

Gerontology

<http://ehs.siu.edu/gerontology/>

jonathan.c.baker@siu.edu

Certificate in Gerontology

The Graduate Certificate in Gerontology is open to post-bachelor level students who are interested in the area of gerontology. It is designed to provide knowledge, skills, and specialized training in programs and services for older persons. The certificate includes core courses on aging in the following areas: social work, rehabilitation, health, exercise and education. Courses within the certification program will include, but not be limited to: policy and program issues, psychosocial issues and health and fitness issues. The coursework also includes a practicum in an agency suitable to the individual's interest OR research project. Students must complete 18 semester hours of study including a minimum of three hours of practicum/research, to earn the certificate.

For more information contact:

Dr. Juliane P. Wallace, Coordinator, Certificate in

Gerontology

College of Education and Human Services

Southern Illinois University

Mail Code 4310

Carbondale, IL 62901

Telephone: 618-453-3133

E-mail: siucgerontology@siu.edu

Courses (GRON)

There is no approved graduate program in Gerontology.

Four-hundred-level courses may be taken for graduate credit unless otherwise indicated in the course description.

402-3 Death Education. (Same as HED 402) Designed to prepare educators to conduct learning experiences about death and dying in a variety of school, college, medical care, and community settings. Stress will be placed on developing brief, functional curricula and usable, imaginative, teaching-learning materials and on evaluating resource materials for use in educating at various levels of maturity.

405-3 Introduction to Aging and Rehabilitation. (Same as REHB 405) Introduction to the field of aging. Including social, political, economic and legal issues pertinent to an aging society and rehabilitation.

428 Physical Activity and Exercise for Older Adults. (Same as KIN 428) This course is designed to introduce the student to physical changes of the older person with reference to activity and exercise and to teach the student about rational activity and exercise programs for the older person with consideration of the care and prevention of typical injuries that may occur with such programs.

440-3 Health Issues in Aging. (Same as HED 440) Course content includes demographic trends; physiological changes associated with aging; health care and consumer challenges; cultural differences; psychological effects of aging; housing; long-term care; retirement; care giving; and formal, informal, and community-based support systems.

440C-3 Therapeutic Recreation for Older Adults. (Same as REC 440C) Students will examine problems and characteristics

of individuals with various disabilities. Emphasis is upon the role of therapeutic recreation with these specific populations in institutional and community settings. **(c)** therapeutic recreation for the aged. Prerequisites: REC 300, REC 301, REC 302, REC 304, or consent of instructor.

446-3 Psychosocial Aspects of Aging. (Same as REHB 446) Selected theories of psychosocial aspects of aging will be presented and the psychosocial and sociological processes of aging with the ensuing changes will be related to these conceptual frameworks. Included for discussion and related to field experience will be such concerns as stress reactions to retirement, physical disabilities, impact of reduced economic resources, and other personal-social changes in aging. Topics will address the knowledge base needed by students concerned with rehabilitation of aging clients in institutional, community and home settings. Therapeutic techniques to ameliorate these stresses will be an integral part of the course.

500-1 to 3 Seminar in Gerontology. This course is designed to provide a multidisciplinary conceptual framework for the study of Gerontology and to assist Gerontology students to develop the skills and knowledge needed to understand major issues in theory, research, and practice. This course is designed to familiarize the student with the process of critical reading of Gerontological research from multiple disciplines to solve practical problems.

505-3 Behavioral Gerontology. (Same as REHB 505) This course examines the application of behavioral principles to problems associated with aging such as deficits in the activities of daily living and social skills, wandering, aggression, incontinence, depression, anxiety, and dementia among others. Environmental redesign and alternative performance strategies will also be addressed. Behavioral training and supervision of staff members who work older individuals is also presented. Special approval needed from the instructor.

517-3 Aging, Memory, and Cognition. (Same as PSYC 517) A detailed survey of current methodology, research and theory dealing with cognitive and memory processes in later adulthood. Topics covered include attention, memory, reasoning and problem solving, language processing and interference and age-associated pathologies affecting cognition and memory. Special approval needed from the instructor.

555-3 to 6 Practicum/Research in Gerontology. The practicum or research project in the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology is designed as a culminating experience directly related to the students' intended employment or area of interest. It will, therefore, normally be taken after the predominance of course work is completed. The practicum/research experience may be completed in any appropriate setting as judged by the Gerontology Advisory Board and faculty associated with the area of Gerontology. Graded *S/U* only.

559-3 Aging and Mental Health. (Same as SOCW 559) Examination of the nature and etiology of mental health problems facing older Americans. Review of research reports to build a theoretical basis for mental disorders.

575-3 Policy and Program Issues of Aging. (Same as SOCW 575) Examination of public policies that impact on the quality of life of the elderly. Major programs are identified and analyzed. Future policy issues are discussed.