

MA Program Description

Time Limit for Completion:

Students are expected to complete their Masters degree within 9 semesters or 3 years. A semester extension is available in which to defend the thesis. Further extensions may be available under extenuating circumstances and at the discretion of the Department's Graduate Program Committee.

Concentration Areas: Environment and Aging and Health and Aging

Each concentration deals with specific substantive topics, problems, and issues. The Environment and Aging concentration covers research, planning, design, policy and evaluation of a range of physical environments for older persons. The Health and Aging concentration provides knowledge that can be applied to the study of health status changes and utilization patterns over the life course including critical analysis of healthcare system, and development and evaluation of specific health promotion strategies and programs. Students may, but are not required to declare a concentration. A concentration will consist of at least two courses in one of the two areas.

Supervisor & Supervisory Committee

The Supervisor is the first member of the supervisory committee to be appointed. Students are usually assigned to a supervisor during the admission process; however, changes to faculty, workload and the thesis/capstone project proposal may require a change of supervisor. In addition to the supervisor, there will be two members on the thesis supervisory committee, while one member on the capstone project committee. At the time of the project proposal, the examiner will be identified.

Capstone Project or Thesis

Initially all students are considered to be completing a capstone project. Some students may want to complete a thesis, if they are planning to pursue a doctoral program or if the scope of the capstone project seems to require it. Students who wish to complete a thesis should consult with their supervisor. The factors that determine if a thesis may be undertaken are: ability/performance of the student, faculty, workload and resources, complexity of the research being undertaken.

Components of the MA Program

Students must register for a minimum of 6 FTE (full time equivalent) semesters before they can graduate. The maximum time for completion is 9 FTE semesters or within 3 calendar years of initial enrollment. A semester extension is available. Many of our full-time students have

- VII Approval to Schedule Thesis/Capstone project Defense
- VIII Revision of Thesis/Capstone project in Preparation for Defense
- IX Thesis/Capstone project Defense
- X Final Revisions of Thesis/Capstone project
- XI Submission of Completed Thesis/Capstone project to Library
- XII Convocation

I COURSE WORK (Semesters 1-3)

Course work is generally completed in semesters 1-6. Note that courses are not usually offered during the summer semester. Students are advised to complete 2-3 courses in the first and second semesters. The first summer semester may be used to complete a S U D F W L U S E D R to prepare the thesis/capstone project proposal. Students complete seven courses (or five if you receive approval to complete a thesis rather than a capstone project). The seven courses include one required course (Gero 803) and six electives (or four for thesis students).

Core Methods Course

Completion of one core methods course is required of all students.

GERO 803-4 Analytical Techniques for Gerontological Research (note: it is recommended this course be taken in a st X G H Q W or second semester, depending on the term it is offered)

Elective Courses from Areas of Concentration

Students select remaining courses from the concentration courses, other electives, or from outside the SURJUDP LI DSSURYHG E\ WKH VWXGHQW's supervisor, and may build a concentration in health and aging. A minimum of two courses taken from either stream is considered a concentration. Students are encouraged to take courses from both streams.

Environment and Aging

- GERO 810-4 Community Based Housing for Older People
- GERO 811-4 Institutional Living Environments
- GERO 822-4 Families, Communities and Health
- GERO 830-4 Human Factors, Technology and Safety

Health and Aging

- GERO 802-4 Development and Evaluation of Health Promotion Programs for the Elderly
- GERO 820-4 Principles and Practices of Health Promotion
- GERO 823-4 Mental Health and Illness in Later Life
- GERO 840-4 Special Topics in Gerontology***
- GERO 889-4 Directed Studies***

*** These courses may be used for either concentration

Elective Courses Outside of Concentration

- GERO 804-4 Advanced Qualitative Methods in Gerontology

Thesis Option: The thesis proposal is defended orally. Students should complete the thesis proposal by the end of semester 4.

NOTE: STUDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR THE THESIS TRACK, BUT FAIL TO DEFEND THE THESIS PROPOSAL BY THE END OF THE 5TH TERM WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY MOVED TO THE CAPSTONE PROJECT OPTION.

The template style of the proposal and guideline

EMC /P <</MCID 0.O>>BDC EMC /P <</MCID 03O>>BDC EMC /P <</MCID 04O>>BDC EMC /P <</MCID 05O>>BDC

A full description of the thesis proposal is attached.

IV 3.5.7, & 3.5.8 (REQUIRED) (Semesters 2-3)

Students will contact the graduate secretary after the sixth week of the first semester. They will arrange for a meeting with the program chair and the supervisor to determine if a thesis is required. The students will be asked to bring their current CV or resume and a brief statement about their area of research. The graduate secretary will determine whether the student will be required to complete a full thesis (between 300 and 350 hours or a minimum of 8 weeks of full time work); a partial thesis (number of hours decided by the graduate secretary); or whether they to of 1.561 determine in 5 () 08 Tw- () 5) T incl. 00:



XII CONVOCATION