

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:**

Gerontology prepares students for new careers resulting from the increasing population of older people. This is an interdisciplinary field incorporating research on aging in psychology, physiology, and sociology as well as public policy and social ethics. Gerontology courses provide short-term training for immediate employment and may also lead to a Community Caregiver certificate, a certificate in Gerontology, or an Associate in Science degree in Gerontology. Nurses, social workers, and administrators of care facilities may earn Continuing Education units. Gerontology is increasingly important in professions such as medicine, law, architecture, mental health, and social work. Transfer students will find Gerontology courses at more than 15 California universities.

The Community Caregiver certificate prepares the student for employment in a variety of settings, including residential care facilities, adult day care, and home care. Community caregivers provide direct care to persons with dementia or other individuals who need non-medical personal care.

The Caregiving Essentials Certificate of Completion provides students with the foundational skills needed to serve as an informal caregiver of family members and/or other older adults. Students also gain a competent understanding of the critical concepts and resources essential to caregiving.

**CAREER AT A GLANCE:**

**HOW DO I KNOW IF THIS MAJOR IS FOR ME?**

- You enjoy working with diverse groups of people
- You want to provide service to an aging population
- You want to build relationships with members of a community
- You are detail orientated and can keep accurate records
- You are interested in developing recreation and wellness programs
- You like to provide information and support to others

*Use Focus2Career on your MyChaffey portal to learn more about careers and majors that fit you best.*

**WHERE CAN I WORK?**

- |                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Nursing Homes          | Retirement Centers         |
| Community Centers      | Medical Facilities         |
| City/County Offices    | Individual/Family Services |
| Social Advocacy Groups | Outpatient Services        |
| Employment Services    |                            |

*For more information visit: [www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/OccGuides](http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/OccGuides)*

**HOW DO I GET STARTED?**

- Start taking introductory gerontology classes
- Apply for entry level positions in reception, data entry, or customer service with employers where you would like to promote
- Job shadow and network with professionals in positions you wish to obtain in the future
- Volunteer at nursing facilities or community events
- Obtain CPR card

**WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS CERTIFICATE AND/OR ASSOCIATE DEGREE?**

<i>Position Title</i>	<i>CA Median Salary</i>
Advocate	\$40,450
Caseworker	\$40,450
Community Coordinator	\$40,450
Family Support Worker	\$40,450
Home Based Assistant	\$40,450
Program Specialist	\$40,450
Mental Health Technician	\$40,450
Outreach Specialist	\$40,450
Social Services Assistant	\$40,450
Social Work Associate	\$40,450
Human Service Assistant	\$40,450
Eligibility Interviewer	\$49,560

**WHAT CAN I DO WITH HIGHER EDUCATION AND ADDITIONAL TRAINING?**

<i>Position Title</i>	<i>CA Median Salary</i>
Social Service Manager	\$60,820
Social Worker	\$51,470
Counselor	\$42,640
Rehabilitation Counselor	\$30,000
Mental Health Counselor	\$42,640
Human Services Care Specialist	\$30,000

*For more information about careers, education and training requirements, salary data, and job outlooks visit [www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org).*

**MAJOR AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

**LEGEND:** G=Grade    IP=In Progress    N=Need    **Bold: Prerequisites**    Plain Text: No Prerequisites

**Major Requirements for the Associate in Science Degree: (S230)**

		<b>Grade</b>	<b>IP</b>	<b>Need</b>	<b>Units</b>
GERO 11	Introduction to Gerontology				3
GERO 18	Aging and the Life Course				3
GERO 23	Aging and Older Adulthood				3
GERO 404	Health and Wellness for Older Adults (or PH 10, Personal Health and Wellness)				3
GERO 455	Resources and Services for Older Adults				3
<b>GERO 497ABCD</b>	<b>Gerontology Career Experience Internship (must successfully pass at least 3 units to earn degree)</b>				<b>1-4</b>

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor: \_\_\_\_\_

**Plus at least six units from the following:**

		<b>Grade</b>	<b>IP</b>	<b>Need</b>	<b>Units</b>
GERO 22	Dying and Death				3
GERO 98ABC	Independent Study: Gerontology				1-3
GERO 400	Principles of Caregiving: Older Adults and their Care				3
GERO 462	Activity Coordinator Training				4
GERO 463	Social Work Designee/Assistant Training				3

<b>COUNSELOR NOTES:</b>

**Requirements for the Gerontology Certificate: (L230)**

Same as the major requirements for the A.S. Degree.

**Requirements for the Community Caregiver Certificate: (B232)**

		<b>Grade</b>	<b>IP</b>	<b>Need</b>	<b>Units</b>
GERO 11	Introduction to Gerontology				3
GERO 22	Dying and Death				3
GERO 400	Principles of Caregiving: Older Adults and their Care				3
GERO 404	Health and Wellness for Older Adults (or PH 10, Personal Health and Wellness)				3
GERO 455	Resources and Services for Older Adults				3

\$46 per unit for CA Residents

**NOTE: Verification of valid CPR certification if required to be completed prior to certificate completion.**

**Requirements for the Caregiving Essentials Certificate: (O230)**

		<b>Grade</b>	<b>IP</b>	<b>Need</b>	<b>Units</b>
GERO 600	Principles of Caregiving: Older Adults and their Care				0
GERO 655	Resources and Services for Older Adults				0

**NOTE: Verification of valid CPR certification if required to be completed prior to certificate completion.**

In addition to completion of the MAJOR, there are other requirements for the degree, refer to the Chaffey College Graduation Requirement Sheet or see a counselor in the Counseling Center.