the Gerontology Minor.

Those who have completed the course of study are entitled to use the title “Gerontological Specialist.”

Course Requirements

Since program changes may occur, students should consult the *General Catalog* and a Fresno State adviser prior to registering for courses.

Courses Offered Include

Aging in America: Politics and Change
Biophysical Aspects of Aging
Communication and Aging
Community Service in Gerontology
Death and Dying
Health Issues of Aging
Heritage and Aging
Images of Aging in a Contemporary Society
Mental Health and Caregiving
Multiculture/Aging
Planning a Meaningful Life:
 Journey of Adulthood
Psychology of Aging
Resource Management of Aging
Social Services for the Aging
Women and Aging

**For additional
information, write**

**California State
University, Fresno
Gerontology Program**

5310 N. Campus Drive
M/S PH102
Fresno, California
93740-8019

Visit or call

Gerontology Program

Professional Human
Services,
Room 107A
559.278.7253



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PLEASE NOTE: This document is for general informational purposes only. The information is subject to change; consult the appropriate department or an academic adviser. Entering freshmen must follow the revised General Education program effective fall 1999 and thereafter. The university catalog and schedule of courses are available online at www.fresnostate.edu/ClassSchedule and www.fresnostate.edu/catalog.

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