

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN INTERDISCIPLINARY GERONTOLOGY

SPECIALIZATION IN LONG-TERM CARE



Why a master's degree in Interdisciplinary Gerontology?

The Master of Science in Interdisciplinary Gerontology (MSIG) with a specialization in Long-Term Care (LTC) provides an interdisciplinary education in aging studies that prepares individuals to be administrators of nursing homes or assisted living facilities.

Why the MSIG LTC at Bowling Green State University?

The MSIG LTC program at BGSU is a flexible, professional degree that can be completed on a full-time or part-time basis through online classes. It is the only National Association of Long Term Care Administrator Boards (NAB) accredited graduate long-term care program in Ohio. This allows a license to have more portability between states, professions, and job promotion.

The program is also approved as Health Services Executive (HSE), so students are eligible to take the licensure exams for assisted living, nursing home, and home and community-based services. The MSIG LTC program includes the nationally required 1000-hour internship, which is the only face-to-face requirement of the program, so that when students complete the degree they are eligible to sit for federal and Ohio state licensure exams.

Learning outcomes

Graduates of the MSIG LTC program will be able to demonstrate an understanding of long-term services and support (LTSS) systems, understand the role of each in the continuum of care, and be able to describe the differences between them. They will also be able to name and discuss the five domains of practice in nursing home administration.

Graduates will be able to integrate concepts and theories to address gerontological research topics. They will be able to critically assess the quality of gerontology research and identify appropriate research questions and issues to improve the discipline in practical ways. Thus, program graduates will be able to apply classroom knowledge within organizations and agencies, while helping to shape policy and advocacy regarding aging related issues.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Dr. Wendy Watson, MSIG Graduate Coordinator,
College of Health & Human Services, at
wwatson@bgsu.edu or call 419-372-1054.

Program strength and uniqueness

- Coursework can be completed 100% online on a full-time basis or on a part-time basis for working professionals (internship is face-to-face)
- The only NAB-accredited graduate long-term care program in Ohio
- HSE-approved means graduates can take the licensure exams for assisted living, nursing home, and home and community-based services
- Graduating from a NAB, HSE program means your license will have more portability between states, professions, and job promotion
- A low faculty-to-student ratio means small class sizes and individualized attention
- Expert and caring faculty with experience in the field
- All undergraduate degrees may apply

Professional opportunities

Graduates of the MSIG LTC program are prepared for careers as administrators of nursing homes or assisted living facilities. Graduates are also prepared to work for social service and non-profit agencies such as county aging services and Area Agencies on Aging. Other professional opportunities include the areas of policy and outreach within healthcare organizations, as well as local, county and state health programs.



"My experience in the MSIG LTC program was absolutely amazing. The professors went above and beyond to make sure we understood material and could relate it to our desired career paths, which made a motivating learning environment. I thoroughly enjoyed this program and BGSU will forever hold a place in my heart."

— Cheyenne Abrego '18,
ProMedica Goerlich Center

Admission requirements

Applicants must hold a four-year undergraduate degree from an accredited institution. To gain regular status admission, applicants must have a minimum of a 3.0/4.0 undergraduate GPA. Applicants between 2.7 and 3.0 may be considered for conditional status, and those below 2.7 may be considered for special status. Applicants are required to submit scanned copies of official or unofficial transcripts from all institutions attended. Upon admission, final official or notarized copies of transcripts from all institutions where degrees were earned and diplomas from international institutions must be submitted.

Applicants are also required to submit official scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) if the GPA is below 3.0 or the degree(s) earned are from outside of the U.S. The GRE is not required for graduates of U.S. colleges and universities with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

All applicants must submit a personal statement outlining past academic and/or professional experience, future career goals, and interest in interdisciplinary gerontology. Three (3) letters of recommendation attesting to the applicant's academic and professional promise are also required.

International applicants are also required to submit scores from the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), the Pearson Test of English Academic (PTEA), or the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Successful completion of ELS 112 will also be accepted for this requirement.

Cost of tuition

Please refer to www.bgsu.edu/offices/bursar for current information on tuition and fees.

Financial assistance

A limited number of teaching and research assistantships and scholarships are available for full-time students who qualify. For more information, please contact the department.

Domestic students enrolled in four (4) or more credit hours are eligible to apply for financial aid using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to calculate student contribution and financial need. You may apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

How to apply

Visit the BGSU Graduate College website at www.bgsu.edu/graduate/admissions.

**Application deadline (w/funding), fall term:
April 1**

**Application deadline (w/o funding), fall term:
July 1**

Curriculum

The following represents the required courses that are part of the Master of Science in Interdisciplinary Gerontology curriculum. A total of 36 credit hours of coursework at the graduate level are required.

Full-Time Enrollment Year One:

First Semester (Fall)

- GERO 6010: Current Perspectives in Gerontology (3)
- GERO 6100: Aging Policy and Programs (3)
- GERO 5105: Long-Term Services and Supports (3)
- MHSA 6310: Human Resources and Leadership Development (3)

Second Semester (Spring)

- GERO 6020: Health and Aging (3)
- GERO 6530: Research Methods in Gerontology (3)
- GERO 5110: Principles of Nursing Home Administration (3)
- GERO 5500: Healthcare Finance (3)

Third Semester (Summer)

- GERO 6250: Administration of Aging Programs (3)
- MHSA 6400: Healthcare Law and Ethics (3)
- GERO 6860: Directed Practicum/Administrator in Training (AIT)/Internship (3)

Full-Time Enrollment Year Two:

Fourth Semester (Fall)

- GERO 6860: Directed Practicum/AIT (3)