**Gerontology**

**Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree**

**DEGREE INFORMATION**

**Priority Admission Application Deadlines:**

**Fall:** February 15

**Spring:** October 15

**Summer:** February 15

International applicant deadlines:

<http://www.grad.usf.edu/majors>

**Minimum Total Hours:** 30

**Level:** Masters

**CIP Code:** 30.1101

**Dept Code:** GEY

**Major/College Codes:** GEY BC

**Approved** 1967

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**College:** Behavioral & Community

Sciences

**Department:** School of Aging Studies (GEY)

**Contact Information:** [www.grad.usf.edu](http://www.grad.usf.edu)

**MAJOR INFORMATION**

Gerontology is the study of the process of human aging in all its aspects: physical, psychological, and social. In the School of Aging Studies, particular emphasis is placed on educating Gerontology students who, in their professional careers, will work to sustain or improve the quality of life of older people. Many of our graduates are employed in agencies providing services for older adults. For information about the interdisciplinary Ph.D., please see the separate listing for Aging Studies Ph.D.

The School offers the M.A. in Gerontology. Students are advised to meet with the Graduate Director to select courses appropriate to their professional goals. Internships are recommended and available for students who need practical experience in the field of aging. Students interested in internships should see the school’s internship director.

Following completion of the necessary coursework, students complete a capstone applied research project designed to integrate key knowledge, concepts, and information in the field of gerontology. This course must be taken and passed by all students in the M.A. program. There are no language requirements.

**ADMISSION INFORMATION**

Must meet University requirements (see Graduate Admissions) as well as requirements for admission to the major, listed below.

* The GRE examination is optional for applicants who either have a 3.25 or higher GPA for all work completed as an undergraduate student, a 3.5 or higher in a completed master’s degree program, or a completed doctoral degree (including professional degrees such as the JD and MD), all from a regionally accredited institution.
* For students submitting a GRE score, a preferred GRE score of at least 149V (41st percentile), 142Q (16th percentile) , 3.5A.W.
* Applicants where English is not the language of instruction must also submit a TOEFL iBT score of at least 79 which corresponds to a score of 600 on the old TOEFL test
* Statement of Purpose in pursuing a MA in Gerontology
* Current Resume
* 2 letters of references

**CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS**

Total Minimum Hours – 30

Required courses – 12 credit hours

Electives – 15 credit hours

Capstone – 3 credit hours

**Core Courses -12 credit hours**

GEY 5476 3 Program Evaluation in Aging Services

GEY 6600 3 Human Development

GEY 6613 3 Physical Change and Aging

GEY 6626 3 Health, Ethnicity, and Aging

**Electives - 15 credit hours**

The remaining 15 hours of coursework must be selected from other graduate courses in gerontology. Under certain circumstances, students may be able to substitute other graduate classes as part of the elective courses required for the degree with permission from the program director.

GEY 5503 3 Assisted Living Facility Management\*

GEY 5630 3 Economics of Aging

GEY 6206 3 Family Caregiving in Aging and Chronic Illness

GEY 6614 3 Aging and Mental Disorders

GEY 6616 3 Mental Health Assessment of Older Adults

GEY 6617 3 Gerontological Counseling Theories and Practice

GEY 6222 3 Elder Abuse Assessment and Intervention\*

GEY 6901 1-3 Directed Readings in Gerontology

\*These courses are former special topics courses that will be proposed as new classes in October 2017 to launch concurrent with the changes to the MA program. We have consulted with the State about the appropriate course number for both offerings.

**Capstone Requirement – 3 credit hours**

GEY 6910 3 Directed Research in Gerontology (Capstone)

Following completion of the necessary coursework, students enroll in GEY 6910 Directed research in gerontology, and complete a capstone applied research project designed to integrate key knowledge, concepts, and information in the field of gerontology. This course is pass/fail and must be taken and passed by all students in the M.A. major to meet requirements for the degree.

**Comprehensive Exam**

Students complete the Captstone requirement in lieu of a comprehensive exam.

**Internship**

Internships are available for students local to USF who need practical experience in the field of aging.

**COURSES**

See <http://www.ugs.usf.edu/course-inventory/>