WHAT CAN GERONTOLOGY at UNCC ADD TO YOUR COMMUNICATION STUDIES DEGREE?

UNC Charlotte offers an Undergraduate Minor, Graduate Certificate and Master’s Degree in Gerontology

WHAT IS GERONTOLOGY?

Gerontology is the study of aging and older adults. Students of gerontology study not only physiological changes that occur with aging, but also social roles, normative expectations, attitudes and beliefs, stereotypes, and policy, health and economic issues which define the aging experience.

HOW DOES GERONTOLOGY COMPLEMENT MY COMMUNICATION STUDIES DEGREE?

Communication in health and aging contexts is a growing specialty in the field of Communication Studies. Communication and information regarding aging issues—with friends, family, providers, and via media and marketing messages—is pervasive and affects all of us, either as patients/consumers, family members, or message providers. It is important to look at the communication-related health and social issues facing people as we transition through middle life, older age, and end of life; and to understand the aging process as it is shaped by several social, cultural, and interpersonal factors. A minor in Gerontology will give Health Communication students insight into how meaning is constructed in life experiences throughout the life course and will enable students to shape their major in a career in this specific context.
WHAT UNC CHARLOTTE FACULTY SPECIALIZE IN THIS AREA AND WHAT ARE THEIR RESEARCH INTERESTS?

Christine S. Davis, Ph.D., Christine.s.davis@uncc.edu. Family/interpersonal/ patient-provider communication in aging, disability, terminal illness contexts.

WHAT ARE SOME CAREER RESOURCES BEYOND UNCC?

AARP
www.aarp.org
Association for Gerontology in Higher Education Careers in Aging
www.careersinaging.com/careersinaging/
The Gerontological Society of America Careers in Gerontology
www.geron.org/StudentOrg/careers.htm
Southern Gerontological Society
http://www.wfu.edu/gerontology/sgs/
UNC Institute on Aging
http://www.aging.unc.edu/

FOR MORE INFORMATION at UNCC ABOUT

The Gerontology Program:
Dr. Julian Montoro-Rodriguez, Program Director at jmontoro@uncc.edu or 704-687-6166.

The Gerontology Graduate Certificate or MA:
Dr. Anita Blowers, Graduate Coordinator at anblower@uncc.edu or 704-6875091.

Gerontology Graduate Research
Dr. Mike Turner, Research Coordinator at miturner@uncc.edu or 704-687-0867

The Undergraduate Gerontology minor:
Dr. Cynthia Hancock, Undergraduate & Service-Learning Coordinator at chancock@uncc.edu or 704-687-7807.

Visit the Gerontology Program website: www.gerontology.uncc.edu
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