

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN GERONTOLOGY

University of Pittsburgh
University Center for
Social and Urban Research



412-624-1019

In response to the current and anticipated educational needs in the area of aging, members of the University Council on Aging have collaborated to create a Graduate Certificate in Gerontology. The program is designed to serve professionals in diverse disciplines, in a variety of industries, who are interested in acquiring basic knowledge about gerontology and geriatrics, and specialized knowledge of aging and aging processes in their particular disciplines or occupations.

The student will complete the required core curricula for the program (6-7 credits). The remaining three or more courses (8 or 9 credits depending upon the chosen specialization) would be selected from a prescribed pool of elective courses within dentistry, law, mental health, nursing, public health, social work, health and rehabilitation science, multidisciplinary: prevention and healthy aging, and a general multidisciplinary track.

Admission to the Gerontology Certificate Program would not require the Graduate Records Examination (GRE), Law School Admission Test (LSAT), or any other graduate school entrance examination. However, students should satisfy all other requirements for admission to the corresponding graduate degree from which the certificate curriculum is drawn. Certain non-degree students who demonstrate potential and motivation for doing graduate work may be admitted provisionally. Coursework completed on a non-degree basis, that satisfies the course requirements of a graduate program within the University, may be applied as advanced standing toward that degree with the exception of the J.D. program offered through the School of Law.

CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS [A minimum of 15 credits is required for certification in the Gerontology Certificate Program]

**Denotes Available During Evening/Weekend/ Web-Based*

Required Courses (select 6-7 credits)

	Credits
GERON 2001 Ethics and Aging	3
ORBIOL 2150 Seminar on Aging*	1

Select one of the following courses:

GERON 2005 Gerontology: Perspectives in Aging*	3
BCHS 2532 Dimensions of Aging, Culture & Health	2
SWBEH 2077: Human Behavior: Adult Development and Aging	3

Specializations

Specialization in Dentistry (Select 8 or 9 credits)

ORBIOL 5931 Aging and Oral Health	1
ORBIOL 5942 Age-Related Changes in the Oral Cavity	3
DIASCI 5972 Medical & Therapeutic Considerations of Geri Dental Patients	1
PROSTH 5918 Clinical Geriatric Dentistry	3
RESTD 5921 Dental Care for the Geriatric Population	3

Specialization in Law (Select 9 credits)

LAW 5201 Administrative Law	3
LAW 5259 Estate and Gift Tax	3
LAW 5330 Employee Benefits	3
LAW 5347 Elderly and the Law	3
LAW 5395 Health Law and Policy	3
LAW 5865 Elder Law Seminar	3

Specialization in Nursing (Select 8 or 9 credits.)

EPIDEM 2980 Biology and Physiology of Aging	1
EPIDEM 2990 Epidemiology of Aging	2
NURNP 2526 Management of Geriatric Health	3
NUR 1829 Contemporary Issues in Cross-Cultural Healthcare	3
Other approved elective	2

Specialization in Public Health (Select 8 or 9 credits.)

EPIDEM 2980 Biology and Physiology of Aging	1
EPIDEM 2990 Epidemiology of Aging	2
EPIDEM 2981 Epidemiology of Aging: Methods	2
HPM 2203 Financing & Regulation of Long-Term Care*	1
BCHS 2533 Issues in Long-Term Care Services	3
BCHS 2534 Clinical Aspects of Dementia Care	2
BCHS 2541 Research Methods on Aging	2

Specialization in Social Work (Select 9 credits.)

