BACHELOR OF ARTS IN GERONTOLOGY

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Quinnipiac is one of the few universities to offer an undergraduate major that anticipates one of the growing realities in our society: the rise in the number of older Americans. Every aspect of our society will be 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 based on interdisciplinary studies, including courses from sociology, psychology, biology, 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.

Gerontology Curriculum

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University Curriculum</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum</td>
<td>21-24</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Gerontology Core Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SO 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PS 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GT 205</td>
<td>From College to Career (SO/CJ 205)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GT 263</td>
<td>Sociology of Aging (SO 263)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PS 234</td>
<td>Adult Development &amp; Aging (GT 234)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GT 290</td>
<td>Research Methods (SO 290)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMS 200</td>
<td>Biomedical Basis and Experience of Human Aging</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GT 382</td>
<td>Studying Social Issues with Statistics (SO 382)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GT 400</td>
<td>Senior Seminar (SO 400)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Two internships in the community:</td>
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<tr>
<td>GT 392</td>
<td>Internship in the Community (SO 392)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GT 394</td>
<td>Advanced Internship in the Community</td>
<td>3</td>
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Select two of the following: 6

- SO 241 Sociology of Race and Ethnicity
- SO 244 Race, Class and Gender: The Invisible Ladder: Social Inequalities
- SO 255 Sociology of Families (WS 255)
- SO 264 Power and Social Institutions
- SO 266 Population and Society
- SO 280 Sociology of Health and Illness
- SO 305 Sociology of Death and Dying (GT 305)
- PL 368 Philosophy of Death and Dying
- PS 325 Health Psychology
- Any PT or OT course

Select two of the following: 6

- GT 270 Community Program Development (SO 270)
- GT 290 Case Management (SO 290)
- GT 311 Introduction to Social Work (SO 311)
- GT 315 Case Management (SO 315)

Free Electives 10-13

Total Credits 120-126

1. All students must complete the University Curriculum (http://catalog.qu.edu/academics/university-curriculum/) requirements.
2. Students must complete the College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum (http://catalog.qu.edu/arts-sciences/cas-curriculum/) requirements specific to their major. See details below.
3. These courses also satisfy University Curriculum requirements.

College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum

The College of Arts and Sciences offers bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees. Students earning either degree must complete one foreign language through the 102-level, and all students are encouraged to pursue a balanced program of study.

In addition, students earning a bachelor of arts degree must fulfill separate requirements for breadth and depth of study.

For the breadth requirement, students must complete at least 3 credits in each of the four CAS disciplinary areas other than the area of the student’s major. These areas are fine arts, humanities, natural sciences and social sciences. A course taken to fulfill the CAS breadth requirement may not also be used to fulfill a UC requirement.

For the depth requirement, students must complete at least 9 credits within a single subject area other than that of the major. (A “subject area” is identified with a catalog subject code, such as PL, CJ, WS, MA, etc.)

A student enrolled in the Accelerated Dual-Degree BA/JD or BS/JD (3+3) program is exempt from these College of Arts and Sciences requirements, with the exception of the foreign language requirement. A student pursuing a double major is likewise exempt from these College of Arts and Sciences requirements, with the exception of the foreign language requirement.

Student Learning Outcomes
Bachelor of Arts in Gerontology

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

1. **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.

2. **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.

3. **Critical thinking**: Students apply interdisciplinary theories and concepts to interpret various social phenomena and scholarship from multiple perspectives through clear oral and written articulation.

4. **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 across 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.