

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN GERONTOLOGY

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Quinnipiac is one of the few universities to offer an undergraduate major that addresses one of the growing realities in our society: the rise in the number of older Americans. Every aspect of our society is affected by the rapidly growing number of people over age 65. Gerontology prepares students to have careers that can address these societal changes. Jobs related to gerontology are among the fastest growing in the U.S. right now, and can be found in a range of professions, from health and business to policy and social programs. Nearly every profession entails working with clients over 65. Our curriculum is unique in that it provides students with a broad understanding of the various issues older individuals and their families face in later life: how our families and social networks changes as we age, the effects of aging on our minds and bodies, and which social programs and policies exist to help older people and families. Because the effects of an aging population are so far-reaching, the program is interdisciplinary, including courses from sociology, psychology, biology, health sciences, philosophy and law.

Gerontology majors also complete two semester-long internships in public or private agencies involved directly with the elderly, such as senior centers, retirement complexes, hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, community aging services, case management agencies and nursing homes. Students are prepared to continue their education or assume careers in aging-related areas such as social work, law, public health, medicine, health administration and public policy.

Students majoring in gerontology must meet the following requirements for graduation:

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|---|------------|
| University Curriculum ¹ | | 46 |
| Modern Language Requirement | | 3-6 |
| Gerontology Core Requirements | | |
| SO 101 | Introduction to Sociology ² | 3 |
| PS 101 | Introduction to Psychology ² | 3 |
| GT 205 | From College to Career | 1 |
| GT 263 | Aging in Society | 3 |
| PS 234 | Adult Development & Aging | 3 |
| GT 290 | Research Methods | 3 |
| BMS 200 | Biomedical Basis and Experience of Human Aging ² | 3 |
| GT 382 | Studying Social Issues with Statistics | 3 |
| GT 400 | Senior Seminar | 3 |
| Two internships in the community: | | |
| GT 392 | Internship in the Community | 3 |
| GT 394 | Advanced Internship in the Community | 3 |
| Select two of the following: | | 6 |
| GT 202 | Gender and Aging | |
| GT 220 | Special Topics in Gerontology | |
| SO 241 | Sociology of Race and Ethnicity ² | |

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|------------------------------|---|----------------|
| SO 244 | Race, Gender and Class: Social Inequalities | |
| SO 255 | Sociology of Families ² | |
| SO 266 | Population and Society ² | |
| SO 280 | Sociology of Health and Illness ² | |
| SO 305 | Sociology of Death and Dying | |
| SO 360 | Sociology of Mental Health | |
| PL 368 | Philosophy of Death and Dying | |
| PS 325 | Health Psychology | |
| HSC 220 | Health Care Essentials: Structure, Policy and Professionalism | |
| HSC 262 | Nutrition in Health and Illness | |
| Select two of the following: | | 6 |
| GT 211 | Introduction to Social Work | |
| SO 265 | Work, Careers, and You, Sociology of Work | |
| GT 270 | Community Program Development | |
| GT 300 | Special Topics in Gerontology | |
| GT 315 | Social Work Case Management | |
| GT 365 | Aging and Social Problems | |
| LE 322 | Health Care Law | |
| Free Electives | | 13-16 |
| Total Credits | | 105-111 |

1

All students must complete the University Curriculum (<http://catalog.qu.edu/academics/university-curriculum/>) requirements.

2

These courses also satisfy University Curriculum requirements.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, students will demonstrate the following competencies:

- Diversity Awareness:** Students learn to identify the perspectives of diverse groups among the older population and the effect of group membership on the aging processes and later life experiences.
- Social Scientific Literacy:** Students learn the logic of research methodology and be able to understand and critique the results of scientific research generated by scholars in the discipline.
- Critical Thinking:** Students apply interdisciplinary theories and concepts to interpret various social phenomena and scholarship from multiple perspectives through clear oral and written articulation.
- Critical Understanding of Aging Society:** Students are able to discuss the theories, critical concepts and ideas that form the basis of gerontology's interdisciplinary knowledge and will understand how social structure affects the distribution of cultural and material resources among older Americans as well as how it shapes the aging experience.

Admission Requirements: College of Arts and Sciences

The requirements for admission into the undergraduate College of Arts and Sciences programs are the same as those for admission to Quinnipiac University.

Admission to the university is competitive, and applicants are expected to present a strong college prep program in high school. Prospective first-year students are strongly encouraged to file an application as early in the senior year as possible, and arrange to have first quarter grades sent from their high school counselor as soon as they are available.

For detailed admission requirements, including required documents, please visit the Admissions (<http://catalog.qu.edu/general-information/admissions/>) page of this catalog.