Certificate in Gerontological Social Policy

The Program
For students and professionals with an interest in aging services, we offer an online 12-credit, four-course Certificate in Gerontological Social Policy. This certificate represents advanced level work beyond the introductory coursework offered in the Manning Certificate in Gerontology program. Visit: www.umb.edu/academics/cpcs/professional_development/manning

Gerontological social policy occurs within a complex social, economic, and political context. Policy makers and advocates need to be familiar with what policy is, the context within which it occurs and the theories upon which it is based. Understanding and assessing the power structure within administrative agencies and legislative bodies is also relevant to understanding gerontological social policy.

This online certificate program prepares you to analyze and evaluate information as you seek to understand and influence the development of new social policies appropriate for our aging population.

Students in the Certificate in Gerontological Social Policy program embark on an in-depth exploration of special topics that leads to an applied research project, which is often in cooperation with a community partner. Students identify an issue, plan a project, and contribute to the resolution of a community problem by implementing a plan to benefit a group, community, or society. Recent projects have focused on senior transportation, Alzheimer’s disease, oral health, and long-term care.

This online certificate program is a collaborative endeavor of the College of Public and Community Service (CPCS) and the College of Advancing and Professional Studies (CAPS).

Courses
The 12-credit Certificate in Gerontological Social Policy encompasses 4 course requirements and may be completed online in two semesters.

GERCTR350 Influence Aging Policy
GERCTR411 Understanding a Gerontological Social Policy
GERCTR415 History of a Social Policy in Aging
GERCTR440 Working on a Gerontological Social Issue

Career Directions
This program is designed to help students develop and augment their current knowledge and skills to pursue a rewarding career built around issues of aging and public service. Students who study gerontology work as advocates, care managers, lifelong learning educators, ombudsman, unit managers in assisted living facilities, senior housing, nursing homes, Councils on Aging, home care agencies or senior centers. Some begin their own entrepreneurial interests such as homecare management or adult day programs.

Elder policy issues such as health care and pension systems are explored in depth. Students considering studying gerontological issues in conjunction with other disciplines such as human services, social sciences and nursing are encouraged to apply.

For More Information and To Apply
• visit www.umb.edu/academics/caps/certi
fi
cates/gerontology-social-policy/
• email ug.gerontology@umb.edu
• 617.287.7325

www.cpcs.umb.edu/professional_development