

Second Master's Degree in M.S. in Aging Studies or M.S. in Human Services

Mission: The purpose of the second graduate degree program for the MS in Aging Studies or the MS in Human Services is to provide students with complementary content, research, theory and experiential learning in the fields of aging studies/gerontology and human services. With a second master's degree in either program, candidates experience a wider range of human services content with a lifespan focus that prepares them for administrative and leadership roles in public and private agencies.

Admission Requirements: With approval from the program's Graduate Coordinator and Graduate Dean, students may apply shared credit course work toward the second master's degree, under the following conditions.

- The student must meet all admission requirements to the second graduate degree program.
- All degree requirements must be met within the 6-year time to completion. Students may seek a waiver to this regulation due to extenuating circumstances.
- A student may share no more than 12 graduate credit hours for the second degree.
- A plan of study for the second degree must be approved by the program's Graduate Coordinator and Graduate Dean.
- Credit for culminating activities, including the master's thesis, internship, or independent study, may not be counted as shared credit.
- Previously earned shared credit courses in Accelerated Programs may not be used as shared credit courses in the second master's degree.
- For incoming graduate students who seek to pursue two master's degrees at the onset of enrollment, students are encouraged to consult with both graduate program directors to determine a plan of study.

Second Master's Degree Requirements

Shared Required Coursework

Total semester hours: 12

- HSL 5100 - Societal Theories of Aging Credits: 3
- HSL 5400 - Aging Policy in Action Credits: 3
- HSL 5846 - Public Policy & Grant Writing for Human Services Programming Credits: 3
- HSL 5900 - Research Methods Credits: 3

M.S. in Aging Studies Coursework

Total semester hours: 21 credit hours (18 credit hours required and 3 credit hours of electives)

The following courses are required for the MS in Aging Studies:

- CMN 5155 - Communication and Aging Credits: 3
- EDF 5590 - Educational Response to Third Age Learning Credits: 3
- KSR 5225 - Physical Activity and Aging Credits: 3
- PUBH 4890 - Health and Aging Credits: 3
- PSY 5540 - Psychological Processes of the Aged Credits: 3
- HSL 5950 - Thesis Credits: 3 to 6 OR
- HSL 5985 – Aging Studies Internship. Credits: 3 to 6 OR
- HSL 5992 – Aging Studies Independent Study Credits: 1 to 6

The following courses are electives for the MS in Aging Studies. Students must complete at least 3 credit hours for the elective course. The 3 credit hours must be different from the elective courses chosen for the MS in Human Services.

- BIO 5434 - Neurobiology Credits: 3
- BIO 5435 - Advanced Neurobiology Credits: 3
- HCM 4910 - Applied Health Communication Credits: 3
- HSL 4775 - Human Services Programs and Resource Management Credits: 3
- HSL 4820 - Death and Dying Credits: 3
- HSL 4845 - Family Stress and Resilience Credits: 3
- HSL 4846 - Aging and the Family Credits: 3
- HSL 4850 - Human Services Programs: Community, Culture and Intersectionality Credits: 3
- HSL 5450 - Leadership and Administration in Human Services Programming Credits: 3
- PLS 4793 - Civic and Nonprofit Leadership Credits: 3
- PLS 4893 - Budgeting in Government and Nonprofit Organizations Credits: 3
- PLS 4873 - Human Resource Management in Public and Nonprofit Organizations Credits: 3
- PSY 5545 - Techniques for Geriatric Management. Credits: 3
- PUBH 5600 - Essentials of International Health Credits: 3
- PUBH 5750 - Health Program Planning and Evaluation Credits: 3
- PUBH 5770 - Leadership and Ethics for Health Professionals Credits: 3
- PUBH 4770 - Health Services Administration Credits: 3
- PUBH 4800 - Drugs and Society Credits: 3
- PUBH 4810 - Community Resources and Chemical Dependency Credits: 2
- PUBH 4830 - Perspectives on Health and Humor Credits: 3
- PUBH 5700 - Theories and Principles of Health Behavior Credits: 3
- PUBH 5765 - Epidemiology in Public Health Credits: 3
- REC 4950 - Leisure and Aging Credits: 3

M.S. in Human Services Coursework

Total semester hours: 21 credit hours (15 credit hours required and 6 credit hours of electives)

The following courses are required for the MS in Human Services:

- HSL 5450 - Leadership and Administration in Human Services Programming Credits: 3
- HSL 5460 - Issues and Trends in Human Services Programming Credits: 3
- HSL 5850 - Theories of Human Development and Family Life Credits: 3
- HSL 5852 - Adolescence and Emerging Adulthood Credits: 3
- HSL 5950 - Thesis Credits: 3 to 6 OR
- HSL 5980 - Human Services Program Administration Internship Credits: 3 to 6 OR
- HSL 5990 - Human Services Program Administration Independent Study Credits: 1 to 3

The following courses are electives for the MS in Human Services. Students must complete at least 6 credit hours for the elective courses. The 6 credit hours must be different from the elective courses chosen for the MS in Aging Studies.

- HSL 4770 - Family Budgeting & Debt Management Credits: 3
- HSL 4775 - Human Services Programs & Resource Management Credits: 3
- HSL 4820 - Death & Dying Credits: 3
- HSL 4845 - Family Stress & Resilience Credits: 3
- HSL 4846 - Aging & the Family Credits:
- HSL 4850 - Human Services Programs: Community, Culture & Intersectionality Credits: 3
- HSL 4854 - Leadership in Family Life Education Credits: 3
- HSL 4860 - Addictions in the Family Credits: 3

Online or Hybrid Options

The entire graduate degree program can be completed in the form of online courses (all online courses) or in a hybrid format (a combination of online and face-to-face courses) to fulfill the requirements of a second master's degree.

Contacts

For more information, please contact Dr. Kathleen O'Rourke, the Aging Studies Graduate Coordinator, at kaorourke@eiu.edu or Dr. Mikki Sherwood, the Human Services Graduate Coordinator at mlsherwood@eiu.edu, both faculty members of the Department of Human Services.