GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN GERONTOLOGY

Institute of Gerontology
College of Public Health
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia
# Table of Contents

**What is Gerontology?** ....................................................................................................................... 3

- DEFINITION OF GERONTOLOGY ........................................................................................................... 3
- WHY STUDY GERONTOLOGY? ............................................................................................................... 3
- OUR MISSION STATEMENT ................................................................................................................... 3

**Careers In Aging** ............................................................................................................................... 4

- A GROWING DEMAND FOR CAREERS IN AGING .............................................................................. 4
- COMBINING YOUR INTEREST WITH GERONTOLOGY ......................................................................... 4
- CAREERS IN AGING ............................................................................................................................ 4
- CAREERS IN AGING WEEK ................................................................................................................ 5
- CAREER IN AGING RESOURCES ....................................................................................................... 5

**What are the goals of the Gerontology Certificate Program?** ........................................................ 6

- GOALS ................................................................................................................................................... 6

**Non-Traditional & Non-degree Seeking Students** .......................................................................... 7

- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & CONTINUING EDUCATION ..................................................... 7
- TO APPLY ............................................................................................................................................... 7
- REQUEST MORE INFORMATION ......................................................................................................... 7

**How do I apply for admission to the Graduate Certificate Program?** ........................................ 8

- APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION .......................................................................................................... 8
- APPLY EARLY ......................................................................................................................................... 8

**What Are The Certificate Course Requirements?** ........................................................................ 9

- COURSE REQUIREMENTS .................................................................................................................. 9
  - REQUIRED COURSES ....................................................................................................................... 9
  - ELECTIVE COURSES ........................................................................................................................ 9
  - RESEARCH/PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE ............................................................................................... 9
  - PROPOSED CERTIFICATE SCHEDULE ............................................................................................... 9

**Required Courses for the Certificate** ............................................................................................... 10

- GRNT 6000 – THREE HOURS PERPECTIVES ON AGING ................................................................ 10
- BIOLOGY / PHYSIOLOGY - THREE HOURS ......................................................................................... 10
- PSYCHOLOGY - THREE HOURS ......................................................................................................... 10
- SOCIOLOGY - THREE HOURS ............................................................................................................ 10

**Elective Courses for the Gerontology Certificate** .......................................................................... 12

- ADULT EDUCATION .............................................................................................................................. 12
- EPIDEMIOLOGY ...................................................................................................................................... 12
- FOODS AND NUTRITION .................................................................................................................... 12
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research/Practicum Experience</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THESIS, DISSERTATION, OR PRACTICUM - RESEARCH EMPHASIS</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THESIS, DISSERTATION, OR PRACTICUM - PRACTITIONER’S EMPHASIS</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPROVAL OF PROJECT</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPLETION OF PROJECT</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What Are The Certificate Curriculum Policies?</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRANSFER CREDITS</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDEPENDENT STUDY CREDITS</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INACTIVE STUDENT STATUS</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPLETION OF THE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE OF GERONTOLOGY</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What Forms Will I Need?</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPLICATION</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORMS</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Frequently Asked Questions</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About the Application for Admission</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATE CERTIFICATE</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application for Admission to the Graduate Certificate of Gerontology Program</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application for Admission to the Graduate Certificate of Gerontology Program (continued)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Request for Prior Approval of Practicum or Research Project</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Request for Prior Approval of Practicum or Research Project (continued)</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notice of Completion of Practicum or Research Project</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Request for Gerontology Certificate</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What is Gerontology?

DEFINITION OF GERONTOLOGY

While gerontology can be described as either “the study of aging” or “the scientific study of old age,” a more complete definition includes all of the following:

- Scientific studies of processes associated with aging;
- Scientific studies of mature and older adults;
- Studies from the perspective of the humanities (e.g., history, philosophy, literature); and
- Applications of knowledge for the benefit of mature and older adults.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GERONTOLOGY AND GERIATRICS

“Gerontology is multidisciplinary; that is, it includes the perspectives of numerous disciplines concerned with the physical, mental, and social aspects of life,” and geriatrics is a specialty within a field that “includes the study of health and disease in later life and the care and treatment of older persons.”

“Although gerontology and geriatrics have differing emphases, they both have the goal of understanding aging so that people can be helped to maximize their functioning and achieve the highest quality of life.”

Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (2004). Careers in Aging: Opportunities and Options, p. 3

WHY STUDY GERONTOLOGY?

Gerontology is the scientific study of aging and older adults from a biological, psychological, and social perspective. This interdisciplinary field of study is extremely important as we will be challenged to meet the needs of an increasingly-growing number of older adults in the coming years, as people are living longer. In fact, the fastest growing age group are those aged 85 and over. Therefore, the demand for professionals with expertise in aging is also growing rapidly. Career opportunities in gerontology and geriatrics are numerous and varied.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Serving the Citizens of Georgia
The Institute of Gerontology at the University of Georgia is the hub for coordinating and conducting the University’s education, research, and outreach services associated with the study of aging and older adults. Through its 30-plus member university-wide Faculty of Gerontology, the Institute collaborates with educators and researchers statewide, regionally, nationally, and internationally.
A GROWING DEMAND FOR CAREERS IN AGING

People are living longer and the number of older adults is increasing, along with the diversity of their needs and interests. In addition to this growth, many states predict dramatic workforce shortages in industries that provide services to our aging population. Therefore, the demand for professionals with expertise in aging is growing rapidly, and career opportunities in gerontology and geriatrics are numerous and varied.

COMBINING YOUR INTEREST WITH GERONTOLOGY

Our Gerontology Certificate Program helps students prepare to tackle the opportunities and challenges of our aging population, whatever the student’s interest. Student majors can include:

- Architecture
- Biology
- Business
- Clothing design
- Consumer economics
- Counseling
- Education
- Financial and legal services
- Health policy
- Health promotion and education
- Housing
- Law
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Nutrition and food sciences
- Pharmacy
- Psychology
- Public health
- Social work

The gerontology program is interdisciplinary and contains sufficient flexibility to permit students to tailor the focus of their Certificate work to their particular interests. The Certificate Program represents a recognized and substantial academic accomplishment, which a student typically completes in addition to a graduate degree. A student may also choose to enroll for the Certificate Program only.

CAREERS IN AGING

Here’s an ever-growing list of fields and specialties that can have an emphasis on aging:

- Accountants
- Activity directors
- Administrators
- Aging services administrators
- Animal assisted therapists
- Architects
- Art therapists
- Assisted living administrators
- Audiologists
- Insurance services and salespeople
- Interior Designers
- Leisure services administrators
- Licensed practical nurses and nursing assistants
- Lobbyists
- Long-term care administrators
- Marketing and salespeople
- Massage therapists
- Medical directors
Biogerontologists
Caregivers
Cohousing coordinators
Chaplains
Daily money managers
Demographers
Dentists
Dieticians and food service directors
Dining services administrators
Disability managers
Documenters
Elder law attorneys
Elder mediators
Environmental geriatricians
Estate planners
Event planners
Fashion designers
Financial planners
Fitness trainers
Funeral / mortuary services administrators
Genealogists
Geriatric care managers
Geriatric case managers
Geriatricians
Gerontologists
Grant writers
Grief counselors
Health educators
Herbalists
Historians
Home modification specialists
Home safety inspectors
Hospice care providers
Human resource managers
In-home service providers

Music therapists
Nurses
Nursing assistants
Nutrition counselors
Ombudsmen
Optometrists
Occupational therapists
Outreach services managers
Parks and recreation staff
Patient representatives
Personal assistants, shoppers, trainers, etc.
Pharmacists
Physical therapists
Policy development / planning administrators
Psychiatrists
Psychologists
Program directors & specialists
Public relations coordinators
Recreational therapists
Researchers
Residential care service providers
Retirement planners
Retreat / wellness spas
Senior real estate specialists
Skilled nurses
Social workers
Speech therapists
Therapists and social workers
Travel agents
Urban planners
Victim advocates
Volunteer managers
Wellness managers
Yoga / Tai Chi instructors

CAREERS IN AGING WEEK

Each year in April, the Institute of Gerontology and our Sigma Phi Omega students commemorate the Annual Careers in Aging Week with a variety of events and activities, such as networking and roundtable discussions. More information on our Careers in Aging Week can be found in this story from the Red and Black. Check our event listings for upcoming activities.

