

## WHAT CAN A MINOR OR GRADUATE CERTIFICATE ADD TO YOUR CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEGREE?

*UNC Charlotte offers an Undergraduate Minor and Graduate Certificate in Gerontology (with an [Early Entry](#) option)*

### WHAT IS GERONTOLOGY?

Gerontology is the study of longevity. Students of gerontology study not only physiological changes that occur with aging, but also social roles, normative expectations, attitudes and beliefs, stereotypes, and policy, health and economic issues which define the aging experience.

### HOW DOES GERONTOLOGY COMPLEMENT MY CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEGREE?

It is becoming increasingly important for criminal justice and legal professionals to have an understanding of the psychological, social, and medical issues confronting an older population. Criminologists are facing many challenging issues pertaining to a rapidly increasing proportion of older adults. Areas receiving attention include an understanding of the nature and extent of crime committed by older adults, the manner in which police and other legal professionals interact with older adults, the victimization and mistreatment of older adults, and an ever-increasing array of legal issues pertaining to an aging society. An understanding of gerontology will be an asset to any student interested in a criminal justice, criminology, or legal career.

**WHAT UNC CHARLOTTE FACULTY SPECIALIZE IN THIS AREA AND WHAT ARE THEIR RESEARCH INTERESTS?**

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Elder abuse & neglect, older inmates, court processing/sentencing, intimate and family violence, Latinos and the criminal justice system, and general issues pertaining to criminal justice policy and legal analysis.

**WHAT ARE SOME CAREER RESOURCES BEYOND UNC Charlotte?**

AARP

[www.aarp.org](http://www.aarp.org)

Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education Careers in Aging

<https://www.geron.org/academy-for-gerontology-in-higher-education-aghe>

Exploring Careers in Aging

<https://exploringcareersinaging.com/>

The Gerontological Society of America Careers in Gerontology

<https://agework.geron.org/>

Southern Gerontological Society

<https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/>

UNC Institute on Aging

<https://www.med.unc.edu/aging>

National Institute of Justice

<https://nij.ojp.gov/>

National Center on Elder Abuse

<https://ncea.acl.gov/>

American Society on Aging

<https://www.asaging.org/>

LeadingAge

<https://leadingage.org/>

Scan the QR code to go to the  
UNC Charlotte Gerontology  
Linktree



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
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**Or Visit the Gerontology Program website:**  
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