Required Course Work:

SWINT	2030	Direct Practice/interpersonal Skills with the Elderly	3
SWWEL	2039	Social Policy and Gerontology*	3

Approved Electives:

SWINT	2004	Death and Dying*	3
SWINT	2007	Social Work Practice in Psychopharmacology	3
LAW	5347	Elderly and the Law	3
BCHS	2533	Issues in Long Term Care	3

Specialization in Occupational Therapy/Rehabilitation (Select 8 or 9 credits)

HRS	2480	Dimensions in Aging: Culture and Health	2
HRS	2484	Issues in Long-Term Care for the Elderly	3
HRS	2501	Functional Assessment*	3
HRS	2502	Human Performance: Analysis*	3
HRS	2503	Human Performance: Adaptation*	3
HRS	2594	Specialized Preceptorship: Research*	1-6

Multidisciplinary (Select 9 credits)

GERON	2000	Directed Study* (prerequisite: all core courses)	3
GERON	2003	Intergenerational Studies*	2
NUR	1829	Contemporary Issues in Cross-Cultural Healthcare*	3
PSY	1230	Psychology of Death and Dying*	3
SWWEL	2039	Social Policy and Gerontology*	3
SWINT	2004	Death and Dying*	3
		Other electives upon approval of advisor	3

Gerontechnology (Select 9 credits)

LIS 2970

Information Resources, Services, & Technology for an Aging World 3

REHSCI 3711

Ethnography: Analyzing how context Affects Technology Use 3

HRS 2704

Fundamentals of Rehab, Engineering and Assistive Technology 3

NURSP 2083

System Usability and Evaluation Methods 3

NURSP 2070

Information Technology Project Management 3

Multidisciplinary: Prevention and Healthy Aging (Select 8 or 9 credits)

Required Course Work:

GERON 2002 Prevention and Healthy Aging* 2

Approved Electives:

EPIDEM 2980 Biology and Physiology of Aging 1

EPIDEM 2900 Epidemiology of Aging 2

EPIDEM 2260 Epidemiological Basis for Disease Control 2

EPIDEM 2981 Epidemiology of Aging: Methods 2

EPIDEM 2110 Principles of Epidemiology* 3

ORBIOL 5931 Aging and Oral Health 1

BCHS 2532 Dimensions of Aging, Culture, and Health 2

BCHS 2541 Research Methods on Aging 2

GERON 2000 Directed Study 3

NURNP 2526 Management of Geriatric Health 3

Mental Health (Select 8-9 credits)

GERON 2000 Direct Study	1-3
GERON 2004 Mental Health and Mental Illness in Late Life	3
GERON 2006 Multidisciplinary Aspects of Dementia	3
BCHS 2534 Clinical Aspects of Dementia Care	2

Course Descriptions

Core Requirements

DEN 2111 Gerontology: Perspectives on Aging 3.0

This course will provide the student with an introduction to the aging process in our society. It will examine the aging phenomena by focusing on; life span development, person-environment interaction, optimal quality of life, cross-cultural considerations, how aging is studied, and access to resources in a new age.

BCHS 2532 Dimensions Of Aging, Culture, & Health 2.0

Course provides an overview of the aging experience from a cross-cultural and a public health perspective. The ways in which people cope with and adapt to the aging process is the major theme.

SWBEH 2077 Human Behavior: Adult Development and Aging 3.0

This course is an in-depth human behavior and social environment course focusing on development during the adult years (early and middle age) and on old age. This course offers a framework for understanding adult life stages from a life-span developmental perspective. This includes an examination of developmental tasks, dilemmas, and challenges influenced by a complex environment of cultural, economic, and political forces.

BIOETH 2664 Bioethics 3.0

Course provides a broad survey of major topics and methods in bioethics, including informed consent, treatment refusal, transplantation, resource allocation, genetics, and public health. Additional aging related issues of particular interest include: competence assessment, advance directives, and health disparities.

GERON 2001 Ethics and Aging 3.0

Course offers an introduction to the analysis of ethical issues associated with an aging society and, in particular, the clinical care of older adults. Participants will be able to identify major ethical issues affecting older adults, their caregivers, and society and will be able to engage in the exploration and analysis of those issues using the bioethics frameworks studied and discussed in class.