CAREER IN AGING RESOURCES

Visit our resource page for links to resources for careers in aging.
What are the goals of the Gerontology Certificate Program?

GOALS

The curriculum for The University of Georgia Graduate Certificate of Gerontology program is designed to meet the following five goals:

1. Students are presented with a comprehensive theoretical overview of the field of gerontology. The interdisciplinary and integrative nature of gerontology is emphasized.

2. In addition to a broad, interdisciplinary perspective, students are required to acquire a basic foundation in the psychology, biology/physiology, and sociology of aging.

3. There are opportunities for students to have practical or hands-on experiences with older adults in the form of community service or course practica. Students complete either a research project or field work placement practicum focused on some aspect of gerontology.

4. Students are exposed to gerontological research techniques and methodologies, permitting them to develop their own analytic and evaluative skills.

5. Students supplement their own disciplinary academic expertise with gerontological content and methods to advance their aging research and practice.
In recent years, an increasing number of middle-aged and older adults have expressed an interest in enrolling in the Certificate in Gerontology Program for a variety of reasons. For example, some individuals would like to gain additional expertise as part of their ongoing professional development. Other individuals might seek to broaden their knowledge, as part of a pattern of lifelong learning.

**TO APPLY**

Anyone who has completed a bachelor level degree can matriculate through the Certificate in Gerontology Program, as a non-degree seeking student. A prospective non-degree seeking student must first be admitted to the Graduate School before officially applying for admission to the Gerontology Certificate Program.

**REQUEST MORE INFORMATION**

If you are interested in pursuing training in gerontology in a non-degree seeking status, please contact Dr. Anne Glass, Associate Director of the Institute of Gerontology, to discuss the necessary steps and procedures.
How do I apply for admission to the Graduate Certificate Program?

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

The first step in securing admission to the Graduate Certificate of Gerontology Program is to complete the Application for Admission and return it to the Institute of Gerontology (see other required forms). Upon receipt of the application, the Associate Director of the Institute of Gerontology, Dr. Anne Glass, will notify the student of receipt of their application and invite the student to meet and discuss the proposed program of study to determine if the student has any special needs.

Students are also welcome to contact Dr. Glass to discuss the program and their interests before deciding to apply. She can be reached at aglass@uga.edu.

NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE

Qualified applicants will be notified of their acceptance into the Program within approximately 30 days after receipt of their completed application.

APPLY EARLY

It is essential that students apply for admission to the Certificate Program as early in their own program of graduate study as possible. This will facilitate completion of the Certificate Program’s requirements with maximal efficiency and flexibility. For example, some courses qualify for credit towards both the Gerontology Certificate and the student’s own program of study in their discipline.

To request information from the Graduate School, please fill out this form (http://emt.askadmissions.net/uga_grad/emtinterestpage.aspx?ip=graduate).
What Are The Certificate Course Requirements?

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students will complete a total of 18 semester hours of graduate level courses to meet the requirements of the Certificate Program. All students must complete the introductory gerontology course, GRNT 6000: Perspectives on Aging (3 hours). One 3-hour course is chosen from each of the three clusters as outlined here. Three hours must be fulfilled to meet a research/practicum requirement as described below. The remaining three hours may be chosen from the list of elective courses below.

In addition to completing 18 semester hours of graduate level courses, each student must also present a poster at any Annual Southern Regional Student Conference in Gerontology and Geriatrics (usually takes place in the Spring of each year), sponsored by the Institute of Gerontology, that is held during their matriculation through the Program. Additional details about this requirement are available upon request.

REQUIRED COURSES

- GRNT 6000: Perspectives on Aging
- 1 course from Biology/Physiology cluster
- 1 course from Psychology cluster
- 1 course from Sociology cluster
- 3 hour elective course (see list of electives here)
- 3 hours in a research or practicum experience

RESEARCH/PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE

- 3 hours in a research or practicum experience required.
- If discipline is focused on research, student may submit a thesis or dissertation which they completed to fulfill Master’s or Doctoral requirements within their academic department, or they may complete an individual research project for not less than three hours of credit.

