

## Gerontological Studies

Phone: (216) 368-2700  
Mather Memorial, Room 226

### INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAM

#### B.A. IN GERONTOLOGICAL STUDIES (SECOND MAJOR OR MINOR ONLY)

Dale Dannefer and Gary Deimling, Co-Directors

The multidisciplinary gerontological studies program is designed to integrate research and theory about aging and old age. Humanists, scientists, social scientists, and professionals have become interested in understanding the position of the aged in society, the aging process in various contexts, the meaning of aging to individuals, and the physical changes that accompany aging. The program draws on recent thinking and research in a variety of disciplines to provide students with a background that will be useful after graduation both in careers or graduate or professional school.

The program's core courses are drawn from five academic departments: anthropology, communication sciences, history, psychology, and sociology. Perspectives gained in these core courses provide students with the background needed to relate the material in more general courses to gerontological issues. This background is particularly important for students who plan to pursue careers in human services, business, law, medicine, academics, or the sciences. The gerontological studies program is firmly grounded in the liberal arts, thus challenging students to think and communicate effectively and to integrate diverse information, theories, and practice.

#### DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AND COURSE OFFERINGS

The program offers a major that leads to the B.A. degree. However, it may be selected only as a second major, the first major being in a traditional academic department. The major consists of 30 credit hours. Fifteen are in required courses, and 15 are in approved electives.

#### REQUIRED COURSES

- ANTH 304:  
Anthropology of Aging (3)
- COSI 345:  
Communication and Aging (3)
- PSCL 369:  
Adult Development and Aging (3)
- SOCI 369:  
Aging in American Society (3)
- SOCI 469:  
Public Policy and Aging (3)

At least 15 credit hours must be earned in the approved electives listed below. This list changes from time to time as department offerings change. Check with the director of the gerontological studies program for current information.

#### APPROVED ELECTIVES

- ANTH 215:  
Health, Culture and Disease: An Introduction to Medical Anthropology (3)

- ANTH 301/401:  
Biological Aging in Humans (3)
- ANTH 318:  
Death and Dying (3)
- SOCI 269:  
Young and Old Faces in the Twenty-first Century (3)
- SOCI 311:  
Health, Illness and Social Behavior (3)
- SOCI 313:  
Sociology of Stress and Coping (3)
- SOCI 319:  
Sociology of Institutional Care (3)
- SOCI 370:  
Sociology of the Family (3)
- GERO 397:  
Special Studies in Gerontology (1-3)
- GERO 398:  
Seminar in Gerontological Studies (3)
- GERO 399:  
Independent Studies in Gerontology (1-3)

## GERONTOLOGY MINOR

The minor consists of 15 credits, including at least two of the core gerontology courses listed below and any three of the approved electives or remaining core courses.

ANTH 304:  
Anthropology of Aging (3)

COSI 345:  
Communication and Aging (3)

PSCL 369:  
Adult Development and Aging (3)

SOCI 369:  
Aging in American Society (3)

SOCI 469:  
Public Policy and Aging (3)

## GERONTOLOGY SEQUENCE

A sequence in gerontological studies consists of 9 credit hours in three courses chosen from among the following courses:

ANTH 304:  
Anthropology of Aging (3)

COSI 345:  
Communication and Aging (3)

PSCL 369:  
Adult Development and Aging (3)

SOCI 369:  
Aging in American Society (3)

SOCI 469:  
Public Policy and Aging (3)

## PROGRAM FACULTY

**Dale Dannefer, Ph.D., Co-Director**  
(Rutgers University)  
Professor of Sociology; Department of Sociology Chair  
*Theory, life course, aging, work, and education*

**Gary Deimling, Ph.D., Co-Director**  
(Bowling Green State University)  
Professor of Sociology  
*Public policy and aging, health care policy*

**Robert Binstock, Ph.D.**  
(Harvard University)  
Professor of Aging, Health, and Society, School of Medicine  
*Public policy & aging, health care policy*

**Grover C. Gilmore, Ph.D.**  
(Johns Hopkins University)  
Professor of Psychology and Dean of the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences  
*Perceptual development and aging, visual information processing, memory, psychophysics*

**Brian Gran, Ph.D.**  
(Northwestern University)  
Assistant Professor of Sociology  
*Sociology of law, political sociology, comparative sociology, health care policy*

**Charlotte Ikels, Ph.D.**  
(University of Hawaii)  
Professor of Anthropology  
*Gerontology, ethnicity, Chinese and overseas Chinese, life cycle, Hong Kong, China, United States*

**Eva Kahana, Ph.D. - Director**  
(University of Chicago)  
Robson Professor of Sociology, Humanities, Nursing and Medicine; Director of the Elderly Care Research Center  
*Sociology of Aging, coping and stress in late life, institutionalization*

**T.J. McCallum, Ph.D.**  
(University of Southern California)  
Associate Professor of Psychology  
*Qualitative methodology and aging/social gerontology*

**Diana Lynn Morris, Ph.D., R.N., F.A.A.N.**  
(Case Western Reserve University)  
Associate Professor of Nursing; Associate Director for Programming, University Center on Aging and Health  
*Aging and mental health, caregiver well-being and minority elder health*

**May L. Wykle, Ph.D., R.N., F.A.A.N.**  
(Case Western Reserve University)  
Florence Cellar Professor & Dean of the School of Nursing; Director of the University Center of Aging and Health  
*Health & mental health, caregiving in minority populations*

### For More Information

**General Bulletin**  
<http://www.case.edu/bulletin/>

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