GERON 2005 Gerontology: Perspectives on Aging 3.0
Course will provide the student with an introduction to the aging process in our society. It will examine the aging phenomena by focusing on life span development, person-environment interaction, optimal quality of life, cross-cultural considerations, how aging is studied, and access to resources in a new age.

ORBIOL 2150 Special Topics: Seminar Series on Aging 1.0
This course provides a student with the opportunity to study independently, and in detail, some aspect of aging in which he or she has a particular interest.

DENTISTRY

ORBIOL 5942 Age Related Changes in the Oral Cavity 3.0
This course identifies the age-related changes that occur in the oral cavity of human and other mammalian species. Structural changes are described in both hard and soft tissues. The functional properties of these affected tissues are considered. The clinical implications of such changes manifested in older age are emphasized. The effect of pharmacological agents, disease states and behavioral modifications associated with aging are considered to demonstrate their potential impact on the tissues of the oral cavity.

ORBIOL 5931 Aging and Oral Health 1.0
This seminar in gerontology features presentations and discussions with geriatric dentistry researchers and practitioners.

DIASCI 5972 Medical & Therapeutic Considerations of Geriatric Dental Patients 1.0
Provides a comprehensive review of oral medicine, dental therapeutics, and general physiologic pharmacology applicable to an older population of dental patients

PROSTH 5918 Clinical Geriatric Dentistry 3.0
This course provides clinical experience in complete denture treatment for nursing home residents.

RESTD 5921 Dental Care for the Geriatric Population 3.0
Course provides clinical experiences to senior dental students in treating the geriatric population in non-traditional settings such as long term care facilities or in the patient's home.

LAW

LAW 5201 Administrative Law

3.0

Administrative Law chiefly comprises the procedural law that regulates how government agencies implement statutory programs, such as those relating to environmental protection, workplace safety regulation, securities regulation, the regulation of collective bargaining, veterans' benefits administration, social security administration, and so on. This course will focus almost entirely on federal constitutional law as applicable to both federal and state agencies, and federal statutory and judge-made law as applied to federal agencies.

LAW 5259 Estate and Gift Tax

3.0

This course primarily involves a study of the unified system of federal gift and estate transfer taxes imposed by Chapters 11 and 12 of the Internal Revenue Code.

LAW 5330 Employee Benefits

3.0

In this course we will examine the federal regulation of private pension plans and other employment-related benefit plans.

LAW 5347 Elderly and the Law

3.0

In this course we will examine the areas related to aging that have particularly impacted on law and public policy, including Social Security, private pensions, Medicare, Medicaid, long-term care financing, guardianship and mental capacity, health care decision making, housing and the abuse and neglect of the elderly.

LAW 5395 Health Law and Policy

3.0

This is a broad survey course of the legal regulation of the health care industry. In general, it examines how concerns by patients, health care providers, and health care payers about cost, quality and access affect the way in which health care is provided. The topics covered are the legal regulation of the quality of health care through mechanisms such as professional licensure, hospital privileges, and institutional licensure; common-law and statutory obligations to provide care; state and federal regulation of insurance and managed care; healthcare fraud and abuse; and healthcare antitrust.

LAW 5865 Elder Law Seminar

3.0

This seminar will examine the legal issues that arise because of the decline and loss of mental capacity among the elderly. We will examine the extent and the causes of the loss of mental capacity, the difficulties that it causes for individuals and their families, and the legal response. We will critique powers of attorney, surrogate decision making and guardianship, as well as other legal responses to mental incapacity.

NURSING

EPIDEM 2980 Biology and Physiology of Aging 1.0
Course objective is to learn current concepts and theories of the biology and physiology of normal human aging, contrasted with disease and disability. Complements EPIDEM 2990, epidemiology of aging

EPIDEM 2900 Epidemiology of Aging 2.0
This course teaches epidemiological methods pertinent to research on aging individuals and the current state of the art knowledge of epidemiology of diseases that primarily affect aging individuals.