PROPOSED CERTIFICATE SCHEDULE

Visit our website for the current proposed certificate schedule for Certificate Program course offerings.
Required Courses for the Certificate

GRNT 6000 – THREE HOURS
PERPECTIVES ON AGING

All students are required to complete GRNT 6000: Perspectives on Aging. Ideally, this course should be completed at the beginning of the program of study. The purpose of this course is to provide students with an overview of gerontology. Students are exposed to a wide range of ways that aging may be studied. The various contents included in this course should be helpful in deciding what Certificate courses are most relevant to a student’s individualized plan of study. No alternatives can be used to fulfill this requirement.

All students are required to complete at least one course from each of these three clusters of courses listed below.

POD = Permission of Department

BIOLOGY / PHYSIOLOGY - THREE HOURS

GRNT 8200 Public Health and Aging
This course is designed to increase knowledge of aging as it relates to public health by examination of: (1) published research in gerontological public health; (2) major issues concerning the health and well-being of older adults; and (3) the interaction of older adults and the health care system. Offered spring semester every year.

EPID 8300/GRNT 8300 Epidemiology of Aging
Addresses the rapidly increasing need for specialized knowledge among epidemiologists in order to promote the health of older adults, with a specific focus on epidemiologic methods and their application to the study of function and disease in older adults.

FDNS 6560 Nutrition, Health, and Aging
Foods and nutrients in the health and well-being of older adults; effects of aging on macro and micronutrient needs; influence of disease, medications, economics, and culture; nutritional assessment, support, and services; health promotion and disease prevention; future directions for research. Prerequisite: (FDNS 3100 or FDNS 4050/6050) and (CBIO 2210-2210L or VPHY 3100)

KINS 6320 Exercise and Aging
Biological and psychological effects of aging in relation to physical activity and exercise. Prerequisite: KINS 4630/6630-4630L/6630L and POD.

PSYCHOLOGY - THREE HOURS

GRNT/PSYC 6700 Psychology of Aging
Research in gerontology, with emphasis on learning, personality, attitudes, perception, ability, and adjustment in older adults. Offered fall semester every year.

ECHD 8380 Optimal Experience, Adaptation, and Aging
A social psychological approach to examining quality of experience in adulthood and later life. Models of successful aging, research on coping with illness, disability, and other negative life events will be examined. Gender, culture, and history in work, leisure, and family contexts will also be considered.

SOCIOLOGY - THREE HOURS

GRNT 6650 Aging in Society
The social and cultural nature of human aging in society. Aging as a social process, and age as a structural feature of changing societies and groups, are explored as a consequence of the interactions of individuals with their social and cultural environments. Cross-cultural emphasis.
CHFD/HACE 6500 Aging and the Family
Review of theory, research, and methodology on aging and the family. Emphasis rests with identifying current concepts, controversies, and diversity in families and aging individuals.

SOCI 4650/6650 Sociology in Aging
The status, roles, and demographic aspects of the aging population and its relationship with social institutions. Prerequisite: POD.
Elective Courses for the Gerontology Certificate

In addition to the required courses and the research/practicum experience, students must complete an additional three hours of course work from the list of courses described below or from the courses outlined in the clusters of basic foundation courses above.

ADULT EDUCATION

EADU 6070 Survey of Educational Gerontology
Social gerontology with an emphasis on adult education. Background knowledge on aging dealing specifically with program development and the involvement of older adults in educational programs is provided.

EPIDEMIOLOGY

EPID 8400/GRNT 8400 Chronic Disease Epidemiology
Examines chronic disease from epidemiologic perspective, with emphasis on methodological and practical issues of study designs, exposure and outcome assessment, factors determining the distribution of selected chronic diseases in the population.

EPID 8410 Cancer Epidemiology
Reviews fundamentals of cancer epidemiology, including classic descriptive cancer epidemiology, basic cancer biology, etiology of common and uncommon human cancers, major and minor risk factors for cancer, screening techniques for early detection, cancer biomarkers, and current research. Epidemiologic methodology and surveillance techniques, including cancer registries, will be covered.

FOODS AND NUTRITION

FDNS 8530 Nutrition and Disease Processes I
Epidemiological, clinical, animal, and cellular studies linking diet and diseases including cancer and heart disease. Biochemical and physiological mechanisms by which nutrients prevent disease. Prerequisite: FDNS 4100/6100 or FDNS 6400 or POD. (Course suited for FDNS majors.)

