What is the Gerontology Interdisciplinary Minor? The Gerontology Minor provides students with the opportunity to earn an undergraduate or post-baccalaureate minor in gerontology. The Gerontology Minor will also help students develop an understanding of the aging process including the biological, psychological and social aspects of adult development and aging.

Why should I earn a minor in gerontology? The United States Administration on Aging reports that by 2030 one in five individuals will be age 65 years and older. Furthermore, it has been estimated that there will be 70 million older persons, more than twice the number in 1999. Because of the “Graying” of America, qualified and well trained professionals will be greatly needed to support successful aging and older adults.

What career choices do students enrolled in the minor pursue? Students who earn the Gerontology Interdisciplinary Minor in addition to their bachelor’s degree may pursue employment opportunities such as: Adult Educator focusing on continuing education and career development, Dietitian for older adults, Elder Law Advocate, Exercise Physiologist, Geriatric Care Manager, Housing Specialist focusing on the needs of older adults, Long-Term Care Administrator, Occupational, Physical, or Speech Therapist focusing on the needs of older adults, Physician’s Assistant, Geriatric Clinician, Public Relations Specialist, Recreation Therapist/Activities Director in a long-term care facility, and Retirement Counselor. Please note this is not an exhausted list of opportunities. Other career choices may be pursued.

What do gerontology students and alumni say about the program? Enrolled students and alumni find that the program gives graduates many learning and career opportunities. One student stated that she is “able to interact with individuals that have experienced the things [she has/only read about in text books].” Another student, who was hired full-time in a gerontology related position before graduation, states that “the [Gerontology Minor] gave [her] a better understanding of older adults on many different levels. Now that [she has] a job working in long-term care, [she] can see how nutrition, exercise, physical limitations and other factors work together to impact individuals.”

What scholarships are available for gerontology students? Every year the College of Health and Human Sciences awards scholarships to students enrolled in the Gerontology Minor. This opportunity is funded by Columbine Health Systems and is only awarded to students enrolled in the minor and who have taken or are enrolled in AHS 201: Perspectives in Gerontology.

How can students learn more about the Gerontology Interdisciplinary Minor? Students can visit the following website to learn more about the program http://www.hdfs.chhs.colostate.edu/students/undergraduate/gerontology.aspx. Students in the HDFS major are encouraged to set-up an appointment with their HDFS Advisor to discuss the program. Students not in the HDFS major should contact Anne Van Arsdall at anne.van_arsdall@colostate.edu.

7.22.2015
### Program Requirements

Students pursuing an undergraduate Gerontology Interdisciplinary Minor are required to take all of the required courses listed below and 6 to 8 elective credits.

#### Required Courses (15 credits):

- **AHS 201 Perspectives in Gerontology (3 cr.)** (typically offered fall only on campus and summer only online through CSU Online)
- **HDFS 312 Adult Development: Middle Age and Aging (3 cr.)** (typically offered every term on campus and online through CSU Online)
- **HES 444 Successful Aging: Role of Physical Activity (2 cr.)** (Canvas delivery; typically offered fall and summer through RAMweb registration)
- **FSHN 444 Nutrition and Aging (1 cr.)** (Canvas delivery; typically offered fall and spring through RAMweb registration)
- **SOWK 371E Social Gerontology (3 cr.)** (typically offered spring only on campus and summer only online through CSU Online)
- **Practicum or internship (3 cr.)* (typically offered every semester on campus and online through CSU Online)**

*Please note: the practicum or internship placement must directly relate to the field of adulthood and aging. Students are required to complete 144 contact hours over the course of the semester. Please see major advisor for more details, placement advising, and course prefix and number.

#### Elective Courses (6 to 8 credits):

- **HDFS 332 Death, Dying and Grief (3 cr.)** (typically offered fall and summer on campus and every term on online through CSU Online)
- **HDFS 402 Families Studies (3 cr.)** (typically offered every term on campus and online through CSU Online)
- **HDFS 403 Families in the Legal Environment (3 cr.)** (typically offered fall and summer on campus and spring and summer online through CSU Online)
- **MU 241 Introduction to Music Therapy (3 cr.)** (typically offered fall only on campus)
- **OT355 The Disability Experience in Society (2 cr.)** (typically offered fall and spring on campus)
- **PHIL 305C Philosophical Issues: Caring Professions (3 cr.)** (typically offered spring only on campus)
- **PHIL 366 Philosophy of Aging (3 cr.)** (typically offered spring only on campus)
- **PSY 296 Group Study – Psychology of Aging (3 cr.)** (offered every term on campus only)
- **PSY 452 Cognitive Psychology (3 cr.)** (typically offered every term on campus and fall and spring online through CSU Online)
- **PSY 496 Group Study - Psychology of Aging (3 cr.)** (offered every term on campus only)
- **SOWK 371C - Adult Offender (3 cr.)** (offered spring only on campus)
- **Other Electives:** (please discuss with minor advisors)

Note: Some courses may have prerequisites or need written consent of instructor.

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**For more information about the Gerontology Minor:**

- **HDFS students:** schedule an appointment with their HDFS Advisor
- **Students not majoring in HDFS:** schedule an appointment with Anne Van Arsdall
- **Appointment Scheduling:** [http://www.hdfs.chhs.colostate.edu/students/undergraduate/advising.aspx](http://www.hdfs.chhs.colostate.edu/students/undergraduate/advising.aspx)