NURNP 2526 Management: Geriatric Health 3.0
Focus is on the theories and principles from the sciences central to the delivery of health care to the elderly. Emphasis is on assessment and health promotion, management of common health problems, nutrition and aging, geriatric pharmacology, psychosociology and psychopathology of aging, geriatric health issues.

NUR 1829 Contemporary Issues in Cross-Cultural Healthcare 3.0
Purpose of course is to increase awareness of how delivery and acceptance of health care may be influenced by social, cultural, and environmental factors. It will provide an overview of how these factors influence a person's response to stressors, daily health and living needs. The goal is to help students increase their understanding of culturally congruent care by utilizing cultural concepts, theories, and research. Students will analyze factors that facilitate/hinder communication about health needs, acceptance of the health care regimen, and access to health care systems.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY/REHABILITATION

HRS 2480 Dimensions in Aging: Culture & Health 2.0
Course provides an overview of the aging process from a cross-cultural and a public health perspective. The ways in which people cope with and adapt to the aging process is the major theme.

HRS 2484 Issues in Long-Term Care for the Elderly 3.0
The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the patterns and modes of health care delivery in the long term care setting. Services and delivery systems in nursing homes, home health care, hospices, ambulatory long-term care, rehabilitation and mental health will be introduced and examined. The work of the accrediting, licensing, and certifying agencies will be examined in relation to financial reimbursement, legal and ethical issues, personnel administration, medical record policies and quality of care.

HRS 2501 Functional Assessment 3.0
This course focuses on diagnostic decision making from the perspective of the evidence for the validity and reliability of selected functional assessment instruments. Instruments that focus on the consequences of pathologies at the levels of impairment, activity limitation, and participation restriction will be reviewed.

HRS 2502 Human Performance: Analysis 3.0
This course focuses on diagnostic decision-making from the perspective of diagnostic reasoning and the relative validities of various functional (disability) assessment methodologies: self report, proxy-report, clinical judgment, performance testing.

HRS 2503 Human Performance: Adaptation 3.0
This course focuses on the evidence supporting compensatory occupational therapy interventions, including task and environmental adaptations, job modifications, and assistive technology.

HRS 2594 Specialized Preceptorship: Research 1-6
This course provides experiential learning in coordinating occupational therapy research, including obtaining IRB approval, getting informed consent, participating in data collection, and managing data quality.

PUBLIC HEALTH

EPIDEM 2980 Biology and Physiology of Aging 1.0
Course objective is to learn current concepts and theories of the biology and physiology of normal human aging, contrasted with disease and disability. Complements EPIDEM 2990, epidemiology of aging

EPIDEM 2990 Epidemiology of Aging 2.0
Course teaches epidemiological methods pertinent to research on aging individuals and the current state of the art knowledge of epidemiology of diseases that primarily affect aging individuals.

HDM 2203 Financing & Regulation Long Term Care Services 1.5
This course is designed to provide the student with an overview of the financing and regulation of long term care services. Students will understand the interrelationship between the methods chosen to finance health care services, state regulations about quality & quantity & the structure of long term care that has evolved. Students will understand the role of demonstrations as a method to inform policy makers on how to change LTC policy. Students examine the traditional role of insurance & characteristics of the markets that inhibit growth of insurance programs for LTC.

BCHS 2533 Issues Long Term Care Services 3.0
Long-term care is a system of institutional and community based services for the aging population. Using this framework, services and delivery systems are analyzed for adequacy and appropriateness; system-wide issues identified and discussed; and selected components of the delivery system examined for administrative problems.

BCHS 2534 Clinical Aspects of Dementia Care 2.0
This course is designed as an independent study for students in the public health and aging program. Its focus is on the methods and technology for diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

BCHS 2541 Research Methods on Aging 2.0
This course is designed to familiarize students with methods for conducting research on aging populations. Through lecture, discussion and examples of current research the instructors will provide a basic understanding of the appropriate methods for data collection and the problems and issues related to the conduct of research on older adults. Students are required to have taken some courses in aging, or be familiar with the basic concepts on aging theory and research design.

