

# Graduate Certificate Programs

Kennesaw State University offers Graduate Certificates in the following areas:

- Gerontology
- Creative Writing
- Professional Writing for International Audiences

Individuals wishing to apply for a certificate in Gerontology should contact 770-423-6225 or go to [www.kennesaw.edu/gero/](http://www.kennesaw.edu/gero/)

Those interested in the Creative Writing or Professional Writing for International Audiences certificate programs should visit [www.kennesaw.edu/english/mapw/creativewriting.shtml](http://www.kennesaw.edu/english/mapw/creativewriting.shtml) or [www.kennesaw.edu/english/mapw/internationalaudiences.shtml](http://www.kennesaw.edu/english/mapw/internationalaudiences.shtml) or call 770.499.3335 or 770.423.6468.

## **Gerontology Certificate Admission Requirements**

The student will be admitted to the Graduate Certificate Program in Gerontology when the student has satisfied the KSU non-degree admissions requirements. The application documentation for non-degree status consists of:

1. completing a KSU application form;
2. official transcripts from all the institutions (undergraduate and graduate) from which a degree was awarded;
3. an immunization certificate;
4. and an application fee.

## **Non-degree Admission Requirements**

1. a Bachelor's degree (or graduate degree) from an institution accredited in a manner accepted by KSU, and

2. minimum undergraduate grade point average of 2.5 on a scale of 4.0 (and/or minimum graduate grade point average of 3.0 out of 4.0).

Additionally, students applying to the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology Program must include a current resume and a personal statement of objectives (this statement should include experience in working with older adults). A copy of both the resume and personal statement should be sent as a Word attachment to [cziegler@kennesaw.edu](mailto:cziegler@kennesaw.edu). Admission to the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology Program will be granted to students showing high probability of success in postgraduate study.

## Graduate Certificate in Gerontology

The Graduate Certificate in Gerontology was designed to provide advanced education in Gerontology for students who are involved in careers in a broad range of positions working with older adults. The program is a 9-month, 15-semester hour program designed to provide students with instruction and educational experiences in the field of aging at the graduate level; thus a bachelors degree must already be achieved. This program leads to a Graduate Certificate in Gerontology. Completion of the certificate program will enable graduates to integrate knowledge of aging into their own disciplinary field, to bring their specific training to the provision and management of services for an aging population, and to engage in scientific investigation of the issues, problems, and potentials of human aging. The program provides students with an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary perspective on gerontology, drawing from the fields of Health, Physical Education, and Sports Science, Nursing (Baccalaureate), Nursing Primary Care (Masters), Psychology, and Sociology. The program provides five core courses that will develop knowledge and skills in such areas as current issues in gerontology, psychology of aging, sociology of aging, health care for older adults, and a practicum in aging.

**Specific Required and Elective Courses**

**Credit Hours**

PSYC 6000	Current Issues in Gerontology	3
SOCI 6100	Sociology of Aging	3
HHS 6200	Health Care for Older Adults	3
PSYC 6300	Psychology of Aging	3
PSYC 6400	Practicum in Gerontology	3

**PROGRAM TOTAL: 15**

## Gerontology Certificate Course Descriptions

### **HHS 6200. Health Care for Older Adults. 3-0-3.**

*Prerequisite: Admission to graduate study.*

This course is designed to serve a variety of students who are interested in the health care of the aging adult. This course addresses the psychopathological aspects of aging and the treatment regimes; end of life issues; and health promotion strategies within the context of cultural perspectives.

### **PSYC 6000. Current Issues in Gerontology. 3-0-3.**

*Prerequisite: Admission to graduate study.*

This course will introduce the student to the field of gerontology. It will study issues and topics in the field of aging from an interdisciplinary perspective. Changing demographics, public policy issues, mental health issues, and a range of ethical issues in working with elderly persons will be studied.

### **PSYC 6300. Psychology of Aging. 3-0-3.**

*Prerequisite: Admission to graduate study.*

This course will present psychological perspectives in the field of gerontology. The course will cover current psychological theory and research in aging as well as the practical application of these materials. The major topical areas covered will include biological, intellectual/cognitive, and psycho social aspects of aging.

### **PSYC 6400. Practicum in Gerontology. 3-0-3.**

*Prerequisite: Admission to graduate study.*

Completion of a field-based educational experience in the student's aging setting in an area of aging interest where the student has little exposure. In addition, the student will do a library research paper on a topic area related to the field-based experience. The library research paper is designed to relate the field experience to theories in the topic area covered in the core gerontology courses that the student has taken.

### **PSYC 6950. Directed Study for Gerontology Certificate Program. 1-3.**

*Prerequisite: Admission to graduate study.*

Concentrated independent readings and investigations of special topics of interest to individual students. Readings, research, papers, and other projects will be determined jointly by the student and the instructor.

