Aging and Longevity Studies

Interim Director, School of Social Work
- Miriam J. Landsman

Coordinator, Aging and Longevity Studies
- Nadia G. Sabbagh Steinberg

Undergraduate minor: aging and longevity studies
Undergraduate certificate: aging and longevity studies
Graduate certificate: aging and longevity studies

Faculty: https://socialwork.uiowa.edu/people
Website: https://socialwork.uiowa.edu/

Courses

Aging and Longevity Studies Courses

**ASP:1000 First-Year Seminar**  1 s.h.
Small discussion class taught by a faculty member; topics chosen by instructor; may include outside activities (e.g., films, lectures, performances, readings, visits to research facilities). Requirements: first- or second-semester standing.

**ASP:1800 Aging Matters: Introduction to Gerontology**  3 s.h.
Overview of the field of gerontology from a bio-psycho-social framework: how the human body and brain age, effects of these biological changes on physical and cognitive functions, and interaction of these individual factors with societal contexts; broad perspective to give students a foundation in gerontology, paving the way for more advanced courses in biology of aging, psychology of aging, and global aging; for students from a wide range of disciplines and levels, no prior knowledge of aging required. GE: Social Sciences. Same as SSW:1800. TR:1800.

**ASP:2000 Big Ideas: Creativity for a Lifetime**  3 s.h.
Exploration of what senior artists can teach about creativity and aging; interdisciplinary project-based collaborative learning opportunities that consider role of arts and creativity across a lifespan; essential skills necessary to be professionals in numerous careers including health, social work, education, humanities, and the arts; identification of ways for students to be more creative in their own lives and work. GE: Values and Culture. Same as ARTS:2000, EDTL:2000, RHET:2000.

**ASP:2181 The Anthropology of Aging**  3 s.h.
Comparative anthropological perspective on aging; ethnographies from diverse contexts used to examine intersections of kinship, religion, health, and medicine in later life. Same as ANTH:2181, GHS:2181.

**ASP:2265 Hard Cases in Healthcare at the End of Life**  3 s.h.
Preparation for future healthcare providers to make difficult ethical decisions regarding the end of life; interactive course. Same as GHS:2265, RELS:2265.

**ASP:3135 Global Aging**  3 s.h.
Demographic factors that contribute to the worldwide phenomena of population aging in context of WHO Active Aging and the United Nation's Principles for Older Persons frameworks. Same as GHS:3050, SSW:3135.

**ASP:3150 Psychology of Aging**  3 s.h.
The later years of human life viewed from perspectives of developmental psychology, biology, sociology.

**ASP:3151 The Anthropology of the Beginnings and Ends of Life**  3 s.h.
Examination of diverse understandings of birth and death, drawing on anthropological analysis of personhood, kinship, ritual, and medicine; how social inequality and new technologies shape human experience at life's margins. Prerequisites: ANTH:1101 or ANTH:2100. Same as ANTH:3151, GHS:3151.

**ASP:3152 Anthropology of Caregiving and Health**  3 s.h.
Diverse understandings and practices of care around the world; focus on relationships between caregiving practices and health across the life course. Same as ANTH:3152, GHS:3152.

**ASP:3160 Biology of Aging**  3 s.h.
Biogerontology; definition of aging and senescence, biological theories of aging, demographics, model systems foraging, premature aging syndromes, aging of organ systems in humans.

**ASP:3170 Health and Aging**  3 s.h.
Lifespan approach to understanding human biological development with emphasis on the experience of older adulthood and health; key concepts and how they are measured, including health promotion, wellness, and optimal aging. Recommendations: ASP:1800.

**ASP:3400 Film, Media, and Aging**  3 s.h.
Examination of trends in the way that aging and older adulthood are portrayed in film and other media.

**ASP:3519 Politics of Aging**  3 s.h.
Core concepts and methods related to aging and policies that address the needs of older persons; demographic measures of population health and aging, including incidence and distribution of specific conditions relevant in older age; theories of public policy and involvement of older persons in the political process; key historical and current policies, at both the federal and state/local levels, that influence service provision and the well-being of older persons in the United States. Same as POLI:3519.

**ASP:3740 End-of-Life Care for Adults and Families**  3 s.h.

**ASP:3786 Death/Dying: Issues Across the Life Span**  3-4 s.h.
Introduction to the field of end-of-life care; examination of student concerns about death, dying, and grieving process; historical, cultural, societal, and personal perspectives of death and dying in modern society. Same as SSW:3786.

**ASP:3900 Independent Study in Gerontology**  arr.
Individual projects and/or research.

**ASP:3920 Service Learning in Aging Studies**  1-3 s.h.
Experiential learning in settings with older adults. Corequisites: ASP:1800, if not taken as a prerequisite.

**ASP:4165 Communication Disorders and Aging**  1-2 s.h.
Introduction to speech, language, and hearing processes and disorders among older adults; survey of characteristics of communication and communication breakdown, remediation, and strategies for improving communication with older adults with communication disorders; primarily for majors and other health care service providers. Same as CSD:4165.

**ASP:4190 Aging Studies Internship and Seminar**  3 s.h.
Opportunities for students in various disciplines to relate their areas of study to older adults and aging; interdisciplinary relationships, approaches to meeting needs of older adults; an online seminar that meets regularly is included in this experience. Same as SSW:4190.

**ASP:4470 Physiology of Aging**  3 s.h.
Aging's effects on cells, tissues, and organs; how aging influences function of major body organ systems and the whole organism; physiological mechanisms that underlie age-related changes in body function and performance; integrative approach with focus on human aging. Prerequisites: HHP:3500 or HHP:3550. Same as HHP:4470.
ASP:5401 The Care of the Frail Elderly 3 s.h.
Clinical management of the elderly; emphasis on economic considerations, principles of gerontological care, common syndromes, ethical issues; clinical application experience in a long-term care setting. Prerequisites: NURS:5035. Corequisites: NURS:6200 and NURS:6701. Same as NURS:5401.

ASP:5750 Medicare and Medicaid Policy 3 s.h.
Health policies most pertinent to Americans over age of 65. Same as HMP:5750.

ASP:6000 Graduate Gerontology Capstone 3 s.h.
Review of core concepts as identified by the Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE) in the form of core competencies; students engage in discussions related to gerontological ethical issues at individual, family, and societal levels; receive guidance in developing and writing a major research paper relevant to their field; and engage in discussions related to uses of their gerontological knowledge in terms of looking for a job or pursuing further education.