

WHAT CAN A MINOR OR GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN GERONTOLOGY ADD TO YOUR SOCIOLOGY DEGREE?

UNC Charlotte offers an Undergraduate Minor and Graduate Certificate in Gerontology (with an [Early Entry](#) option)

WHAT IS GERONTOLOGY?

Gerontology is the study of longevity. Students of gerontology study not only physiological changes that occur with aging, but also social roles, normative expectations, attitudes and beliefs, stereotypes, and policy, health and economic issues which define the aging experience.

HOW DOES GERONTOLOGY COMPLEMENT MY SOCIOLOGY DEGREE?

By the year 2030, we expect one out of five persons in American Society to be over the age of 65. Sociology majors are trained to understand human social interaction. With this population aging and the Baby Boomers (those born between 1946 and 1964) approaching retirement, a sociologist who has formal training in aging and older adults will have a greater understanding of the experiences and challenges of this large segment of our population. This understanding is critical to our ability to meet the needs of older adults as well as the families and communities who may care for them.

WHAT UNC CHARLOTTE FACULTY SPECIALIZE IN THIS AREA AND WHAT ARE THEIR RESEARCH INTERESTS?

Cynthia Hancock, Ph.D., chancock@uncc.edu.

Families and Aging, Experiential learning, Language and Aging, Career Preparation.

Kendra Jason, Ph.D., kjason@uncc.edu.

Aging and Health Disparities, Work and Organizations, Race and Gender, and Stratification Research

S. Megan Smith, Ph.D. ssmit392@uncc.edu

Medical Sociology, Criminal Justice and Older Adults, Loneliness.

Diane Zablotzky, Ph.D., dlzablot@uncc.edu.

Medical Sociology, Family, HIV/AIDS, Older Women.

WHAT ARE SOME CAREER RESOURCES BEYOND UNC Charlotte?

AARP

www.aarp.org

American Sociological Association section on Aging & the Life Course

www.asanet.org

Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education Careers in Aging

www.careersinaging.com/careersinaging/

The Gerontological Society of America Careers in Gerontology

www.geron.org/StudentOrg/careers.htm

Southern Gerontological Society

<http://www.wfu.edu/gerontology/sgs/>

UNC Institute on Aging

<http://www.aging.unc.edu/>

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
about the UNC Charlotte Gerontology Program Contact:
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**Or Visit the Gerontology Program website:
www.gerontology.uncc.edu**