### **SOCI 6100. Sociology of Aging. 3-0-3.**

*Prerequisite: Admission to graduate study.*

Focus on the social and cultural aspects of aging. Topics covered include demographic variables and trends, culture and socialization, social structure (family, politics, religion, work and retirement, education), social problems associated with aging (living arrangements, transportation, crime, abuse, health status, income), diversity among the aged population, issues of inter generational conflict, the health care system, programs and services, and death and dying.

### Creative Writing Certificate Admission Requirements

1. A completed KSU application form, indicating application to the Graduate Certificate in Creative Writing Program
2. An application fee
3. Official undergraduate transcripts
4. Official graduate transcripts, if applicable
5. A minimum undergraduate grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale or a minimum graduate grade-point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
6. Immunization requirement (see page 20)
7. A statement of purpose that explains: the genre of concentration; what the student wishes to achieve from the program; any experience the student already has in writing (i.e., workshops or literature classes, reading and writing habits, membership in writers' organizations, awards, publications, and the like)
8. A writing sample in the genre of concentration:
  - Prose Fiction and Creative Nonfiction: 25 double-spaced pages (excerpts are acceptable)
  - Poetry: 10 poems or 10 pages
  - Play writing and Screenplay Writing: 25 pages of script
9. Optional: A letter of reference from someone who can evaluate the student's: creative writing skills commitment to creative writing and academic work

## Graduate Certificate in Creative Writing

A Graduate Certificate in Creative Writing Program is offered through the Master of Arts in Professional Writing Program in the English Department, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, at Kennesaw State University. A unique four-course, non-degree program, its mission is to provide instruction and membership in a community of writers to qualified writing students in metro Atlanta and North Georgia who seek intensive creative writing practice but who do not want to matriculate in a graduate program.

This Graduate Certificate program allows qualified writers to study in graduate-level writing workshops taught by professional writers on the Kennesaw State University faculty.

A student coming into the Certificate Program would have to choose one of the creative writing genres offered in the MAPW program: fiction, poetry, screen writing, or creative nonfiction. Once a genre discipline is selected, the student would be expected to complete workshops in only that genre. For example, a student might select to study for the Graduate Certificate in Creative Writing and focus in fiction writing.

See creative writing courses listed in the Master of Arts in Professional Writing Program on pages 156-159.

### **Professional Writing for International Audiences Certificate Admission Requirements**

Applicants will be admitted to the Graduate Certificate in Professional Writing for International Audiences when they have satisfied the KSU non-degree admission requirements.

1. A bachelor's or graduate degree from an institution accredited in a manner accepted by KSU;
2. A minimum undergraduate grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale and a minimum graduate grade-point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

The application documentation for this certificate consists of:

1. A completed KSU application form, indicating application to the Graduate Certificate in Professional Writing for International Audiences
2. An application fee
3. Official undergraduate transcripts
4. Official graduate transcripts, if applicable
5. A minimum undergraduate grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale or a minimum graduate grade-point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
6. Immunization requirement (see page 20)
7. A statement of purpose that explains: what the student wishes to achieve from the program; any experience the student already has in writing, i.e., workshops, reading and writing habits, membership in writers' organizations, awards, publications;
8. A writing sample
9. Optional: A letter of reference from someone who can evaluate the applicant's writing skills

## **Graduate Certificate in Professional Writing for International Audiences**

The Certificate will be writing-based, which distinguishes it from traditional Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) programs. The certificate is distinctive from TESOL programs because it does not focus on teaching English to non-native users. Rather the focus will be on how English users from different cultural and linguistic traditions can communicate more effectively in a variety of written media such as e-mail, Web pages, brochures, and formal documents. Consequently, there will also be an emphasis on the process of document creation that requires collaboration between native and non-native English speakers and the need for cultural and linguistic sensitivity to increase the effectiveness of the working relationship. Educators who are aware of these differences can use this insight in classrooms, particularly in cases when international students work with American students on writing projects and other classroom activities. This Certificate will also benefit professionals working in non-profit organizations, government employees, and others who work with or write for a large population of non-native English speakers.

## 180 Graduate Certificate Programs

(Certificate program in Professional Writing for International Audiences - cont'd)

	<b>Credit Hours</b>
<b>Required Courses:</b>	<b>9</b>
PRWR 6750      Teaching Writing to Speakers of Other Languages	3
PRWR 6760      World Englishes	3
PRWR 6860      Intercultural Communication in Contexts	3
<b>Select one of the following:</b>	<b>3</b>
PRWR 7600      Internship	
<b>Applied:</b>	
PRWR 6850      Writing for the Web	
PRWR 6250      Corporate Communication	
<b>Composition and Rhetoric:</b>	
PRWR 6650      Introduction to Literacy Studies	
PRWR 6150      Context, Style, and Audience in Professional Writing	

**PROGRAM TOTAL: 12**

See professional writing courses listed in the Master of Arts in Professional Writing Program on pages 156-159.