FDNS 8550 Nutrition and Disease Processes II
Epidemiological, clinical, animal, and cellular studies linking diet and diseases such as diabetes, osteoporosis, other musculoskeletal disorders, and sensory dysfunction. Biochemical and physiological mechanisms by which nutrients prevent disease. Prerequisite: POD.

GERONTOLOGY

GRNT 6390 Service Learning with the Elderly
A supervised field experience designed to assist in reinforcing knowledge, theories and principles gained through courses related to gerontology; offers a practicum experience in gerontology.

GRNT 7266 Death, Dying, and Bereavement
Multi- and inter-disciplinary approaches are used to explore death, dying, and bereavement from a variety of biopsychosocial perspectives.

GRNT 8000 Advanced Topics in Gerontological Research and Theory
Interdisciplinary topics and new developments in gerontological research and theory, focused on a specific time. Prerequisite: POD.

GRNT 8010 Advanced Topics in Gerontology Practice
Interdisciplinary topics on new developments in the practice of gerontology. Prerequisite: POD.
HOUSING AND CONSUMER ECONOMICS

HACE 6810 Housing for Older Adults
Housing needs and conditions, housing alternatives, legislation and current programs related to housing elderly persons. Survey of current housing is compared to proposals for effectively meeting more of the housing needs of the elderly person.

HACE 7310 Managing Nonprofit and Special Community Housing
Examination of residential property management in a variety of nonprofit, government, and government-assisted contexts. Special focus is given to management in various special housing communities including senior housing, supportive housing for the elderly and people with mental or physical disabilities, affordable housing, military housing, and student housing.

KINESIOLOGY

KINS 7600 Public Health Physical Activity Interventions
Public health and aging in two basic areas of (1) an ecological approach to increasing physical activity; (2) behaviorally based strategies to increase physical activity and improve nutritional status.

LAW

JURI 7720 Elder Law
Addresses the legal aspects associated with aging. Federal and state elderly programs and problems.

PSYCHOLOGY

PSYC 8890 Current Research in Health Psychology
Current topics in developmental psychology. Emphasis on independent study and research. Prerequisite: POD.

SOCIAL WORK

SOWK 6142 Social Work with Older Adults
Exploration of human behavior, practice research, and policies regarding interventions with diverse and vulnerable adults.
Research/Practicum Experience

THESIS, DISSERTATION, OR PRACTICUM - RESEARCH EMPHASIS

All students are required to complete three hours in a research or practicum experience. Students whose discipline is focused on research may submit a thesis or dissertation which they completed to fulfill Master's or Doctoral requirements within their academic department, or they may complete an individual research project for not less than three hours of credit. The thesis, dissertation, or research project must focus on some aspect of aging, and the project must be approved by the Institute of Gerontology’s Director or Associate Director in writing, prior to development of the project, in order to qualify for the Certificate.

THESIS, DISSERTATION, OR PRACTICUM - PRACTITIONER'S EMPHASIS

Students whose discipline has a practitioner’s emphasis may complete an approved practicum in a gerontological setting for not less than three hours credit. The practicum experience must be approved in writing by the Institute of Gerontology’s Director or Associate Director before beginning.

APPROVAL OF PROJECT

The student should complete the corresponding approval form or describe the research project or practicum plan in a letter to the Associate Director of the Institute of Gerontology. Additionally, the student and his or her advisor must submit written documentation to the Institute that the project has been approved through the specialty department, and that the project was completed as proposed.

The Associate Director of the Institute of Gerontology must approve the practicum before it begins. However, the student will be free to collaborate with any supervising faculty member who is appropriate to supervise the project. It is the responsibility of the student to identify the practicum opportunity and the prospective supervisor. Written verification to the Associate Director of the Institute of Gerontology from the supervisor is required to confirm the practicum has been completed as proposed.

COMPLETION OF PROJECT

When the project has been completed, the completion form must be completed and submitted to the Associate Director of the Institute of Gerontology. A copy of any written product should also be provided, as appropriate. When the credit for the thesis, dissertation, or practicum is awarded by any academic unit other than the Institute of Gerontology, the responsibility for evaluating the quality of the work resides solely in that department.

