



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

Gerontology Program Guide



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO
COLLEGE of INNOVATION and PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

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Table of Contents

DEGREE OPTIONS

MA Gerontology

- 1 Program Overview
- 1 Admission Requirements
- 2 Core Courses

Doctoral Programs in Gerontology

- 3 Program Overview
- 3 Admission Requirements
- 4 PhD Leadership - Gerontology
- 6 EdD Leadership - Gerontology

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 7 Frequently Asked Questions
- 9 Faculty

“I selected Concordia University Chicago specifically for their online Gerontology program. It has allowed me flexibility in my professional work with elders and my family obligations, while pursuing this degree.”

Michelle Olson

PhD Leadership in Gerontology

Future Students,

Sometimes the hardest part of pursuing a degree is getting started. Deciding on which university to attend is challenging, but the application process does not have to be. An enrollment specialist is here to answer any questions that you have along the way. This includes anything from general questions about our programs to how to register for classes.

Please reach out to an enrollment specialist once you have had time to browse through this program guide and check out our website. It is our goal to help you get started in the Gerontology program that works best for your needs. Feel free to email any questions to contact@cuchicago.relearnit.org or call an enrollment advisor at 708-888-2031.

Thank you for considering an online degree from Concordia University Chicago!

Best Wishes,

Camille Blake
Enrollment Specialist
(708) 880-2031



Master of Arts Gerontology

Program Overview

The MA in Gerontology program at Concordia University Chicago positions graduates to promote and contribute to the wellness of our aging population. It prepares graduates to work in a variety of aging-related careers. Additionally, this course of study allows for a tailor-made curriculum combining an integrated perspective on aging and older adults. Students are trained in the best practices of gerontological education, research, and practice.

The master of arts in Gerontology from Concordia University Chicago is designed to provide an interdisciplinary course of study for individuals interested in meeting the needs of an aging world and improving the lives of older adults.

The world's population is aging and the number of older adults is increasing. This demographic reality suggests that there will be a demand for individuals skilled in addressing the unique opportunities and challenges associated with aging.

Admission Requirements

Bachelor's Degree

A conferred bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or an equivalent non-U.S. degree.

Full Admission

To be considered for Full Admission, candidates will present a cumulative grade point average above 2.85 or will have earned a master's degree with a 3.0 GPA or higher.

Provisional Admission

To be considered for Provisional Admission, candidates will present credentials that generally satisfy full admission requirements, but need to satisfy additional admission requirements such as special program prerequisites. All admission requirements must be satisfied by the end of the candidate's first semester of enrollment to continue in the program. Provisional Admission is only available to US residents and citizens.

Probationary Admission

To be considered for Probationary Admission, one or more of the following special conditions may exist: 1) a cumulative GPA between 2.25 and 2.84 (on a 4.0 scale); 2) holding a master's degree with a cumulative GPA below 3.0; and/or 3) credentials/documents that raise cause for reservation for admission. Students admitted on probationary status must earn a 3.0 GPA in graduate course work within their first semester of enrollment to continue in the program.



Required Coursework

33 Credit Hours

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
RES 6620	Introduction to Research	3
GERO 6000	Perspectives in Gerontology	3
GERO 6045	Aging, Values, Attitudes, and Ethics	3
GERO 6050	Adult Development and Aging	3
GERO 6160	Sociology of Aging	3
GERO 6495	Program Management in Aging	3
GERO 6500	Public Policies and Aging	3
GERO 6510	Diversity in Aging	3
GERO 6750	Advanced Topics in Gerontology	3
GERO 6900	Seminar in Gerontology (includes capstone experience)	3
GERO 6980	Practicum in Gerontology (240 hours in the field)	3

“This program and the support I have received in this program, has truly challenged me and prepared me to be a leader in the field of aging and as a social scientist.”

Michelle Olson

PhD Leadership - Gerontology





Master's Certificate Gerontology

Program Overview

The Gerontology certificate program addresses the need of health care professionals as well as professionals in other fields to be prepared to serve the unique needs of an aging population.

Required Coursework

18 Credit Hours

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
GERO 6000	Perspectives in Gerontology	3
GERO 6500	Public Policies and Aging	3
GERO 6510	Diversity in Aging	3
GERO 6750	Advanced Topics in Gerontology	3
GERO 6495	Program Management in Aging	3
GERO 6980	Practicum in Gerontology	3

Doctoral Programs in Gerontology

Program Overview

The doctoral program in leadership with a specialization in Gerontology provides a multidisciplinary framework from which to respond to existing age-related questions, and intensive, in-depth training for those who want unique preparation for leadership roles for addressing issues related to aging. The doctoral candidate's knowledge base of research methods and theoretical perspectives encompasses various social and basic science disciplines rather than relying on a single disciplinary approach to aging and leadership.

