Gerontology Minor

Opportunities and challenges of human aging intersect with most academic and professional disciplines. Older adults receive a range of health, social, economic and other support services (e.g. through government programs, medical centers, senior centers, long-term care facilities, not-for-profit agencies) in order to help them age successfully at home or elsewhere. The 12 credit hour Undergraduate Minor in Gerontology is designed to introduce students to this important field.

All students must take a 3-credit introductory course. The remaining 9 credit hours must include at least two courses at the 3000-level or above. Substitutions or alternative courses may be included with approval of the Program Coordinator for Gerontology.

Students wishing to designate a 4000-level course as capstone for the BLS must coordinate this with Program Coordinator for Gerontology prior to starting the course.

General Requirements

The minor is 12 credit hours. All students must take SOC 2170/GERON 2170: Aging in America: Concepts & Controversies (3-credit hours). The remaining 9 GERON credit hours must include at least 6 credit hours at the 3000-level or above.

Substitutions or alternative courses may be included with approval of the Gerontology Program Coordinator. At least 6 of the 12 credit hours required for the minor must be taken at UMSL. Students must achieve a grade of C- or higher in the required and elective courses to qualify for this minor.

Required Course

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC/GERON 2170</td>
<td>Aging in America: Concepts &amp; Controversies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electives

Complete at least 9 elective hours in GERON, with at least 6 hours at the 3000 level or above. 1
Additional courses approved for the minor include: PSYCH 2268: Lifespan Developmental Psychology, SOC WK 3510: Human Behavior in the Social Environment and GS 3700/SOC WK 3700: Diversity and Social Justice. Courses Other courses that are aging-related but not cross listed with GERON may be substituted with the approval of the Gerontology Program Coordinator.

If other departments are affected by this proposal, please secure "sign-offs" and indicate for each department the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
<th>Phone #</th>
<th>Objections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>Jim Craig</td>
<td>6037</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Ann Steffen</td>
<td>5382</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Justification for request:**
Added clarity to the program pathway for students.
Updated acceptable course work that is not GERON prefix.
Confirmed that students my earn C- or higher in all minor coursework.
Updated modality because some courses are offered online.