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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. Students must complete 15 semester hours of study including a minimum of three hours of capstone project, to earn the certificate.

For more information contact:

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Gerontology Courses

GRON402 - Exercise Programming for Cancer Survivors and Caregivers The primary goal of this course is to give both graduate and undergraduate students the necessary tools to successfully prescribe and administer safe and effective exercise programs and assessments for cancer survivors and caregivers as a staff member for the Strong Survivors Exercise and Nutrition Program for Cancer Survivors and Caregivers. The course will also give students a baseline of knowledge that will help prepare them to sit for cancer exercise trainer certification exams. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 2

GRON405 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

GRON428 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

GRON440 - Health Issues in Aging (Same as PH 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. Credit Hours: 3

GRON440C - Therapeutic Recreation for Older Adults-Therapeutic Recreation for the Aged

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. Prerequisites: REC 300, REC 301, REC 302, REC 304 or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

GRON446 - Psychosocial Aspects of Aging (Same as REHB 446) Selected theories of psychosocial aspects of aging will be presented and the psychological 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. Credit Hours: 3

GRON500 - 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. Credit Hours: 1-3

GRON505 - Behavioral Gerontology 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 and anxiety, and dementia among others. Environmental redesign and alternative performance strategies will also be addressed. Behavioral training and supervision of staff members who work with older individuals is also presented. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

GRON517 - 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 inference and age-associated pathologies affecting cognition and memory. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

GRON555 - Capstone in Gerontology The capstone 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 capstone experience may be a research project, practicum, professional development project, or any project approved by the Gerontology Advisory Board and faculty associated with the area of Gerontology. Graded S/U only. Credit Hours: 3-6

GRON559 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

GRON575 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

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Catalog Year Statement:

Students starting their collegiate training during the period of time covered by this catalog (see bottom of this page) are subject to the curricular requirements as specified herein. The requirements herein will extend for a seven calendar-year period from the date of entry for baccalaureate programs and three years for associate programs. Should the University change the course requirements contained herein

subsequently, students are assured that necessary adjustments will be made so that no additional time is required of them.