

Richard Lusky



Rank: Associate Professor
Department: Applied Gerontology
College: Public Affairs and Community Service
Joined UNT: September, 1991

Education

Ph.D.:	1980	University of Connecticut	Sociology
M.A.:	1972	University of Connecticut	Sociology
B.A.:	1966	Oakland University	Sociology

Scholarships

National Institute of Mental Health Traineeship, 1966
National Center for Health Service Research, 1971-1974

Specializations

Medical sociology, formal organization, mental health, applied research methods

Research Interests

Health and social status of older adults; organization and delivery of long-term care and senior housing; ethical issues in an aging society; and media images of aging

Courses

Processes of Aging; Formal Organization of Aging Services; Health Delivery Systems; Program Evaluation; Computer Applications in Aging Services; Ethics and Aging; Images of Aging in Film and Literature

Other Responsibilities

Department Chairman; Applied Gerontology Distant Learning Program; Retirement Housing Professional Certification Program

Contact Information

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Background

Originally from Detroit, Dr. Lusky received his education in sociology at Oakland University, the University of Illinois, and the University of Connecticut. His early training centered on sociological theory, complex organizations, and criminology. National Institute of Mental Health and the National Center for Health Services Research traineeships provided additional training in applied research on health and mental health services.

His doctoral dissertation on the organization and delivery of rehabilitation services led to a continuing concern with the creation of health and social services responsive to the needs of older people.

Dr. Lusky came to the Department of Applied Gerontology in 1991 from the University of Connecticut's School of Medicine where he taught in its Masters in Public Health Program and served as Director of its Gerontology Studies Unit. His funded research has included studies of drug prescribing problems in the elderly; length of stay in nursing facilities and home care; long-term care insurance models; the nursing home ombudsman program; and other services in the field of aging.

His interest in ethical issues associated with our aging society emerged from experience as project evaluator for a national demonstration program on training hospital ethics committees. The use of contemporary films to teach ethical issues generated a broader interest in the images of aging portrayed in contemporary film and literature.

Dr. Lusky has served as the Department of Applied Gerontology's chairman since 1993.