Please note: The University of Georgia and the Institute of Gerontology do not provide liability insurance coverage during a student practicum. If a student chooses to carry liability insurance, or if coverage is deemed necessary by the supervisor at the practicum site, this issue should be discussed with the student’s advisor in his or her academic program.
What Are the Certificate Curriculum Policies?

TRANSFER CREDITS

In special circumstances, students have the opportunity to take a graduate level gerontology course at another institution in a traditional classroom situation or through distance learning. Students may transfer one graduate course into their Certificate program, if appropriate. A student must supply the Associate Director of the Institute of Gerontology with a copy of the syllabus that will be used in the course. The Associate Director, in consultation with other gerontology faculty if necessary, will review the syllabus to determine if the course is appropriate for Certificate credit. Approval for completed courses should not be obtained retroactively. Therefore, the student must take responsibility to seek approval from the Institute of Gerontology before enrolling in a course at another college or university.

INDEPENDENT STUDY CREDITS

In certain circumstances, the GRNT 8000 and GRNT 8010 courses may be taken as independent study courses. Generally, no more than three hours of the Certificate Program can be taken in this manner. The student may enroll in an independent study course of a specific department and also have the course counted under GRNT designation to apply towards the Certificate, if appropriate. The Associate Director of the Institute of Gerontology must approve the use of GRNT courses for independent study during the semester before enrollment in the independent study begins.

The procedures for crafting an independent study are:

- The student will complete the prior approval form for GRNT 8000 or 8010 included in this booklet to identify a specific area of interest for these credits. The form must be submitted to the Associate Director and a meeting held to discuss how this particular content cannot be investigated in any of the other approved Certificate courses.
- The student must also secure consent in writing from a gerontology faculty member who will supervise the independent study. If a student does not have a particular faculty member identified, the Associate Director can assist the student with this process.
- The student, in conjunction with the supervising faculty member, will construct learning objectives for the independent study. These will concretely identify what the student will learn from the experience.
- The student will submit a proposal that outlines the requirements for the independent study along with the prior approval form to the Associate Director of the Institute of Gerontology. The form will include the assignments the student will complete (e.g., a literature review of a particular area) and the product which will be evaluated for the course grade (e.g., completed paper, article or chapter submitted for publication, grant proposal). Both the student and the faculty member who will supervise the independent study will sign the proposal.
- The student will supply the Institute of Gerontology with a copy of the independent study course assignment at the conclusion of the semester.

INACTIVE STUDENT STATUS

There is no time limit for completing the Certificate Program in Gerontology. However, students who have not taken a course in the Certificate Program over a three-year period will be classified as "inactive" status. If an inactive student chooses to complete the Certificate, he or she should contact the Associate Director of the Institute of Gerontology who will make an appointment for advising. At this meeting, the student’s tentative program of study will be reviewed, appropriate courses for completing the Certificate will be discussed, and the "inactive" status will be lifted.

COMPLETION OF THE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE OF GERONTOLOGY

Upon completing all of the requirements for the Gerontology Certificate, the student should turn in the request for the Gerontology Certificate and submit it to the Associate Director. The Institute of Gerontology will obtain a copy of the student’s transcript from the Registrar’s Office to verify that the required program of study has been completed. An exit interview is also requested.
The Graduate Certificate of Gerontology will be granted to students admitted to the Gerontology Certificate Program upon notification to the Chair of the Faculty of Gerontology that the student has completed his or her approved program of study.

APPLICATION

Please return the completed application to:

Anne Glass, Ph.D.
Associate Director & Graduate Coordinator
Institute of Gerontology
College of Public Health
255 E. Hancock Ave.
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602-5775
aglass@uga.edu

FORMS

These forms are available in the following pages:

Pages 19-20: Application for Admission

Pages 21-22: Form for Request for Prior Approval of Research Project or Practicum

Page 23: Form for Notice of Completion of Research Project or Practicum

Page 24: Form for Request for Gerontology Certificate

Please note that you cannot receive your Graduate Certificate of Gerontology until all classes listed above have been completed and appear on your transcript, and the final version of your practicum or research project has been submitted to the Institute. An exit interview should also be completed.
Other Frequently Asked Questions

**To become a student in the Certificate Program, do I have to be enrolled in a graduate program at the University of Georgia, or can I simply enroll in the Certificate Program?**

A student can simply enroll in the Gerontology Certificate Program. In order to enroll in the Certificate Program, students must first be admitted to the Graduate School as either a prospective candidate for a graduate degree in an academic department or in a non-degree seeking status with Gerontology as the major. Undergraduate students in the Honors Program may also apply and should contact the Associate Director. The Associate Director of the Institute of Gerontology will provide advice to interested students on the necessary steps to secure admission.