This doctoral program in leadership and Gerontology produces highly qualified and trained social scientists that have training in research methodology and its application in an aging society. [Source: AGHE Standards and Guidelines for Gerontology and Geriatric Programs, 2008]

The longevity revolution and growing numbers of people associated with an aging population is creating the need for advanced multidisciplinary study in Gerontology. This doctoral program in Gerontology reflects the need for expanding the knowledge base in the field and training in the profession.



Admission Requirements

Master's Degree

Master's Degree in Human Services or related field with a minimum of 3.0 GPA on 4.0 scale.

GRE or MAT

Graduate Record Exam (GRE) or Millers Analogy Test (MAT) - there is no minimum score requirement; however, the score is evaluated by the program coordinator during the application process. GRE or MAT must be taken within the past three years.

Required Documentation

Application for Admission

Writing Sample

Resume/Curriculum Vitae

Objective Statement

Transcripts from each Institution through which a Degree was Earned

Two Letters of Recommendation

PhD Leadership - Gerontology

The PhD program in leadership with a specialization in Gerontology provides a multidisciplinary framework from which to respond to existing age-related questions, and intensive, in-depth training for those who want unique preparation for leadership roles for addressing issues related to aging. The doctoral candidate's knowledge base of research methods and theoretical perspectives encompasses various social and basic science disciplines rather than relying on a single disciplinary approach to aging and leadership.

Core Courses: 30 Credit Hours

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
GERO 7000	Gerontological Theory	3
GERO 7560	Sociocultural Aspects of Aging	3
GERO 7820	Leadership, Applied Ethics, Aging & Global Change	3
GERO 7505	The Psychological Aspects of Aging	3
GERO 7800	Demography and Epidemiology of Aging	3
GERO 7805	Issues in Aging Policy	3
GERO 7500	The Physiology of Aging	3
GERO 7900	Diversity in Aging Societies	3
GERO 7810	Foundations of Teaching and Learning in Gerontology	3
GERO 7905	Professional Seminar in Gerontology	3

Leadership Courses: 12 Credit Hours

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
EDL 7120	Research-Based Decision Making	3
EDL 7140	Organizational Change	3
EDL 7211	Policy Analysis (non-K12)	3
FPR 7011	Philosophical and Theoretical Foundations of Leadership	3

Research Courses: 16 Credit Hours

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
RES 7900	Research Design	4
RES 7605	Quantitative Analysis	3
RES 7700	Qualitative Research	3
RES 7800	Mixed Methods Research	3
Choose 1 of the following courses		
RES 7710	Advanced Topics in Qualitative Analysis	3
RES 7620	Advanced Topics in Statistics	3



PhD Leadership - continued

Dissertation/Comprehensive Exam: 10 (minimum of 9 dissertation hours) Credit Hours

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
COMP 7000	Comprehensive Exam	
DISS 7010	Dissertation	3
DISS 7020	Dissertation	3
DISS 7030	Dissertation	3
DISS 8000	Dissertation Supervision	



EdD Leadership - Gerontology

The EdD program in leadership with a specialization in Gerontology provides a multidisciplinary framework from which to respond to existing age-related questions, and intensive, in-depth training for those who want unique preparation for leadership roles for addressing issues related to aging. The doctoral candidate's knowledge base of research methods and theoretical perspectives encompasses various social and basic science disciplines rather than relying on a single disciplinary approach to aging and leadership.

Core Courses: 30 Credit Hours

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
GERO 7000	Gerontological Theory	3
GERO 7560	Sociocultural Aspects of Aging	3
GERO 7820	Leadership, Applied Ethics, Aging, and Global Change	3
GERO 7505	The Psychological Aspects of Aging	3
GERO 7800	Demography and Epidemiology of Aging	3
GERO 7805	Issues in Aging Policy	3
GERO 7500	Physiology of Aging	3
GERO 7900	Diversity in Aging Societies	3
GERO 7810	Foundations of Teaching and Learning in Gerontology	3
GERO 7905	Professional Seminar in Gerontology	3

Leadership Courses: 12 Credit Hours

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
EDL 7120	Research-Based Decision Making	3
EDL 7140	Organizational Change	3
EDL 7211	Policy Analysis (non-K12)	3
FPR 7011	Philosophical and Theoretical Foundations of Leadership	3

Research Courses: 10 Credit Hours

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
RES 7605	Quantitative Analysis	3
RES 7700	Qualitative Research	3
RES 7900	Research Design	4

Dissertation/Comprehensive Exam: 10 (minimum of 9 dissertation hours) Credit Hours

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
COMP 7000	Comprehensive Exam	
DISS 7010	Dissertation	3
DISS 7020	Dissertation	3
DISS 7030	Dissertation	3
DISS 8000	Dissertation Supervision	



Frequently Asked Questions

Q What is the dissertation like in the doctoral programs?

