

Graduate Certificate in Gerontology & MSG Requirements

Graduate Certificate & Master of Science in Gerontology (MSG)¹

Public Policy Requirement (3 credits):

- GER 6443 Health Care Policy (3)
- GER 6449 Issues in Retirement (3)

Health & Physical Aspects of Aging (3 credits):²

- GER 6441 Aging & Health Behavior (3)
- GER 5610-12 Mechanisms of Aging Series (Body, Brain, Diseases - 1 credit each)
- GER 6497 Interdisciplinary Geriatric Care (2)

Psychosocial Aspects of Aging (3 credits):

- GER 5440 Cultural Aspects of Aging (3)
- *GER 5361 Advanced Social Gerontology (3)*
- GER 5376 Psychopathology & Aging (3)
- SW 6120 Theory & Practice with Older Adults (3)

With appropriate permission(s), the following courses may meet GC & MSG requirements:

Psychology 4349
Human Learning & Memory

Psychology 4356
Thinking & Cognition

Psychology 4376
Mental Health & Aging

Electives (6 credits)³

- *Courses above may be taken as electives also*
- GER 5620 Dying, Grief & Death in Older Adulthood (3)
- GER 6130 Interviewing Older Adults & Life Review (3)
- *GER 6442 Minority Aging (3)*
- *GER 6444 Seminar in Public Policy & Aging (3)*
- *GER 6445 Sociological Dimensions of Chronic Illness (3)*
- GER 6450 Gerontological Assessment (3) - Required for MSW Gerontology Concentration
- *GER 6458 Geriatric Optometry (3)*
- GER 6460 Long Term Care Administration (3)
- GER 6490 Directed Study (1-3)
- *GER 6494 Integrative Research Seminar in Gerontology (3)*
- GER 6498 Advanced Seminar in Gerontology
- GER 6499 Topics in Gerontology (2)

Practicum (3 credits; 150 hours in placement-related activities)

- GER 6495 Practicum in Gerontology

Additional Requirements for the MSG⁴

Statistics/Research Methods (2 courses x 3 credits)

Students must take one of the following course series:

- SW 5410/5450 Social Work Research Methods & Analysis I & II⁵
- PPAD 6010 Introduction to Policy Research & PPAD 6750 Intro to Evaluation Research Methods
- ED REM 6709 Educational & Psychological Measurement & ED REM 6710 Educational Research Methods & Design

SW 6400 Program Evaluation (may substitute under certain circumstances)

Electives (3 credits)

Advanced Practicum (3 credits; 150 hours in placement related activities)

- GER 6496 Advanced Practicum in Gerontology

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Our Vision

The Gerontology Program at the University of Missouri St. Louis embraces the diversity of aging - as experienced by residents of Missouri and beyond - through the provision of high quality, multidisciplinary education and scholarly research designed to enhance function and quality of life for older adults in community, residential and institutional settings.

Program Learning Objectives *Students will gain:*

1. A detailed appreciation for the aging process with respect to successful aging, health status, physical functioning, cognition and capacity, psychosocial involvement, diversity, cultural influences and competence, and public policy.
2. An ability to integrate theoretical perspectives on aging with the practical needs and concerns of individuals in various living environments.
3. An ability to interpret and appropriately utilize research findings to inform daily practice, especially with respect to screening, assessment, intervention, and referral activities.
4. Professional competence in the areas of ethical practice, participation in multidisciplinary teams, communication with clients and families, assessment and intervention.

¹ UMSL MSW students in the Gerontology Concentration (coordinated by Dr. Joe Pickard) must complete 3 credit hours in *Health & Physical Aspects of Aging*, 3 hours in *Gerontological Assessment*, and 3 hours in *Electives* to receive the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology.

² This requirement can be filled a number of ways, including through special course offerings. The Program Director can advise you.

³ Courses shown in Italics have not been offered in some time. Discuss options with the Program Director.

⁴ Students may meet the Statistics and Research requirements in a number of ways. No student should register for these courses without first consulting the Program Director.

⁵ Must have completed an undergraduate statistics course within the past 6 years to participate in SW 5410 & 5450 series.

