

Certificate in Aging Studies for Health Professionals

An undergraduate certificate in aging studies for health professionals (UGC-AGE) allows students and working professionals to expand their knowledge in the fundamental concepts of aging, to better serve an aging population they frequently encounter. The UGC-AGE introduces students to the field of aging and prepares them in the psychological, biological and sociological aspects of aging. Students then have an opportunity to focus on content specific to diversity and aging or community resources and aging network for their final credit hours.

The UGC-AGE can be completed 100% online. Students who complete this certificate and then wish to complete the Bachelor of Science in health management, concentration in aging studies will have already earned credit hours that can be applied toward the degree.

The curriculum can be completed within one academic year with entry to the program allowed in fall, spring or summer semesters, and may be pursued concurrently with undergraduate degrees such as exercise science, psychology, sociology, social work and clinical disciplines in the College of Health Professions. The certificate may also be completed by a nondegree seeking undergraduate who is a working professional in a field that would benefit from further study of the aging population. Additionally, the UGC-AGE provides quality distance education, enabling students to earn their certificate from anywhere in the state or country.

Admission

To be admitted into the undergraduate certificate in aging studies for health professionals program, the applicant must:

- Be admitted to Wichita State University in a degree program or in nondegree seeking status. All undergraduate policies relative to admissions apply. International students will not be issued an I-20 for certificate programs alone. International students may obtain this certificate only while concurrently pursuing an undergraduate degree.
- Have a minimum overall GPA of 2.000 (on a 4.000 scale).

Program Requirements

It is possible for a student to complete the requirements for the certificate in one year. Entry to the program is offered fall, spring and summer semesters. The certificate is offered fully online and requires 12 credit hours from the following courses:

Course	Title	Hours
Required Courses (9 credit hours)		
PHS 100	Introduction to Aging Studies	3
PHS 404	Psychology of Aging	3
PHS 525	Living with Death: Understanding Loss and Legacy	3
Elective Courses (3 credit hours)		
Choose one of the following courses		3
PHS 405	Sociology of Aging	
PHS 518	Healthcare Coordination	
PHS 560	Care Networks and Services	
PHS 565	The Medicare System	
PHS 623	Public Health and Communication in Aging	

Total Credit Hours

12

Assessment Measure: Students must complete a reflection describing how the certificate prepared them for work with the aging population in healthcare and expanded their knowledge of aging studies.

An overall grade point average of at least 2.000 for all courses comprising the certificate program, and no grade below C, is required to earn the certificate.