

**College of Health & Human Services**

Eastern Illinois University  
Klehm Hall – Room 1030  
600 Lincoln Avenue  
Charleston, IL 61920

(217) 581-6025



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**TO:** Council on Academic Affairs  
Council on Graduate Studies

**FROM:** Jeanne Lord, Interim Dean

**SUBJECT:** Executive Action

**DATE:** April 4, 2019

**Effective Date:** Summer 2019

Request to add the accelerated graduate program to the **M.A. in Aging Studies**, as well as to make edits to the catalog copy reflecting the elimination of the on-campus component and already approved course prefix changes (**See attached.**)

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
EXECUTIVE ACTION REQUEST**

**TO:** Jeanne Lord, Interim Dean

**FROM:** Jake Emmett, Acting Chair of the Department of Human  
Services and Community Leadership

**DATE:** April 4, 2018

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Updates to the MA in Aging Studies program in the  
Graduate Catalog.

CURRENT COPY

# Aging Studies

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**Program Mission:** The online Master of Arts in Aging Studies program is designed to provide a multidisciplinary education for future and current professionals in gerontology. We are committed to maintaining the quality and distinction of the program that was exemplified by our recognition as a Program of Merit by the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education. Opportunities are available for students to gain exposure to specialized expertise in gerontological theory, research, practice, social policy issues, and the process of aging in a global and culturally diverse society. This expertise prepares students for a wide range of careers in the field of aging, including direct community and social services, program administration, mental health practice, government services, higher education, long-term care, health and wellness, and entrepreneurship.

**Admission Requirements:** To be eligible for degree candidacy, applicants must meet all of the requirements for admission to the Graduate School (see “[Admission to Graduate Degree and Certificate Programs](#)”).

**Degree Audit:** The graduate plan of study is the EIU Degree Audit, which is generated automatically in the Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS) at the time of degree or certificate candidacy. Modifications of the standard EIU Degree Audit are submitted by the graduate coordinator to the certification officer in the Graduate School at the time modifications are approved. The Degree Audit serves as an unofficial summary of requirements for the program. Degree and certificate candidates are advised to review the comprehensive summary of the Degree Audit process specified on the “Requirements for All Degree and Certificate Candidates” section of the Graduate Catalog. Individual programs may require candidates to submit plans of study in addition to the Degree Audit, candidates should consult with the program coordinator.

## Degree Requirements

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Degree requirements include those outlined for the master’s degree by the Graduate School (see “[Requirements for the Master’s Degree](#)”).

The courses for the degree must total 33 semester hours.

**Required Courses:** 27 credits hours

[EDF 5590 - Educational Response to Third Age Learning](#) Credits: 3

[KSS 5225 - Physical Activity and Aging](#) Credits: 3

[PSY 5540 - Psychological Processes in the Aged](#) Credits: 3

[FCS 5400 - Aging Policy in Action](#) Credits: 3

[CMN 5155 - Communication and Aging](#) Credits: 3

[HST 4890 - Health and Aging](#) Credits: 3

[FCS 5100 - Societal Theories of Aging](#) Credits: 3

[FCS 5900 - Research Methods in Family and Consumer Sciences](#) Credits: 3

[FCS 5985 - Aging Studies Internship](#) Credits: 3

OR

[FCS 5950 - Thesis](#) Credits: 3 to 6

OR

[FCS 5990 - Independent Study](#) Credits: 1 to 6

# Elective Courses

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Select 6 credit hours

[BIO 4834 - Neurobiology](#) Credits: 3

[FCS 4820 - Death and Dying](#) Credits: 3

[FCS 4846 - Aging and the Family](#) Credits: 3

[FCS 5151 - Nutrition and the Older Person](#) Credits: 1

[FCS 5450 - Administration and Supervision in Family and Consumer Sciences](#) Credits: 3

