

# Gerontology

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## Department Information

- **Program Coordinator:**  
Susan Ray-Degges, Ph.D.
- **Department Phone:**  
(701) 231-7218
- **Application Deadline:**  
Based on first major requirements.
- **Credential Offered:**  
Ph.D. Dual Major
- **English Proficiency Requirements:**  
Based on first major requirements.

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) dual-major option in Gerontology at North Dakota State University provides unique opportunities to study and conduct research in this growing and exciting field by linking a discipline based Plan of Study with an interdisciplinary perspective on aging. Depending on your specific area of interest, students will combine academic coursework in a primary major (Developmental Science, Exercise Science and Nutrition, Occupational and Adult Education, or Psychology) with a secondary dual-major in Gerontology. The mission of the option is to promote aging-related research and education at NDSU that uses a discipline based perspective that serves to enhance the length and quality of life.

## Admission Requirements

Based on first major requirements.

In addition to meeting the requirements for the first major, the following Gerontology requirements must be completed.

Code	Title	Credits
ADHM 705	Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Environments for Aging	3
HDFS 723	Foundations in Integrative Aging Studies	3
HDFS 760	Aging Policy and Advocacy	3
HNES 652 or HNES 726	Physical Health, Wellness, Nutrition and Active Aging Nutrition in Wellness	3
EDUC 853	Instructional Methods for Adult Learners	3

## Other Requirements:

- Dissertation on a Gerontology-related topic.
- Committee chair from the home department.
- At least two committee members from the approved Gerontology faculty list, one who must be from the home program area.

### Susan Ray-Degges, Ph.D., Program Coordinator

School of Design, Architecture and Art

### Sherri Stastny, Ph.D.

Health, Nutrition and Exercise Science

### Elizabeth Gilblom, Ph.D.

School of Education

### Melissa O'Connor, Ph.D.

Human Development and Family Science

### Heather Fuller, Ph.D.

Human Development and Family Science