

# Gerontology Program

## Overview

The Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff is home to the only undergraduate Gerontology degree in the state of Arkansas. Our Gerontology program is a multidisciplinary liberal arts program designed with a core of general and specialized courses in gerontology. Employment opportunities exist in human services, government agencies, retirement communities, nursing homes, health care, and long-term institutional care. Those with a degree in Gerontology are also prepared to pursue occupations in other fields, including social work, nursing, social science, and health care.

## Objectives

- To provide a broad-based, multi-disciplinary academic program for students interested in careers in the field of aging.
- To prepare students for the realities of the job market by providing experiential learning through practicum and the creation of job forums and career placement counseling.
- To train persons employed in service-oriented programs for the elderly.
- To recruit and train students for careers in gerontology, with an emphasis on minority students and those interested in working with the elderly in rural areas.
- To maintain a link between training and research that focuses on assisting rural and minority elderly.



Gerontology Program  
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# GERONTOLOGY PROGRAM

*...Become a part of the pride*



## Gerontology Program Coordinator

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### Faculty

The gerontology faculty at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff are extremely supportive and dedicated to your success. You will have an academic advisor working with you during your time here at UAPB, who will help you develop a degree path to ensure your success and timely graduation. We will also prepare you for your life beyond graduation with career preparation and graduate school preparation.

### Campus

UAPB is a small and friendly student-focused campus. You can be sure you will not be one of the crowd here. Your professors will know you by name, which means you can really develop a relationship and have room to grow as a scholar.



### What is Gerontology?

Gerontology is the physical, mental, and sociological study of aging. Gerontologists study the way adults change as they age, the ways that society changes with an aging population, and the ways we apply this information to programs and policies for older adults. A Gerontology degree prepares students for careers working with older adults or as advocates for the elderly. A degree in gerontology can also be useful for nurses, occupational therapists, and other health care providers.

### Courses

Our program offers a variety of interesting and exciting gerontology courses. For example, our courses include Death and Dying, the Business of Gerontology, Biology and Psychology of Aging, Social Policy, Health Care of the Older Adult, and Case Management. Typically, our courses offer a 10:1 student to faculty ratio.



### Sigma Phi Omega

Sigma Phi Omega (SPO), the national academic honor and professional society in gerontology, was established in 1980 to recognize excellence of those who study gerontology and aging and the outstanding service of professionals who work with or on behalf of older persons. The formation of a society provides a much needed link between educators, practitioners, and administrators in various settings where older persons are served.

### Gerontology Club

The Gerontology Club fosters an environment in which students and community members who are passionate about working with, and for, older adults can join together to promote successful aging, engage in intergenerational activities, and provide service opportunities to an aging population.

[www.uapb.edu/socbehsci](http://www.uapb.edu/socbehsci)

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