

School of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation

Interdisciplinary Minor in Gerontology for Doctoral Students

15 credit hours

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The School of HPER offers an interdisciplinary minor in gerontology in cooperation with the School of Education. The minor consists of five courses in gerontology and a paper/proposal.

1. Select five courses from the following*

- HPER H524/EDUC P513 Multidisciplinary Perspectives in Gerontology
- EDUC P518 Social Aspects of Aging and Aging Families
- EDUC P517 Adult Development and Aging
- HPER C535 Contemporary Issues in Aging and Health**
- HPER C615/K500 Health, Longevity, and Integrative Therapies for the Later Years**
- HPER R565 Leisure and Aging
- HPER R566 Therapeutic Interventions with the Elderly

*The minor advisor member of Kinesiology and Recreation student's advisory committee will prescribe the minor course work for the students.

**Course approval in process

AHS students must take five courses outside their home department (i.e., other than H or C courses)

Other courses may be taken as an elective with Advisor approval.

2. In lieu of a written qualifying exam question, the student will complete an alternate assignment. The alternate assignment could be a paper or it could be a project like a funding proposal (either real or simulated.) The alternate assignment must be approved by the minor advisor.

Interdisciplinary Minor in Gerontology for Ph.D Students Course Descriptions

P513/H524 Gerontology: Multidisciplinary Perspectives

Fall and Spring

An online course fall semester and in the classroom spring semester focusing on demographics, historical and cultural aspects of aging, biological and social theories of aging, physical, cognitive, personality changes in old age, physical and mental health in old age, relationships in old age, and death. Implications for social policy are emphasized.

P517 Adult Development and Aging

Fall

This online course focuses on development from early, middle, and late adulthood. Topics include: developmental research methods, racial and ethnic diversity in adult development, relationships in adulthood, work, leisure, and retirement, changes across adulthood in health, sensory, cognitive, and personality functioning, coping in adulthood, mental health interventions, and communicating with the elderly.

P518 Social Aspects of Aging

Spring

This online course considers the social, financial, familial, and resource needs and issues of older individuals, and the contemporary responses of public health and social systems. This class enables students to critically analyze current social events and better interrelate to issues in aging using solid concepts, theories and research.

C525/K500 Health, Longevity, and Integrative Therapies for the Later Years

Fall

As aging becomes a public health priority, an interdisciplinary consideration of the health issues of older adults is critical. This online course reviews the biology of aging, health care, new research in aging, applications of integrative medicine for older adults, and physical activity and aging.

C535 Contemporary Issues in Aging and Health

Summer II

This online course examines contemporary issues in the rapidly aging population. Topics include aging issues among diverse populations, women's aging experience, and the aging baby boomer cohort. Students develop plans to address the health needs of selected aging populations.

R566 Therapeutic Interventions with the Elderly

Spring

The unique recreation and leisure needs of more frail older individuals are considered in this online course. Topics include: aging, disability, chronic illness, the therapeutic recreation process, assessment, documentation, evaluation, and ethics.

R565 Leisure and Aging

Summer II and Fall

An online course fall semester and in the classroom summer II, this course explores the role of leisure in healthy older adulthood development. Topics include: physical, cognitive, emotional, and social aging; theoretical frameworks in the literature on leisure and aging; current leisure services and settings, and public policy issues of the 21st century.