[FCS 5470 - Evaluation in Family and Consumer Sciences](#) Credits: 3

[FCS 5846 - Public Policy and Grant Writing](#) Credits: 3

[HST 5600 - Essentials of International Health](#) Credits: 3

[HST 5750 - Health Program Planning and Evaluation](#) Credits: 3

[HST 5770 - Leadership and Ethics for Health Professionals](#) Credits: 3

[PLS 4793 - Civic and Nonprofit Leadership](#) Credits: 3

[PLS 4873 - Human Resource Management in Public and Nonprofit Organizations](#) Credits: 3

[PLS 4893 - Budgeting in Government and Nonprofit Organizations](#) Credits: 3

## Online and On-Campus Components

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The entire graduate degree program can be completed in the form of online courses to fulfill the required total of 33 credit hours. All required courses are offered online on a regular basis. A limited number of courses are also available in the face-to-face, on-campus format.

During each summer term, students will be invited to campus for a one-day informational meeting. Included in this in-person component will be a student orientation, explanation of academic courses/curriculum, advisement for courses and progression in the degree program, a tutorial on technology for online course navigation, a library orientation, and a description of the independent study/internship/thesis options.

In the final semester of the program, students will deliver a written report and presentations based on their completed independent study/internship/thesis work. The professional capstone experience will demonstrate comprehensive mastery of subject matter from Aging Studies coursework and application of course content knowledge to the culminating independent study/internship/thesis. Written reports will be submitted online and presentations will be delivered online or in person, as agreed upon by the Graduate Coordinator/academic adviser and the student.

## Graduate Assistantships

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Applications for graduate assistantships in Aging Studies are located

at <https://www.eiu.edu/graduate/GAapplication/GAappl.php>

For more information, please contact Dr. Kathleen O'Rourke, the Aging Studies Graduate Coordinator, at [kaorourke@eiu.edu](mailto:kaorourke@eiu.edu) or the Chair of the School of Family and Consumer Sciences in Klehm Hall.

REVISED COPY

# Aging Studies

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**Program Mission:** The online Master of Arts in Aging Studies program is designed to provide a multidisciplinary education for future and current professionals in gerontology. ~~We are committed to maintaining the quality and distinction of the program that was exemplified by our recognition as a Program of Merit by the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education.~~ Opportunities are available for students to gain exposure to specialized expertise in gerontological theory, research, practice, social policy issues, and the process of aging in a global and culturally diverse society. This expertise prepares students for a wide range of careers in the field of aging, including direct community and social services, program administration, mental health practice, government services, higher education, long-term care, health and wellness, and entrepreneurship.

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**Required Courses:** 27 credits hours

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~~KSSR~~ [5225 - Physical Activity and Aging](#) Credits: 3

[PSY 5540 - Psychological Processes in the Aged](#) Credits: 3

~~FGSHSL~~ [5400 - Aging Policy in Action](#) Credits: 3

[CMN 5155 - Communication and Aging](#) Credits: 3

[HST 4890 - Health and Aging](#). Credits: 3

~~FGSHSL~~ [5100 - Societal Theories of Aging](#) Credits: 3

~~FGSHSL~~ [5900 - Research Methods in Family and Consumer Sciences](#). Credits: 3

[FCS 5985 - Aging Studies Internship](#) Credits: 3

OR

~~FGSHSL~~ [5950 - Thesis](#) Credits: 3 to 6

OR

~~FGSHSL~~ [5990 - Independent Study](#). Credits: 1 to 6

# Elective Courses

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Select 6 credit hours

[BIO 4834 - Neurobiology](#) Credits: 3

[FCSHSL 4820 - Death and Dying](#) Credits: 3

[FCSHSL 4846 - Aging and the Family](#) Credits: 3

[FCSHSL 5151 - Nutrition and the Older Person](#) Credits: 1

[FCSHSL 5450 - Administration and Supervision in Family and Consumer Sciences](#) Credits: 3

[FCSHSL 5470 - Evaluation in Family and Consumer Sciences](#) Credits: 3

[FCSHSL 5846 - Public Policy and Grant Writing](#) Credits: 3

[HSTPR 5600 - Essentials of International Health](#) Credits: 3

[HSTPR 5750 - Health Program Planning and Evaluation](#) Credits: 3

[HSTPR 5770 - Leadership and Ethics for Health Professionals](#) Credits: 3

[PLS 4793 - Civic and Nonprofit Leadership](#) Credits: 3

[PLS 4873 - Human Resource Management in Public and Nonprofit Organizations](#) Credits: 3

