APPLIED GERONTOLOGY, GRADUATE CERTIFICATE (HELEN BADER SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WELFARE, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK)

The Graduate Certificate in Applied Gerontology is an interdisciplinary program designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills they need to successfully pursue careers within aging services organizations, or to conduct academic research in the field of aging. The program focuses on the biological, psychological, social, and policy aspects of aging, and encourages students to link practice and research in order to improve the quality of life of older adults. The GCAG is intended for graduate degree-seeking students in any field, and for degreed professionals looking to advance or refocus their careers. Please contact Jennifer Kahn-Pettigrew, Coordinator for Education and Programming, at 414-229-6888 or kahnpet2@uwm.edu for more information.

**Admission Requirements**

**Application Deadlines**

Application deadlines vary by program, please review the application deadline chart (http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/program-deadlines) for specific programs. Other important dates and deadlines can be found by using the One Stop calendars (https://uwm.edu/onestop/dates-and-deadlines).

**Application**

- Students wishing to obtain this certificate must declare their intention by applying to the program office or director.
- All graduate certificate applicants—even those already enrolled in a UWM graduate program—must apply to the Graduate School through the Panthera Admission Application (https://graduateschool-apply.uwm.edu).
- Graduate degree and previously admitted graduate non-degree students who decide to pursue a certificate program must submit the Panthera application before completing 6 credits in the certificate sequence.
- Applicants must possess a baccalaureate degree and have a minimum 2.75 cumulative undergraduate grade point average to be admitted in to a certificate program.

**Admission**

Applicants must possess a baccalaureate degree and have a minimum 2.75 cumulative undergraduate grade point average to be admitted in to a certificate program.

**Credits and Courses**

Students wishing to earn a Graduate Certificate in Applied Gerontology must complete 18 graduate credit hours. No student may complete all 18 credits within a single school or college.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 760</td>
<td>Processes of Aging</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC WRK 851</td>
<td>Social Issue and Policy Analysis: (with the subtitle “Age and Community: Policy to Practice”)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Choice Core</th>
<th>Select two of the following:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AD LDSP 547</td>
<td>The Educational Dimensions of Practice with Older Adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 680</td>
<td>Psychology of Aging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC WRK 685</td>
<td>Social Gerontology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC WRK 791</td>
<td>Current Topics in Social Work: (Death and Dying – Aging section only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEATRE 699</td>
<td>Independent Study. (Creativity in Health Settings (3 credits))</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Electives**

Select 6 credits

Total Credits: 18

1. Students will work with the Certificate Coordinator to approve the selection 6 credits from the remaining Choice Core classes and additional electives, including a “Practicum” in the student’s home department or area of choice.

**Integrative Portfolio**

Students must complete an Integrative Portfolio as a final project under the guidance of the Certificate Coordinator and an assigned advisor. This Portfolio includes papers/materials from core courses and an introduction and reflective conclusion that integrates the key concepts from the interdisciplinary coursework and identifies potential impact on their future practice in research or aging services.

**Certificate Requirements**

**Transfer Credit**

No more than 20% of the required credits may be taken at an institution other than UWM. These courses are subject to Graduate School transfer policy and must be approved by the director of the certificate program.

**Grade Point Average Requirement**

A minimum cumulative 3.00 grade point average in certificate courses taken at UWM is required.

**Articulation with Degree Programs**

1. Credits and courses required for a certificate may double count toward meeting UWM graduate degree requirements subject to the following restrictions:
   - Degree programs must approve the courses from certificates that can double count toward the degree.
   - All credits taken in completion of certificate requirements may count towards a UWM graduate degree as long as they do not contribute more than 90% of the total credits needed to obtain the degree. (Note: Students in PhD programs must still complete the minimum residency requirements)
   - Certificate courses used toward meeting degree requirements must be completed within the time limit for transfer credit.

2. Courses completed for a degree may be counted toward a subsequent certificate, subject to all certificate policy requirements.
3. A course may count toward no more than one certificate and one degree.
4. Students may not earn a certificate subsequent to a concentration in the same area.

**Time Limit**
Certificate program time limits shall be established as follows:

- 18 or fewer credits/Three years from initial enrollment in the certificate sequence.
- 19 or more credits/Four years from initial enrollment in the certificate sequence.

For certificates that are designed as add-ons to degree programs and are awarded concurrent with the degree, the time limit shall be the same as that of the degree program.