EPIDEM 2981 Epidemiology of Aging: Methods 2.0
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the methodological aspects of epidemiologic research in the field of aging and geriatrics. The course will examine major epidemiologic cohort studies of aging, clinical trials and nursing home research. The focus of this course will be demography, study, design, sampling, recruitment, and both physical and cognitive assessment.

SOCIAL WORK

SWINT 2004 Death and Dying 3.0
Methods of intervention with the suicidal and terminally ill patient and his family, covering ethical problems related to right to life and right to death issues, explication of Kubler-Ross' five stages of dying, religious orientations to death and dying, and pathological and normal grief reactions.

SWINT 2030 Direct Practice/Interpersonal Skills with the Elderly 3.0
This course defines the range of interpersonal practice with and for the elderly in terms of primary, secondary and tertiary levels of intervention. A broad range of clinical practice roles is addressed in regards to practice across a broad spectrum of settings. All of the established social work practice approaches are looked at in detail for treatment procedures which can be applied to work with the elderly. An eclectic perspective to practice with the elderly is stressed.

SWWEL 2039 Social Policy and Gerontology

3.0

This course is designed to examine the dynamics and procedural steps in social policymaking and implementation first in a general context and then more specifically in relation to the older population. The last half of the course is devoted to the identification of major issues in social policy for the aged and intensive analysis of selected policy decisions.

SWINT 2007 Introduction to Psychopharmacology & Social Work Practice

3.0

This course is designed to familiarize students with the basic terminology and models of pharmacokinetics and the role of social workers in medication management. The development of psychopharmacology from a historical and sociological perspective as well as an overview of neurochemistry and biological-psychological functioning will be addressed. Emphasis will be placed on the development of a range of techniques and strategies in collaboration with clients, families, and other providers in order for social workers to be responsive to the comprehensive needs of their clients.

LAW 5347 Elderly and the Law

3.0

In this course we will examine the areas related to aging that have particularly impacted on law and public policy, including Social Security, private pensions, Medicare, Medicaid, long-term care financing, guardianship and mental capacity, health care decision making, housing and the abuse and neglect of the elderly.

BCHS 2533 Issues Long Term Care Services

3.0

Long-term care is a system of institutional and community based services for the aging population. Using this framework, services and delivery systems are analyzed for adequacy and appropriateness; system-wide issues identified and discussed; and selected components of the delivery system examined for administrative problems.

Multidisciplinary Plan

SWINT 2004 Death and Dying

3.0

Methods of intervention with the suicidal and terminally ill patient and his family, covering ethical problems related to right to life and right to death issues, explication of Kubler-Ross' five stages of dying, religious orientations to death and dying, and pathological and normal grief reactions.

NUR 1829 Contemporary Issues in Cross-Cultural Healthcare

3.0

Purpose of course is to increase awareness of how delivery and acceptance of health care may be influenced by social, cultural, and environmental factors. It will provide an overview of how these factors influence a person's response to stressors, daily health and living needs. The goal is to help students increase their understanding of culturally congruent care by utilizing cultural concepts, theories, and research. Students will analyze factors that facilitate/hinder communication about health needs, acceptance of the health care regimen, and access to health care systems.

SWWEL 2039 Social Policy and Gerontology

3.0

This course is designed to examine the dynamics and procedural steps in social policymaking and implementation first in a general context and then more specifically in relation to the older population. The last half of the course is devoted to the identification of major issues in social policy for the aged and intensive analysis of selected policy decisions.

GERON 2000 Directed Study (prerequisite: all core courses)

3.0

This course is student-initiated educational experience, guided by a faculty member that significantly supplements the core curriculum of the certificate and provides specialized focus training in aging.

