The MINOR in
GERONTOLOGY

WHAT IS GERONTOLOGY?
Gerontology is the study of the process of aging across the life course. Students of gerontology study not only the physiological and sensory changes that occur with aging, but also the social roles and expectations, stereotypes, and unique social and economic issues which define the aging experience in society.

IS GERONTOLOGY FOR YOU?
Changes in population size and composition have consequences for every aspect of American life. For example, as the “baby boom” children age and continue to compose the dominant segment of the American population, they have crowded classrooms, face a limited job market, and are contributing to the single family housing boom. As they age they will need other types of housing and services. An understanding of the biological, physiological and sociocultural aspects of aging is necessary not only for people working with older adults but also for the majority of us who grow older with each passing year. The study of gerontology contributes to preparing for our own aging, as well as understanding aging parents and our aging population. The undergraduate gerontology coordinator has information that can help each student combine the gerontology minor with their chosen major.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
Persons over age 65 now number more than 30 million and make up more than 12 percent of the American population. Over the next 40 years, their numbers will rise to 66 million, or almost 22 percent of our population. As the number of older persons in our society continues to increase, it will be important for people in every occupation and profession to have a basic understanding of the aging process. It is the goal of the program to provide UNC Charlotte students with this basic understanding. You may be interested in a future career related to gerontology. Projections indicate opportunities in fields as diverse as city planning, administration, management, recreation, counseling, physical therapy, social work, program development, research, nursing home administration, and geriatric nursing.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY AND INTERDISCIPLINARY FOCI
Invariably, the best research, training, and service programs in gerontology develop when professionals from a variety of traditional disciplines are afforded the opportunity to work together, each contributing a unique expertise while benefiting from the expertise of others. The minor in gerontology at UNC Charlotte is built around a core sequence of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary courses taught by professionals from a variety of different academic disciplines. This approach is designed to bring together information form multidisciplinary sources, integrate theoretical and applied concepts in gerontology, and communicate to students the need for a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches in meeting the need of older persons.

MINOR REQUIREMENTS
The minor in gerontology is awarded only to students completing an undergraduate major at UNC Charlotte. A minimum of 18 hours in gerontology courses with a GPA of 2.5 in all Gerontology related courses is required. Students must earn a C or better in the 18 credits counted toward the minor. No courses counted toward the minor may be taken pass/fail. Course requirements and options include:

REQUIRED COURSES FOR ALL GERONTOLOGY MINORS
All students must take the following two courses at UNC Charlotte (transfer credit cannot count for these courses):
GRNT/SOCY 2100 Aging and the Lifecourse (SL) (3)
GRNT 3600 Senior Seminar (W)  (3) * A pre-registration orientation (held the semester prior to taking the course) is required to receive a permit for this class. Only declared minors who have completed a minimum of 12 (preferably 15) gerontology credit hours should attend an orientation.

PRIMARY ELECTIVE OPTIONS
Students must select at least two of the following four courses:
GRNT/PSYC 2124 Psychology of Aging (3)
GRNT/HLTH 3115 Health and the Aging Process (3)
GRNT/SOCY 4110 Sociology of Aging (3G)
GRNT 4250 Aging Programs and Services (3) (3G)

Secondary elective options on back.
SECONDARY ELECTIVE OPTIONS:
Students must complete a total of 18 hours. If two primary electives are completed, then two secondary electives must be completed. If three primary electives are completed then one secondary elective must be completed. If all four primary electives are completed then no secondary electives must be completed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GRNT/PSYC/SOCY 3125</td>
<td>Older Worker and Retirement (3)</td>
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<td>GRNT/ANTH 3132</td>
<td>Aging and Culture (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRNT/SOCY 3267</td>
<td>Sociology of Death, Dying, and Bereavement</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRNT/SOCY 4134</td>
<td>Families and Aging (3)</td>
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<td>GRNT/SOCY 4150</td>
<td>Older Individual and Society (3)</td>
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<td>GRNT/HLTH/WGST 4260</td>
<td>Women: Middle Age and Beyond (3) (3G)</td>
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<td>GRNT 4270</td>
<td>Intergenerational Relationships and Programs (3) (3G)</td>
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<td>GRNT 4280</td>
<td>The Experience of Dementia (3)</td>
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<td>GRNT 4353</td>
<td>Environments for Aging (3)</td>
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<td>GRNT/CJUS 4364</td>
<td>Elders and the Criminal Justice System (3)</td>
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<td>LBST 1102-425 or 426</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Society Film (GRNT): Aging and the Lifecourse in Film (3) (taught by GRNT faculty)</td>
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<td>PHIL 3230 (formerly PHIL 3228)</td>
<td>Healthcare Ethics (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOCY 2169 (formerly 3169/4130)</td>
<td>Sociology of Health and Illness (3) (3G)</td>
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<td>SOWK 4101</td>
<td>Social Work Practice with Older Adults (3)</td>
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<td>GRNT 3800</td>
<td>Independent study in Gerontology (1 – 8)</td>
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<td>GRNT 4050</td>
<td>Topics in Gerontology (1 – 4)</td>
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Students should confer with the Undergraduate Gerontology Coordinator as they plan their schedules and are strongly encouraged to select elective courses from outside their major. Because this is designed to be an interdisciplinary minor, no more than three courses from your major area of study may double count for the Gerontology Minor. For Sociology majors this includes LBST1102-425/426.

Students who have earned a bachelor’s degree from UNC Charlotte may be readmitted to pursue a minor in gerontology, just as they may be readmitted to pursue a second major. (For further information on readmission, see the admission section of the UNC Charlotte Catalog).

Students who have earned a bachelor’s degree from an institution other than UNC Charlotte may not receive a minor in gerontology from UNC Charlotte (unless they earn a second baccalaureate degree from UNC Charlotte). Such students may request a letter from the program and/or a transcript notation which acknowledges completion of courses specified for the minor but indicates that the minor can only be awarded upon completion of the degree.

ADMISSIONS
For information about applying for admission to UNC Charlotte, call or write:
Office of Undergraduate Admissions
The University of North Carolina at Charlotte
9201 University City Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28223-0001
Telephone: (704)687-2213
Website: www.uncc.edu

For information about the Gerontology Program and the Minor in Gerontology at UNC Charlotte contact:
Dr. Cynthia Hancock
Teaching Professor, Sociology Department
Interim Director and Undergraduate Coordinator, Gerontology Program
Telephone: (704)687-7807
Email: chancock@uncc.edu

Further information about the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology contact
Dr. Mike Turner
Associate Professor of Kinesiology
Graduate Coordinator, Gerontology Program
Telephone: (704)687-8078
Email: miturner@uncc.edu

Website: www.gerontology.uncc.edu

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte is committed to equality of educational opportunity and does not discriminate against any applicants, students or employees based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age or disability. Upon request, accommodations will be provided for persons needing assistance because of a disability.