Aging, MS

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MS Aging
Aligned with ASU’s charter and design aspirations, the MS program in aging assumes responsibility for the overall health of communities by educating students to become experts in the field of aging. By fusing intellectual disciplines and socially embedding with partners in the aging network of health, wellness and social services, as well as entrepreneurs developing senior-related business ventures, this program is uniquely positioned to address the diverse needs of the rapidly aging population.

The program provides students with advanced, interdisciplinary knowledge that focuses on improving the well-being of older adults within the context of their diverse families and communities. The curriculum is competency-based, and designed in accordance with the Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education competencies for graduate education. The curriculum addresses the multidimensional aging process and the needs of aging populations and their potential contributions to society; reflects national health initiatives; and encourages community collaborations that are reciprocal, beneficial and sustainable to improve health outcomes of older adults.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** [Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation](#)
- **Location:** [Downtown Phoenix campus](#) or [online](#)

Accelerated Program Options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an accelerated bachelor's and master's degree with:

- [Applied Science (Health Entrepreneurship and Innovation), BAS](#)
- [Community Health, BS](#)
Health Care Coordination, BS
Health Entrepreneurship and Innovation, BS
Integrative Health, BS

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. During their junior year, eligible students are advised by their academic departments to apply.

**Degree Requirements**

36 credit hours including the required applied project course (HCA 593), or
36 credit hours including the required applied project course (HCA 593) - Mandarin Pathway

**Required Core (18 credit hours)**
HCA 501 Perspectives on Aging and the Life Course (3)
HCA 502 Research and Program Evaluation Issues in Aging (3)
HCA 503 Diversity in Aging (3)
HCA 504 Caregiving Issues for Families and Professionals (3)
HCA 505 Interdisciplinary and Community Collaboration in Aging (3)
HCA 508 Interdisciplinary and Community Collaboration in Aging (3)

**Track (6 credit hours)**

**Electives (6 credit hours)**

**Other Requirements (3 credit hours)**
HCA 509 Interventions to Support Aging in Place (3) or
HCA 510 Innovations in Program Development and Policy (3)

**Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)**
HCA 593 Applied Project (3)

**Additional Curriculum Information**
Students choose a track for a total of six credit hours:

- aging services and case management
- innovation and entrepreneurship
- long-term care administration
- palliative and end-of-life care

The program also requires six credit hours of electives to support the track and career interests. Students should see the academic unit for the current approved elective list. Other courses may be used with approval of the academic unit.

For other requirement coursework, students select either HCA 509 or HCA 510.
Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in a related field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants are required to submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. three letters of recommendation
4. professional resume
5. letter of intent or written statement
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

Attend Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information here.

Career Opportunities

Graduates of the Master of Science program in aging have the knowledge and training to provide relevant information for the aging population in a wide variety of settings. The broad base of comprehension and expertise enables graduates to effectively participate and lead within the aging community.

Career examples include:

- entrepreneur
- facilities director
- program manager
- research coordinator

Contact Information