GERON 2003 Intergenerational Studies

2.0

This course is an online, interactive experience based on the 13 year success of the generations Together Intergenerational training Institute at the University of Pittsburgh. The course is designed to help develop skills needed for success in the intergenerational field. Students read course materials, do online assignments, and discuss the content with fellow students and instructors. And follow step-by- step procedures to complete the individual units.

PSY 1230 Psychology of Death and Dying

3.0

The purpose of this course is to widen the student's understanding of human death, in its biological, socio-cultural, and primarily, psychological dimensions. We will examine the concept of death, psychological reactions to death and dying, and the process of bereavement. We will also explore selected issues such as suicide and –euthanasia, children's concepts of death, and the question of life after death. It is hoped that with increased knowledge about death and dying, you will be able to look more critically at materials being published in the popular press.

Multidisciplinary: Prevention and Healthy Aging

GERON 2000 Directed Study (prerequisite: all core courses)

3.0

This course is student-initiated educational experience, guided by a faculty member that significantly supplements the core curriculum of the certificate and provides specialized focus training in aging.

GERON 2002 Prevention and Healthy Aging

2.0

Prevention and Healthy Aging is an online course that provides the guidance and rationale for promoting health, prevention, and effective risk factor management in the adult population (50+) in respect to rising health care costs, decreasing benefits, and the aging of our population. This course offers a general overview of various aging issues (physical, cognitive, social, cultural, and economic) that impact the individual, community, and society. This course will prepare students to integrate optimal preventive practice into their professional context and translate evidence-based strategies into community outreach services that are designed to prevent or delay the common conditions of aging and ones that emphasize the importance of healthy behaviors throughout the life span.

EPIDEM 2260 Epidemiological Basis for Disease Control

2.0

This course provides the student with an introduction to the epidemiological basis for designing and evaluating prevention programs in the community, the epidemiological basis of evaluating health services, and analysis of health care and design of community programs.

*EPIDEM 2110 Principles of Epidemiology

3.0

This course reviews the basic concepts of epidemiology including community diagnosis, analytical techniques, and evaluation of preventive methods. Examples of both acute and chronic diseases will be covered. The course includes lectures, readings, homework assignments, and several multiple-choice examinations. Courseweb is utilized. (Three sections are offered, one of which is Web based.)

*EPIDEM 2900 Advanced Epidemiology of Aging

2.0

This course teaches epidemiologic methods pertinent to research on aging individuals and the current state-of-the-art knowledge of epidemiology of diseases that primarily affect aging individuals. Prerequisites: EPIDEM 2181, EPIDEM 2980, and BIOST 2041 or BIOST 2011.

*EPIDEM 2980 Biology and Physiology of Aging

1.0

The course objective is to learn current concepts and theories of the biology and physiology of normal human aging, contrasted with disease and disability. This course complements EPIDEM 2900 Epidemiology of Aging. Prerequisite: EPIDEM 2004 or EPIDEM 2712.

*EPIDEM 2981 Epidemiology of Aging: Methods 2.0
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the methodological aspects of epidemiologic research in the field of aging and geriatrics. The course will examine major epidemiologic cohort studies of aging, clinical trials, and nursing home research. The focus of this course will be demography, study design, sampling, recruitment, and physical and cognitive assessment. During this course, students will be asked to formulate a research question and develop an analysis plan. Part of the credit hours will include a field experience with one of the major studies. Part of this material was previously included in the first part of EPIDEM 2900. Prerequisite: EPIDEM 2110, which may be taken at the same time as this course.

BCHS 2541 Research Methods on Aging 2.0
This course is designed to familiarize students with methods for conducting research on aging populations. Through lecture, discussion, and examples of current research, the instructors will provide a basic understanding of the appropriate methods for data collection and the problems and issues related to the conduct of research on older adults. Students are required to have taken some courses on aging or be familiar with the basic concepts of aging theory and research design.