**I am completing a Master's degree and I am interested in the Certificate Program, but I am not sure how it would fit into my program of study. Can I complete the requirements for my degree and the Certificate and still graduate in two years?**

The Certificate Program is designed so that elective courses in most programs that have been approved as Certificate courses can be used to fulfill Certificate requirements. Courses may be used to count towards both a Master's degree and the Gerontology Certificate if they fulfill requirements of both programs. With proper planning, one can complete both programs of study in a two-year period. Planning and getting started in the Certificate Program early provides more flexibility to fit in all required courses.

**I have already completed a Master’s or Doctoral degree and wish to come to the University of Georgia for the sole purpose of completing the Graduate Certificate of Gerontology. Is this possible?**

Yes. A number of individuals have completed the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology after having earned Master’s or Doctoral degrees. Admission must be secured from the Graduate School as a non-degree candidate. The Associate Director will guide individuals to appropriate departments and personnel in the Graduate School who will provide assistance in gaining admission to the Graduate School under these circumstances ([http://www.grad.uga.edu](http://www.grad.uga.edu)].

**What if I am unable to complete all of the requirements before I graduate? Is it possible for me to continue to take courses to earn the Certificate of Gerontology?**

Yes. If all Certificate of Gerontology requirements cannot be met before graduation from a degree program, work can still be done toward the Certificate after graduation. Non-degree status must be granted through the Graduate School early in the semester before enrollment in courses as a non-degree student.

**How will completing the Graduate Certificate of Gerontology help me in my job search?**

The completion of the Certificate will be formally noted on your transcript and will indicate to prospective employers that, in addition to training within a particular discipline and degree program, formal interdisciplinary training in gerontology has been obtained.

**How long do I have to finish the Certificate? Is there a deadline?**

The Institute of Gerontology does not impose a time limit for receiving the Certificate. If classes have not been taken over a three-year period, a student will be considered "inactive." Students who have been classified as "inactive" can have the status lifted by scheduling an advisory session with the Associate Director of the Institute of Gerontology. This meeting is necessary to review the courses which are available and necessary for completion of the Certificate requirements.

*To request information from the Graduate School, please fill out this form.*
About the Application for Admission

The Graduate Certificate of Gerontology will be granted to students admitted to the Gerontology Certificate Program upon notification to the Chair of the Faculty of Gerontology that the student has completed his or her approved program of study.

Please return this completed application to:

Anne Glass, Ph.D.
Associate Director & Graduate Coordinator
Institute of Gerontology
College of Public Health
255 E. Hancock Ave.
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602-5775

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

- **GRNT 6000: Perspectives on Aging**
- 1 course from Biology/Physiology cluster
- 1 course from Psychology cluster
- 1 course from Sociology cluster
- 3 hours in a research or practicum experience.
- Additional 3 hours of elective course work from the elective list or from the required course clusters above.

Figure 1 Summary of Requirements for Graduate Certificate
Application for Admission to the Graduate Certificate of Gerontology Program

All students who wish to earn the University of Georgia Graduate Certificate of Gerontology must complete this application to be admitted to the program.

Name ___________________________ UGA ID Number ___________________________

Address

Telephone Number ___________________________ Email Address ___________________________

Have you been admitted to the University of Georgia Graduate School as a prospective candidate for a degree or a non-degree candidate?

