Graduate Certificate Programs

Graduate certificate programs provide advanced study beyond the baccalaureate degree and are intended as both professional development and as an intermediate step towards a desired graduate degree. Middle Tennessee State University offers graduate certificates in Dyslexic Studies, Geoscience, Gerontology, and Health Care Management. The Gerontology, Health Care Management, and Dyslexic Studies certificates are interdisciplinary programs involving courses and faculty in multiple MTSU departments.

Requirements

Prospective students should apply to the Graduate School. Once a student is admitted to the graduate school, his or her application is transmitted to the director of the individual certificate program for admission consideration. For admission to the interdisciplinary graduate certificate programs in Gerontology and Health Care Management, students must possess a bachelor’s degree with an undergraduate grade point average of 2.75 (4.0 scale) and are required to submit a letter demonstrating their interest, detailing prior field experience, and outlining career goals and aspirations.

Students enrolled in the certificate program must comply with existing policies applicable to all graduate programs at MTSU. The time limit for use of credit toward the certificate is six years from the date of enrollment in the earliest course applied toward the certificate, including transferred courses. Students must maintain a cumulative graduate grade point average of 3.00 in courses leading to the certificate. Students may transfer up to six (6) credit hours of approved coursework into the certificate program.

Geoscience

The Department of Geosciences offers a graduate certificate in Geoscience that consists of 12-16 hours taken from a variety of geography and geology courses. The certificate in Geoscience should be of particular interest to those in the private sector, K-12 and community college education, and government agencies. The department also offers a minor at the graduate level and hours taken in the certificate program normally can be applied toward the minor requirements. Specific requirements for the certificate in Geoscience are found on page 121.

Interdisciplinary Certificate Programs

Dyslexic Studies

The graduate certificate program in Dyslexic Studies is rooted in the research base that defines dyslexia and guides identification. It examines content and strategies for intervention. Pre-requisites for admission are a certificate in some field integral to P-12 education, documentation of three or more years of successful experience in the career field, and permission of the program advisor. Candidates must be admitted to the College of Graduate Studies; present a letter of recommendation from a principal or supervisor; and submit a letter detailing professional experience, positions held, and motivation for studying dyslexia. See course descriptions on page 109.

Total required minimum hours: 18

Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DYST 6000</td>
<td>Introduction to Dyslexia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 6530</td>
<td>The Psychology of Reading and Reading Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 6740</td>
<td>Brain Development and Learning Disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDIS 5000</td>
<td>Language Development, Speech, and Literacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DYST 6010</td>
<td>Identifying Students with Dyslexia</td>
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<tr>
<td>DYST 6011</td>
<td>Interventions for Dyslexia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DYST 6012</td>
<td>Multisensory Teaching Strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DYST 6013</td>
<td>Practicum in Multisensory Teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DYST 6020</td>
<td>Adolescents with Dyslexia and Other Literary Difficulties</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information, contact Diane J. Sawyer, director of the Tennessee Center for the Study and Treatment of Dyslexia, at (615) 898-5642 or dsawyer@mtsu.edu.

Gerontology

The certificate program in Gerontology provides supplementary education in gerontology for students preparing for careers in a broad range of positions. This program is also designed to give those already working in the field an opportunity to enrich existing skills and knowledge and to provide further opportunities for career advancement.

Total required minimum hours: 18

Core Requirements: 6 hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 6550</td>
<td>Seminar on Aging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 6900</td>
<td>Practicum: Applied Analysis*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*NOTE: All students are required to complete this capstone experience during their last semester of coursework.

Remaining hours are to be selected from the following courses in conjunction with career goals and aspirations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDFS 5390</td>
<td>Families in Later Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDIS 5800</td>
<td>Speech and Language Disorders in the Adult Population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REC 5380</td>
<td>Introduction to Recreation for Persons with Disability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REC 5470</td>
<td>Leisure and Aging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFS 5210</td>
<td>Nutrition in Aging</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PSY 5610 Adult Psychology and Aging
PSY 5630 Death and Dying
SOC 5020 Sociology of Aging
SOC 5030 Topics in Gerontology
SOC 5040 Health Care Delivery Issues
SOC 6660 Program Management and Evaluation
SOC 6670 Mental Health and Aging
SOC 6680 Counseling Elders

For more information, contact Brandon Wallace in the Aging Studies Program at (615) 898-5976.

Health Care Management
The curriculum is designed to
1. offer support for individuals interested in the health care field who may or may not want to pursue a graduate degree to obtain recognition for a coherent body of graduate level study in the field of health care management.
2. provide for interdisciplinary collaboration in teaching, learning, and practice.
3. encourage qualified students to pursue graduate degrees related to their specific field of interest or practice.

Total required minimum hours: 18

Core Requirements: 9 hours
MGMT 6000 Management and Operations Concepts
MGMT 6780 Health Care Management
SOC 5040 Health Care Delivery Issues

Remaining hours are to be selected from the following courses in conjunction with career goals and aspirations.
BLAW 6430 Legal Environment of Management
ECON 6400 Economics of Health Care
HLTH 6510 The Nation's Health
HLTH 6850 Methods in Epidemiology
HLTH 6860 Program Planning for Health Promotion
MGMT 6750 Business Ethics
MKT 6900 Health Care Marketing
NURS 5035 Special Topics
NURS 5055 Informatics for the Health Care Professional
SOC 5020 Sociology of Aging
SOC 5030 Topics in Gerontology
SOC 5040 Health Care Delivery Issues

For more information, contact the Center for Health and Human Services at (615) 898-5950.