The right field for you

Today, the experience of advancing age is as diverse as any other phase of life, and arguably more so. The UMSL Gerontology Program embraces this diversity and makes sense of it for our students, while also grounding them in core values and competencies that define them as "UMSL Gerontologists." The Program welcomes students interested in aging and the rich life experiences of older adults in the U.S. and across the globe.

We offer flexible plans of study toward specialized careers in aging, as well as opportunities for personal enrichment. Most of our courses are offered in the late afternoon and evening to accommodate working students. We emphasize teamwork and cross-disciplinary practice in our courses, and train students in critical skills (communication, interviewing, screening for common problems in aging, intervention, referral) to be successful practitioners in a variety of professional settings.

"I can say that I am an UMSL Gerontologist because I was taught how to apply everything that I learned right out of college. I looked at other gerontology programs, but I didn’t see where they specifically spoke about hands-on application. I think that’s what sets UMSL apart..."

—Martin “Mileko” Coopwood, MSG Graduate, 2010
Career opportunities

Gerontologist
Geriatric Care Manager
Research Study Coordinator
Hospice/Grief Counselor
Long Term Care Administrator
Memory Care Specialist
Nursing Home Surveyor
Information & Referral Specialist
Adult Daycare Coordinator
Planning/Policy Analyst
Program Evaluator
Service Coordinator
Health & Wellness Screener
Patient Advocate/
Ombudsman & more

Gerontology degree programs

Master of Science in Gerontology (36 credit hours)
MSG with Nonprofit Management Certificate (36)
Graduate Certificate in Gerontology (18)
Undergraduate Certificate Gerontology (18)
Minor in Gerontology (15)

UMSL at a glance

The University of Missouri–St. Louis is the largest research university located in Missouri's most populous and economically important region.

Founded in 1963, we enroll nearly 17,000 students, and we're home to more than 1,400 faculty members. UMSL offers 46 undergraduate, 30 master's and 14 doctoral degree programs with more than 190 major emphasis areas.

And we partner with more than 400 companies and organizations for our internship programs. You'll get out of the classroom, gain practical experience, make connections and jump-start your career.

UMSL

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St. Louis:
Something for everyone

UMSL is a vital part of St. Louis, and the city and surrounding areas make up the most culturally vibrant region in Missouri. That means we offer you more than a top-ranked learning environment.

There’s a night out with friends on Washington Avenue. An exhibit opening at the Saint Louis Art Museum. A Saturday afternoon at the Saint Louis Zoo. A home-run celebration at Busch Stadium. St. Louis is a place where you can be you.