



Wayne
County
Community
College
District

Gerontology

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Gerontology College Certificate program is designed to prepare students for direct service occupations in the care of seniors. Students are trained for positions in counseling, case management, and program administration. The job opportunities are available in diverse locations, such as housing complexes, nursing and congregate care facilities, adult day care centers, and mental health agencies. The program explores the normal processes of aging and related social, legal and economic issues.



WHAT DO THE WORKERS WHO SERVE THE GERONTOLOGY COMMUNITY DO?

Social and human service assistants help people get through difficult times or get additional support. They help other workers, such as social workers, and they help clients find benefits or community services. With the elderly, workers help clients stay in their own homes and under their own care whenever possible. They coordinate meal deliveries or find personal care aides to help older people with day-to-day needs, such as doing errands or bathing. In some cases, human service workers help look for residential care facilities, such as nursing homes.

WHERE DO THEY WORK?

Social and human service assistants work for nonprofit organizations, for-profit social service agencies, and state and local governments. They generally work full-time, and some work nights and weekends.

PAY

The median annual wage for social and human service assistants was \$33,120 in May 2017.

JOB OUTLOOK

Employment of social and human service assistants is projected to grow 16 percent from 2016 to 2026, much faster than the average for all occupations.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, April 2018, Social and Human Service Assistants, on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/community-and-social-service/social-and-human-service-assistants.htm>



Recommended Sequence of Courses

Gerontology: College Certificate

CR. No.	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
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SEMESTER 1

GER 110	Introduction to the Study of Aging	3
GER 115	Program/Services to the Aged	3
HUS 135	Professionalism in Human Services	3
BUS 225	Computer Applications in Business	3

SEMESTER TOTAL12

SEMESTER 2

GER 120	Health and Physical Processes of Aging	3
SW 105	Field Instruction I	4
SW 108	Case Documentation	2

SEMESTER TOTAL9

SEMESTER 3

GER 125	Mental Health and Aging	3
SW 106	Field Practicum II	4
SW 110	Case Management and Service Care Navigation	3

SEMESTER TOTAL10

CERTIFICATE TOTAL31

Note: Certificate total hours may not include prerequisites.

