

Gerontology Courses –Fall 2015

The following courses count toward the undergraduate Gerontology minor and the graduate Gerontology certificate.

Fall 2015

Core Course Options

Psych 441, #0001/#0002, Adult Development and Aging

(Meets Psychology Core Requirement for Undergraduate Students)

3 Units/J. Henry

Class Number: 45688

Format: Online asynchronous

Prerequisite: Psych 210

This course will identify major themes and issues of mid-life and older adults. It will examine major developmental theories of adult development and aging. A contextual approach is stressed, including research and theory on the impact of cohort, gender, race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and culture on development. Application to real life is integrated throughout the course. There will be a review of current literature.

A&S 490B, #0001/#0002/A&S 5501B, #0001, ST: The Experience of Health in Aging

(Meets Health/Biology Core Requirement for Undergraduate and Graduate Students)

3 Units/C. Thurlow

Class Number: 44738/46019 (490B); 45102 (5501B)

Format: Online asynchronous

This three-credit hour online course is designed for students interested in understanding the role of health in the aging population. The first module of the course will focus primarily on physiologic and cognitive functioning of the older adult. Module two will explore the experience of health in aging as it relates to relationships, socio-cultural, spiritual and environmental influences. The final module will focus on the role of health, community, systems and service delivery with the aging population. Theoretical, empirical and applied knowledge of the aging process is expected. This knowledge is utilized in assessing and interpreting the various influences on health. This knowledge may also be used in developing strategies for the promotion, restoration, and maintenance of health in the aging population. The amount of material available on these topics far exceeds the time allotted for this course. However, this course will offer the opportunity to develop greater breadth and depth of knowledge of specific areas of health in aging, particularly drawn from the health sciences. An additional in-depth look at a selected topic will be required for graduate students.

A&S 5500, #0001, Interdisciplinary Colloquium on Aging

(Required course for Graduate Certificate Students)

3 Units/J. McDowd

Class Number: 45434

Tuesdays, 5:30-8:15 p.m.

Location: TBA

This course will introduce students to gerontology as a field of study and as a profession. The context for the emergence of the field is set in important demographic transitions of the 20th century. Identification and understanding of major issues and controversies in the field will help locate the contributions of a range of disciplines to aging studies. The connection of these issues with the development of social policies will be discussed.

Soc. Wk. 5542, #0001, Social Services with Older Adults

(Meets Sociology core requirement for Social Work students; open to other graduate certificate students as an elective)

3 Units/S. Bane

Class Number: 44641

Thursdays, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

This course provides an overview of social service practice with older adults. Students examine population demographics, identify normal and abnormal aspects of aging, and examine methods, paradigms, and approaches to effective advanced generalist practice in treatment and community settings.

A&S 492, #0001/5592, #0001, Field Practicum in Aging

3 Units/L. Breytspraak

Class Numbers: 40063/40066

Dates, times and location to be arranged

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor and completion of three Gerontology core courses required

Students spend 180 contact hours (150 for undergraduates) in a field placement with supervision in a community agency or organization which services or advocates for older persons and keep a journal documenting and reflecting on the practicum activities and experiences, particularly as related to gerontological theory and research. Graduate students will study a particular subject relevant to their placement and describe this in a written project. Students must begin planning for the practicum with the advisor approximately 90 days in advance.

Electives

Anch. 399, #0001: Anchor III: Special Topics: Innovation and the Aging Population

3 Units/A. Mendez, G. King, L. Baker

Class Number: 47780

Format: Lecture

Time: Tues/Thurs, 10:00-11:15 am

Location: TBA

Pre-Requisite: Anchor I & Anchor II

Co-Requisite: DISC 300

How people interact with society, home, and community changes throughout life. So too does their spatial cognition, balance, and strength. Those changes call for modifications of the “built environment” and the enabling technologies embodied in the environment. Some of those required changes constitute opportunities to think differently. Imagining a better world is only part of the picture, though. Without translation to a sustainable business model, what might be a solution remains only an idea. This course will do more than teach you to create something that might make a difference, you’ll learn how to get it into people’s hands.

Sociol. 316, #0001/5560, #0001, Sociology of Death & Dying

3 Units/A. Wood

Class Number: 46589/46590

Format: Online asynchronous

Examination of attitudes, behaviors and institutions related to death and dying in contemporary American society. Topics include the status of death in American society, effects of the setting on dying, interaction with the dying, funeral practices, bereavement customs, surviving spouse, and suicide.

Nursing 230, #0001, Health in Aging

2 Units/T. Nguyen

Class Number: 42065

Format: Online asynchronous

This course focuses on the role of the nurse in promoting and maintaining the health of the older adult population. Evidence based nursing care of the older adult that includes physiological, psychological, pharmacological, and nutritional considerations as affected by theories on aging, socio-cultural influences, legal and ethical issues, and health care resources are explored. Nursing assessment, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes specific to a diverse older adult population are discussed. Opportunities are provided for interaction with the older adult population. Note: ASL Community Learning = 12 hours over semester. Prerequisites: Admission into BSN program. (Note: Gerontology minors will be admitted as well.)

Weekend Elective Course Options

Soc 300RH, #0001, ST: Topic: Forgotten Warriors – America's Aging Veterans

1 Unit/K. Collins

Class Number: 43666

Sat.: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Class meets Oct. 24 and Nov. 14

Location: The Liberty Memorial and Museum of World War I, 100 W. 26th St., Kansas City, Mo. 64108.

Veterans aging across the nation come from different generations, different backgrounds and even different wars. By glancing back and reviewing the part these veterans played in history, students will be reminded of the profound and often lasting effects of war on every individual caught in its grasp. By analyzing the soldier through glimpses of history, life reviews and journal articles, students will identify specific veteran cohorts, aging issues, along with a review of the Veterans Administration and the responsibility that began back in 1865 when Abraham Lincoln promised to "... care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan." Students should enroll only if they can attend both sessions on Oct. 24 and Nov. 14.

Soc 300RS, #0001/5580, #0001, ST: Topic: Ageism in the US: Awareness to Action

1 Unit/L. Breytspraak

Class Number: 47728/47592

Sat.: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Class meets Nov. 7 and Nov. 21

Location: UMKC campus (TBA)

This course will explore the issue of ageism, the term coined by the late Robert Butler, MD, founder of the National Institute on Aging, to describe discrimination against older adults. Although ageism exists across cultures, it is prevalent in the United States. Students will consider the extent and sources of ageism as it affects individuals, health, and social systems and public policy. They will discuss and participate in discovering useful responses and solutions to this pervasive problem. Students should enroll only if they can attend both sessions on Nov. 7 and Nov. 21.