Degree_________   Nondegree_________   Date of Admission to the Graduate School____________________

University of Georgia degree objective and major department:

Please list any undergraduate and graduate degrees that you have earned:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
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</table>

Undergraduate Grade Point Average (on a 4-point scale, A = 4)____________________

Graduate Record Examination Scores:   Verbal ________       Quantitative________

Major Professor/Faculty Advisor:

Name ___________________________

Address

Phone ___________________________ Email Address ___________________________
TENTATIVE PROGRAM OF STUDY

Please list the courses you intend to take that will apply toward requirements for the Graduate Certificate of Gerontology. (This must total 18 semester hours; at least 15 hours of course work plus at least 3 hours of an approved thesis, dissertation, other research project, or practicum designed to meet the requirements of the Certificate.) Please do not list other courses or degree requirements that you do not plan to apply toward the Graduate Certificate of Gerontology.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

I realize that the Graduate Certificate of Gerontology will be granted only to those persons admitted to the University of Georgia Graduate School as prospective degree candidates or as non-degree candidates.

________________________________________________________________________

Student’s signature

________________________________________________________________________

Date

To the best of my knowledge, the above information is accurate. I recommend this student for admission to the Program as a prospective recipient of the Graduate Certificate of Gerontology.

________________________________________________________________________

Major Professor/Advisor’s signature

________________________________________________________________________

Date

This student has been admitted to the Graduate Certificate of Gerontology Program.

________________________________________________________________________

Institute of Gerontology Associate Director’s signature

________________________________________________________________________

Date
# Request for Prior Approval of Practicum or Research Project

This form must be submitted prior to enrolling in a practicum or beginning a research project in order for the activity to apply to the Graduate Certificate of Gerontology. This policy applies to all students who complete the Graduate Certificate, regardless of whether the activity is done through their primary academic department or the Institute of Gerontology. Please return the completed application to Associate Director, Institute of Gerontology, 255 E. Hancock Ave., Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA, 30602-5775.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student’s Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Address</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone (Work)</td>
<td>(Home)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email Address</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please briefly describe the project that you wish to apply toward the practicum or research requirement for the Graduate Certificate of Gerontology.

Please state exactly what you will do, and if a practicum, note where and how many hours per week you will work. (Use additional pages, if necessary.)

Who will supervise the above project (both on-site and UGA faculty member, if a practicum; UGA faculty member only for research)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Address</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Phone | Phone |
### Request for Prior Approval of Practicum or Research Project (continued)

In what specific course are you enrolling to receive credit for this project or practicum?

How many credit hours will you receive and what semester will you enroll in this course?

What finished product do you expect to have when the practicum is completed?

Is this to be an Independent Study?  Yes___  No____

#### APPROVALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student’s Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supervising Faculty Member’s Signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of Gerontology Associate Director’s Signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note: Neither the University of Georgia nor the Institute of Gerontology provides liability insurance for the student’s participation in this Practicum.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student's signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On-site Practicum Supervisor’s signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UGA Faculty Supervisor’s signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of Gerontology Associate Director’s signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Notice of Completion of Practicum or Research Project

This form is to be completed at the time a practicum or research project has been completed. Please do not complete this form if the practicum or research project has not received prior written approval from the Institute of Gerontology. Please return this completed form to Associate Director, Institute of Gerontology, 255 E. Hancock Ave., University of Georgia, Athens, GA, 30602-1775.

Student’s Name

Local Address

Telephone (Work)             (Home)

Email Address

Date that the research project or practicum was approved:

Date that the research project or practicum was completed:

Course number, semester enrolled and number of credits received for research project or practicum:

Brief descriptive title of research project or practicum:

Please attach a copy of the final product (paper, summary, thesis, etc.) that resulted from the research project or practicum.

APPROVALS

Student’s signature        `       Date

Supervisor’s signature            Date

Institute of Gerontology Associate Director’s signature       Date
Request for Gerontology Certificate

Name (as you want it to appear on Certificate)       Date

Mailing Address (for Certificate)

Telephone Number (Home)            (Work)

Email Address

Please list the course numbers that have been completed for the Graduate Certificate of Gerontology (15 hours).

Please list the course that was completed for the practicum or research project (3 hours).

Please list the title of your poster and year of its presentation at the Annual Southeastern Student Mentoring Conference in Gerontology & Geriatrics.

Student’s signature       Date

Institute of Gerontology Associate Director’s signature       Date

Please note that you cannot receive your Graduate Certificate of Gerontology until all classes listed above have been completed and appear on your transcript, and the final version of your practicum or research project has been submitted to the Center. An exit interview should also be completed. Please mail this completed form to: Associate Director, Institute of Gerontology, 255 E. Hancock Ave., University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-5775.