[PLS 4893 - Budgeting in Government and Nonprofit Organizations](#) Credits: 3

## Online ~~and On-Campus Components~~ Format

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~~During each summer term, students will be invited to campus for a one-day informational meeting. Included in this in-person component will be a student orientation, explanation of academic courses/curriculum, advisement for courses and progression in the degree program, a tutorial on technology for online course navigation, a library orientation, and a description of the independent study/internship/thesis options.~~

~~In the final semester of the program, students will deliver a written report and presentations based on their completed independent study/internship/thesis work. The professional capstone experience will demonstrate comprehensive mastery of subject matter from Aging Studies coursework and application of course content knowledge to the culminating independent study/internship/thesis. Written reports will be submitted online and presentations will be delivered online or in person, as agreed upon by the Graduate Coordinator/academic adviser and the student.~~

## Accelerated Graduate Program

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Admission to the accelerated graduate program for the MA in Aging Studies requires that a student have completed a minimum of 60 hours of undergraduate course credit, have a minimum undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.25, and have completed a minimum of 15 hours in their respective undergraduate major.

To apply for the accelerated MA in Aging Studies, applicants meeting the above requirements must meet the criteria for admission to the MA in Aging Studies graduate program, complete the MA in Aging Studies [Program Application](#), and complete the Graduate School's Accelerated [Program Application](#).

# Shared Coursework for Accelerated Graduate Program

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Students may select up to three of the following courses to count toward their respective undergraduate degree and the MA in Aging Studies graduate degree.

Shared Credit Course Options in Aging Studies - A maximum of 9 credit hours total from:

- EDF 5590 - Educational Response to Third Age Learning. Credits: 3
- HPR 4890 - Health and Aging. Credits: 3
- HSL 5100 - Societal Theories of Aging. Credits: 3
- HSL 5900 - Research Methods in Family and Consumer Sciences. Credits: 3
- KSR 5225 - Physical Activity and Aging. Credits: 3
- PSY 5540 - Psychological Processes in the Aged. Credits: 3

Students may select a maximum of two courses from the following:

- BIO 4833 or BIO 5433 - Neurobiology of the Diseases. Credits: 3
- BIO 4834 or BIO 5434 - Neurobiology. Credits: 3
- BIO 4835 or BIO 5435 - Advanced Neurobiology. Credits: 3
- HCM 4910 - Applied Health Communication. Credits: 3
- HPR 4770 - Health Services Administration. Credits: 3
- HPR 5700 - Theories and Principles of Health Behavior. Credits: 3
- HPR 5750 - Health Program Planning and Evaluation. Credits: 3
- HPR 5770 - Leadership and Ethics for Health Professionals. Credits: 3
- HSL 4820 - Death and Dying. Credits: 3
- HSL 4846 - Aging and the Family. Credits: 3
- PLS 4793 - Civic and Nonprofit Leadership. Credits: 3
- PLS 4873 - Human Resource Management in Public and Nonprofit Organizations. Credits: 3
- PLS 4893 - Budgeting in Government and Nonprofit Organizations. Credits: 3

## Graduate Assistantships

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Graduate assistantships are offered in every graduate program as well as non-academic units such as Housing and Dining. Assistantships provide a monthly stipend in exchange for duties performed in research, teaching and service, as well as a tuition waiver scholarship. The scholarship waives tuition only, not fees. Students interested in a Graduate Assistantship must complete an [Online Application](#).

## Contact Information

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For more information about the MA in Aging Studies, the Accelerated Graduate Program, or Graduate Assistantships, please contact Dr. Kathleen O'Rourke, Aging Studies Graduate Coordinator, at [kaorourke@eiu.edu](mailto:kaorourke@eiu.edu) or the Chair of the ~~School of Family and Consumer Sciences~~ Department of Human Services and Community Leadership in Klehm Hall.