A The dissertation process is the same as that of a traditional program. You will have a dissertation committee, IRB process, and defense. Your research will likely be conducted in a location that is most convenient for you. These details are agreed upon with your dissertation chair. Your project must undergo IRB scrutiny and approval.

Dissertation chairs are not assigned. The students play an integral role in the recruitment of their dissertation chair. If you have a research interest that aligns with current faculty, and the faculty member agrees, you can work with one of the current faculty OR we may hire a faculty member to chair your committee.

Q What careers will I be able to pursue with these programs?

A Education enhances your previous and current knowledge in an area of expertise. While jobs don't become automatically available when a student receives a degree, the student does become more qualified and, therefore, more hireable for a position.

Also Note: Upon completion of doctoral programs, our students often go into various leadership and/or research roles such as teaching at the collegiate level.

Q Do I ever have to come to campus?

A Our programs are done 100% online. We will never require that you come to our campus.

Q How much does my program cost?

A Master's & Graduate Certificate Programs have a tuition rate of \$510 per credit hour, which is guaranteed not to increase once you begin your studies. A \$15 technology fee is assessed to each credit hour as well. Therefore, the total cost per credit hour is \$525. To find the cost of your program, multiply \$525 by the number of credit hours required.

Doctoral Programs have a tuition rate of \$711 per credit hour, which is guaranteed not to increase once you begin your studies. A \$15 technology fee is assessed to each credit hour as well. Therefore, the total cost per credit hour is \$726. To find the cost of your program, multiply \$726 by the number of credit hours required.

Q What is the Tuition Guarantee?

A CU Chicago's tuition guarantee program is an important way we help keep tuition affordable and predictable, so you know what the total cost of your education will be. As long as there are no interruptions in your course of study, we guarantee your tuition will remain the same and never increase while earning your degree.

Q Can I transfer any credits into my program?

A Concordia University Chicago understands the importance of being able to apply classes you have taken in the past to the program you are pursuing with us. Because of this, we allow up to 50% of our required classes to be transferred in from other accredited universities. To find out if your classes are transferable, please ask for qualifications.

Q Does CUC offer military tuition assistance?

A Multiple financial programs are available to assist veterans and their dependents in achieving a college education. The Post-9/11 GI Bill provides educational assistance to individuals who served on active duty on or after September 11, 2001. One such program under The Post-9/11 GI Bill is the Yellow Ribbon program, in which Concordia-Chicago is a participating institution.



Frequently Asked Questions, *continued*

When can I start my studies with CUC?

- Q** Our online programs offer rolling admission. This means that you can apply for Spring, Summer, or Fall semesters. You may start
- A** classes as soon as every 8 weeks. There are two start terms per semester.

Q Is tuition different for out-of-state or international students?

- A** We offer the same affordable tuition to all of our online students, regardless of location.

Q What application materials will I need to submit after completing the online application?

- A Bachelor's students** will need to submit their current resume and all official college transcripts.

Master's students will need to submit two letters of recommendation, an objective statement, and transcripts.

Doctoral students will need to submit two letters of recommendation, an objective statement, transcripts, CV or resume, a writing sample, and GRE or MAT test scores from the last three years.

International students will need to provide TOEFL scores if English is not their first language. Any transcripts from a country from outside the U.S. will need to have a course-by-course evaluation done by WES or ECE.

Q What is the class structure like?

- A**
- Students typically take one course in the first 8 weeks, then another in the second 8 weeks.
 - Students may opt to take more than one class at a time.
 - Each course is asynchronous, meaning you do not have to log on at a set time to complete your coursework. However, there are weekly assignment deadlines.
 - Each course requires about 8-10 hours of study time per week.
 - Each course is offered every semester, but some are only available in the first or second 8 weeks..



Faculty

Julie Bates, MSG

MS, Gerontology, Oklahoma State

BA, Recreation Therapy, California State University

Kathy Bonnar, EdD

EdD, Adult Education

MA, Counseling and Guidance

BA, History Education

Mary Frances De Rose, MA

Master of Architecture and Urban Design

John K. Holton, PhD

PhD, The Pennsylvania State University

MEd, University of Harfort

BA, Howard University

Mixon Ware, PhD

PhD, Human Development & Family Studies, University of Tennessee Knoxville

Graduate Certificate in Gerontology, Florida International University

MS, Adult Education, Florida International University

MLA, Liberal Arts, Southern Methodist University

BFA, Art History, Southern Methodist University

M. Bennett Wolfe, Sr, MA

Doctoral Candidate, Gerontology, Concordia University Chicago

MA, Masters of Social Work, The University of Chicago

Graduate of Health Administration Certificate, The University of Chicago

BA, Roosevelt University