BCHS 2532 Dimensions of Aging, Culture, and Health 2.0
This course provides an overview of the aging experience from a cross-cultural and a public health perspective. A major theme in this course is to examine the ways in which people cope with and adapt to the aging process.

NURNP 2526 Management of Geriatric Health 2.0
The focus in this class is on the theories and principles from the sciences central to the delivery of health care to the elderly. Emphasis is on assessment and health promotion, management of common health problems, nutrition and aging, geriatric pharmacology, psychosociology and psychopathology of aging, geriatric health issues.

ORBIOL 5931 Aging and Oral Health 1.0
This seminar in gerontology features presentations and discussions with geriatric dentistry researchers and practitioners.

Mental Health

BCHS 2534 Clinical Aspects of Dementia Care 2.0
This course is designed as an independent study for students in the multidisciplinary track. Its focus is on methods and technology for diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's disease

GERON 2000 Directed Study 1-3
A student-initiated educational experience, guided by a faculty member that significantly supplements the core curriculum of the certificate and provides specialized, focused training in aging.

GERON 2004 Mental Health and Mental Illness in Late Life 3.0

This course will review issues in mental health in late life, ranging from normal aging and coping with stress, to the presentation of and treatment of mental illness in late life. The course will be organized as a discussion course requiring regular participation from students to analyze weekly readings and react to guest lectures. This seminar has three main objectives: To introduce students to issues of both mental health and mental illness in late life, to familiarize students with the mental illness affecting older adults, and to engage students in identifying, exploring and analyzing issues related to mental health in late life and both differences and similarities between mid-life and older adults

GERON 2006 Multidisciplinary Aspects of Dementia 3.0

The course is designed to provide students with a general overview of dementia and its subtypes. Students will become familiar with current evidence in the study of dementia from across disciplines including epidemiology, biology, psychology, and sociology. Practical issues surrounding the care of dementia patients from a professional and personal perspective will also be presented. Participation in online group discussions will be required.

Gerontechnology

LIS 2970 Information Resources, Services, & Technology for an Aging World 3.0

This term-long, 3 credit online-only course, will focus on collection development, reference, and education services for older adults, and their professional and family caregivers. The course will cover the critical evaluation of materials in print, non-print, and electronic formats, and a discussion of information services provided by healthcare organizations, community agencies, medical center and hospital libraries, public libraries which serve an aging population, and academic libraries serving students in the helping professions.

REHSCI 3711 Ethnography: Analyzing How Content Affects Technology use 3.0

This course teaches and demonstrates ethnographic methods for understanding the context in which new technology will be deployed. These include fieldwork, passive and active observation, secondary analyses and novel computer-assisted approaches. This class will help students characterize and understand the practices, preferences, and needs of end users, the surrounding environment, and the associated societal factors that will affect technology success. The class will emphasize Quality of Life Technologies for people with disabilities and older adults but the methods learned are applicable to any domain where humans and systems interact.

HRS 2704 Fundamentals of rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology 3.0

This course provides an introduction to multiple areas of assistive technology and rehabilitation engineering. It is a fall term course and a prerequisite for HRS 2705, which is offered in the spring. The course is designed for graduate students to simply learn more about the field of rehabilitation engineering and assistive technology, as well as for those needing a foundation to build upon for more advanced studies in the field.

NURSP 2083 System usability and Evaluation Methods

3.0

In this course, students will apply principles of usability and evaluation theory to informatics projects. Topics include: critical success factors, test plan development and user interface design.

NURSP 2070 Information Technology Project Management

3.0

This course provides the students with the opportunity to gain an understanding of computing applications used in healthcare informatics. Elements covered include information technologies in healthcare settings and an introduction to the principles of project management.

Further Information

For further information about the Gerontology Certificate Program, please contact: Jennifer Bissell, 121 University Place, 624-1019 or at bissell@pitt.edu.