

GERONTOLOGY, Diploma Program - 0231

Health & Public Service Department

CIP Code: 19.0702

The Gerontology Diploma is designed to develop awareness and competence for those individuals in allied health, social services, activities/recreation, business, and administrative fields who work with the aging population. The course content includes basic principles and issues in gerontology, allied health, social services, mental health, and wellness as well as 20-hours of service learning volunteering. The program is offered entirely through Virtual Learning. Students can complete the program at the Harrisburg Campus by taking some courses through Virtual Learning.

Career Opportunities

This diploma is designed to expand the knowledge and opportunities for employment for those exploring or working in the aging field. Graduates find entry-level employment in settings such as nursing homes, personal care/assisted living communities, home health care, senior centers and hospice care. Additionally, many graduates go on to obtain a Gerontology Certificate or Gerontology AAS degree and/or pursue further study in a number of related areas. (SOC Code: 21-1093 Social and Human Services Assistants)

Link to Occupational profiles on O*NET: <http://www.onetcodeconnector.org/>

Application and admission information: <http://www.hacc.edu/NewStudents/Apply/index.cfm>

Competency Profile

This curriculum is designed to prepare students to:

- Demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills
- Utilize current technologies, tools and applications
- Discuss the basic demographics of aging
- Apply basic principles of gerontology to social and health issues
- Recognize differences between normal aging and disease-related aging
- Summarize physical, mental, social and psychological aspects of aging
- Articulate skills and perspectives necessary to develop an empathetic relationship with an elderly person
- Identify the need for teamwork to provide optimal care for the aging population

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (TOTAL CREDITS = 17)

General Education		Major Requirements		Other Required Courses	
ENGL 101 English Composition I	3	GERT 100 Gerontology Overview	1	PSYC 101 General Psychology	3
		GERT 101 Social Services	1	SOCI 201 Introduction to Sociology	3
		GERT 102 Allied Health	1		6
		GERT 103 Psychosocial Issues	1		
		GERT 104 Service Learning	1		
		Gerontology Elective	3		
			8		

RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS

Fall Semester I

ENGL 101	3
GERT 100	1
GERT 101	1
GERT 102	1
GERT 103	1
GERT 104	1
Gerontology Elective	3
PSYC 101	3
SOCI 201	3

Please see the College's website at <http://www.hacc.edu/ProgramsandCourses/Gerontology-0231.cfm> for the most current Gainful Employment Information.