

## Gerontology -- Career Resources

### What can I do with a degree in Gerontology?

Professionals in the field of aging work in a variety of settings. These include: community, human service, and religious organizations; health care and long-term care institutions; federal, state, and local government agencies, retirement communities; academic and other educational and research settings; professional organizations; and, business and industry.

Some professionals work directly with older persons. Their activities may include: developing programs such as health promotion, senior theater groups, intergenerational activities for older persons in senior centers, community agencies, retirement communities providing direct care to frail, ill, or impaired older persons in hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, adult day care or home care programs, counseling older persons and their families about issues of caregiving, employment, death and dying, mental health, advising older clients about estate planning and investments, financing long-term care, or housing options.

Other professionals are less directly involved with older persons, but work on their behalf, to educate others, or investigate issues in the field of aging. (<http://www.unt.edu/aging/public/careers.shtml>)

*Includes Traditional and Non-Traditional Titles, some require additional training or post-graduate degrees.*

Gerontology Job-Related Titles		
Geriatrician	Case Manager	Research Assistant
Gerontologists	Patient Care Coordinator	Optometrists
Registered Nurse	Adult Protective Services Specialist	Dentists
Licensed Practical Nurse	Independent Living Coordinator	Recreation Assistant
Social Worker	Occupational Therapist	Audiologists
Resident Services Manager	Specialty Pharmaceutical Sales Rep	Dietitians and nutritionists
Program Director		Special Care Program Manager
		Guardianship Services Specialist

### Bureau of Labor Statistics Information:

#### Registered Nurse (<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos083.htm>)

- Registered nurses constitute the largest health care occupation, with 2.4 million jobs.
- About 3 out of 5 jobs are in hospitals.
- The three major educational paths to registered nursing are a bachelor's degree, an associate degree, and a diploma from an approved nursing program.
- Registered nurses are projected to create the second largest number of new jobs among all occupations; job opportunities in most specialties and employment settings are expected to be excellent, with some employers reporting difficulty in attracting and retaining enough RNs.

#### Dietician (<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos077.htm>)

- Most jobs are in hospitals, nursing care facilities, and offices of physicians or other health practitioners.
- Dietitians and nutritionists need at least a bachelor's degree in dietetics, foods and nutrition, food service systems management, or a related area.
- Faster than average employment growth is expected; however, growth may be constrained if employers substitute other workers for dietitians and if limitations are placed on insurance reimbursement for dietetic services.
- Those who have specialized training in renal or diabetic diets or have a master's degree should experience good employment opportunities.

#### Audiologist (<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos085.htm>)

- Employment growth will be spurred by the expanding population in older age groups that are prone to medical conditions that result in hearing problems.
- More than half worked in health care facilities; many others were employed by educational services.

- A master's degree in audiology has been the standard credential; however, a clinical doctoral degree is becoming more common for new entrants and is expected to become the new standard for the profession.

### Gerontology Job Search/Listings Websites

Agework ([www.agework.com](http://www.agework.com))  
 Monster ([www.monster.com](http://www.monster.com))  
 Hot Jobs ([www.hotjobs.com](http://www.hotjobs.com))  
 Absolutely Health Care/HealthJobsUSA.com ([www.healthjobsusa.com](http://www.healthjobsusa.com))

### Professional Associations, Organizations, and List-servs

American Association of Retired Persons (AARP): (<http://www.aarp.org/>)  
 American Society on Aging (ASA) ([www.asaging.org](http://www.asaging.org))  
 Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE) ([www.aghe.org/](http://www.aghe.org/))  
 Gerontological Society of America (GSA) ([www.geron.org/](http://www.geron.org/))  
 National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (NAAAA) (<http://www.n4a.org/>)  
 National Association of State Units on Aging (NASUA) (<http://www.nasua.org/>)  
 National Council on the Aging (NCOA) (<http://www.ncoa.org/>)  
 National Institute on Aging (NIA) (<http://www.nia.nih.gov/>)  
 U.S. Administration on Aging (AoA) (<http://www.aoa.gov/>)

### UNT Student Organizations

Gerontology Student Association (GSA) (<http://orgs.unt.edu/gsa/index.html>)

### Books and Print Resources

#### Student Development Office Career Services Collection:

TITLE	ISBN #	YEAR
Career in Focus-Geriatric Care	0-89434-411-0	2002
Career in Focus- Social Work	0-89434-405-6	2002
Careers in Focus - Therapists	0-89434-412-9	2003
Careers in Focus-Nursing	0-89434-320-3	2001

#### General Gerontology Books : UNT Library Catalog

TITLE	AUTHOR/PUBLISHER	CALL #	ISBN #	YEAR
Opportunities in gerontology and aging services careers	Williams, Ellen	HQ1064.U5 W59218	0071390456	2003
The aging game - video recording	Wiland Bell Productions	MV 8913		2003
Careers in aging: old friends, new faces. Video recording	Double R Productions	MV 6235		1996
Opportunities in gerontology and aging services careers.	Williams, Ellen	E-Book		1995

**Other Suggested Titles:**

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>AUTHOR/PUBLISHER</b>	<b>CALL #</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	<b>VENDOR</b>
Multidisciplinary perspectives on aging	Lynn M. Tepper, Thomas M. Cassidy, editors	RA564.8 .M84	2004	UNT Library
Aging : concepts and controversies	Moody, Harry R.	HQ1064.U5 M665	2002	UNT Library
Aging in America A to Z	Bettelheim, Adriel.	HQ1064.U5 B379	2001	UNT Library
Older people and their caregivers across the spectrum of care.	Howe, Judith L., editor.	HV1451 .O445	2003	UNT Library
Geriatric Care (Ferguson's Careers in Focus)	Ferguson Publishing		2002	Amazon.com
Profiles in Caregiving, First Edition : The Unexpected Career	Carol S. Aneshensel, Leonard I. Pearlin, Joseph T. Mullan, and Steven H. Zarit		1995	Amazon.com
101 Careers in Nursing	Jeanne M., Ph.D. Novotny, Doris T. Lippman, Nicole K. Sanders, and Joyce J. Fitzpatrick		2003	Amazon.com
Health Science Career Exploration	Louise M Simmers		2004	Amazon.com