The M.A. in Social Gerontology at the University of Nebraska at Omaha is a degree program designed to help meet the educational needs of two principal groups: those seeking to develop research skills by following the thesis track and those wanting to gain a more sophisticated knowledge about aging through graduate course work and direct practice through the non-thesis option. Both options are available on-campus and on-line.

First, the thesis option is designed for those who wish to gain additional knowledge and insight from research in the field of gerontology, to interpret the research critically, and who may wish to be prepared to conduct research on their own. These students often consider the PhD in Gerontology after completing the program. For these individuals, the thesis track offers the necessary preparation to pursue training that is more advanced.

Second, the non-thesis track is designed for those practitioners working with older adults and those that aspire to work with elders in some capacity. The non-thesis track provides students with the necessary educational support to be able to understand normal and abnormal age related changes. The training will also allow students to design, implement and evaluate programming for elders and their families. The non-thesis option was specifically designed with this group in mind, and the program can be tailored to meet individual needs and interests.
**Program of Study**

**Degree Requirements**

**M.A. (Thesis Option)**

1. A minimum of 18 hours of Gerontology course work including GERO 9110: Applied Social Gerontology; GERO 9460: Seminar in Aging and Human Behavior; and GERO 8676: Programs and Services.
2. Up to 6 hours of course work in a related area such as administration, counseling, education, or program planning and evaluation (with approval of advisor).
3. A minimum of 6 hours of research courses including a research methodology course and a statistics or computer applications course, including GERO 8020: Introduction to Research Methods.
4. A minimum of 6 hours of GERO 8990: Thesis

**M.A. (Non-Thesis Option)**

1. A minimum of 18 hours of Gerontology course work including GERO 9110: Applied Social Gerontology; GERO 9460: Seminar in Aging and Human Behavior; GERO 8676: Programs and Services for the Elderly; and GERO 8940: Practicum.
2. Up to 15 hours of course work in a related area such as administration, counseling, education, or program planning and evaluation (with approval of advisor).
3. A minimum of 3 hours of research, including GERO 8020: Introduction to Research Methods.
4. A written comprehensive examination upon completion of course work.

**Admissions Process**

Applicants are especially reminded to familiarize themselves with the policies and procedures outlined in the current University of Nebraska at Omaha Graduate Catalog, which are applicable in all instances.

I. **Application Procedures**

1. **Go to the UNO Graduate Studies website:**
   - [http://www.unomaha.edu/graduate-studies/](http://www.unomaha.edu/graduate-studies/)
   - Submit a completed UNO Graduate Application for Admission form, plus application fees, and official transcripts for all previous college work.

2. **Send this completed Information Form along with a writing sample to:**
   - University of Nebraska at Omaha, Gerontology Department, 6001 Dodge St, CPACS 211, Omaha, NE 68182:

II. After all application materials have been received and reviewed, an individual **interview** will be held with members of the Gerontology Graduate Program Committee.

III. **Notification of admission** to the M.A. program in Social Gerontology will come from the Dean for Graduate Studies.

IV. Students pursuing the dual degree in gerontology and law should contact the Graduate Chair for more information regarding required courses in both disciplines.
INFORMATION FORM
MASTER OF ARTS IN SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY DEGREE PROGRAM

Name: ________________________________ NU ID: __________________

Address: ______________________________ Zip: __________________

Phone # (Home): ____________ (Cell): ____________ (Work): ____________

Date of Birth: ______________

Please list all institutions of higher education attended, starting with the most recent one first:

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<th>College</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates Attended</th>
<th>Degree</th>
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Please describe your previous work experience, beginning with the current or most recent position (list title, employer, dates):

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Please use this space to expand upon any of the previous items on this form, or to provide any other information that you feel might be helpful to the Graduate Admissions Committee:

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I understand that the application process will not be complete until the following items are received:

_____ A completed University of Nebraska at Omaha Graduate Application for Admission and fee are received by the UNO Office of Graduate Studies.

_____ All transcripts of previous college work are received by the Graduate Studies.

_____ Two letters of reference are received by Graduate Studies

_____ This completed Information Form is received in the office of the UNO Gerontology Department.

_____ A sample of the applicant’s written work is received in the office of the UNO Gerontology Department.

_____ After all application materials have been received and reviewed, an individual interview will be held with members of the Gerontology Graduate Program Committee. Notification of admission to the M.A. program in Social Gerontology will come from the Dean of Graduate Studies.

Signed __________________________________________ Date __________________________

Return to: Department of Gerontology
University of Nebraska at Omaha
6001 Dodge St, CPACS 211
Omaha, NE 68182-0202